



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

City Plan Commission

Monday, September 18, 2017

4:00 PM

3rd Floor Conference Room

CIP Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Tim Kabat at 4:04 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Paul Medinger, Randy Turtenwald, Tim Kabat, Corliss Tischer, Elaine Yager, Paul Schoenfeld, Jacqueline Marcou

Excused: 2 - Scott Neumeister, Vacant 1

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

*Valerie Fenske, Finance Department
Polly Marcou, Finance Department
Jeffrey Harrison, Finance Department
Clinton Torp, Airport
Mike LaFleur, Streets
Ron Tischer, Police Department
Rob Abraham, Police Department
Ken Gilliam, Fire Department
Mark Amann, Fire Department
Mark Johnson, Water Department
Kelly Krieg-Sigman, Library
Jacky Greshner, Information Technology
Bernie Lenz, Engineering
Jason Gilman, Planning
Tim Acklin, Planning
Andrea Schnick, Planning
Caroline Gregerson, Planning
Sara Olson, Planning*

OTHERS PRESENT:

*Council Member Richmond
Council Member Padesky
Council Member Marshall
Council Member Janssen
Council Member Olson
Council Member Ostrem
Mark Weis*

Sue Bulk
Karla Doolittle
Bob Kremer
Jacob Sciammas

Agenda Items:

1. [17-0938](#) 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Program Budget

Attachments: [PROJECT BUDGET 2018-2022 DRAFT 07 03 17](#)
[PROJECT BUDGET 2018-2022 DRAFT 07 17 17](#)
[PROJECT BUDGET 2018-2022 DRAFT 08 14 17.pdf](#)
[PROJECT BUDGET 2018-2022 DRAFT 09 14 17.pdf](#)

Mayor Kabat highlighted some items before opening it up for comment. He noted there is \$12.9M available for this year's CIP budget, which includes \$7.5M of new borrowing. He distributed a summary sheet of project highlights, including \$1M for the first phase of a new fire station, \$375,000 each for Weigent Hogan and Bluffsides Neighborhood Associations, \$200,000 for Hickey Park improvements, \$250,000 for trails, lands and bluffsides restoration, \$500,000 for the first phase of Memorial Pool, \$900,000 for a secure police access at City Hall, \$400,000 for Bliss Road slope repairs, \$850,000 for Losey Blvd repairs, \$70,000 for La Crosse St repairs, \$1.655M for Cass St repairs/storm sewer, \$448,000 for bike/ped facilities, \$440,000 for floodplain housing improvements, \$60,000 for northside façade program, \$200,000 for Copeland Park improvements, \$1M for the first phase of La Crosse St extension, \$575,000 for housing replacement and rehabilitation, \$700,000 for Isle La Plume/Carroll Field improvements, \$400,000 for pedestrian lighting, \$887,700 for Diagonal Road repairs, and \$250,000 for Trane Park improvements. The Mayor's summary sheet also included a graph showing streets investments from 2011-present, with \$9.494M proposed in 2018. The Mayor then invited Commissioners, Council Members and public comment.

Council Member Medinger inquired of the Fire Chief what the task force findings were; Chief Gilliam indicated the task force is touring facilities next week and should have recommendations to Council next spring. Council Member Marcou inquired if \$500,000 for the first phase of Memorial Pool is enough and also advocated La Crosse Street needs more than minimal bike lane repairs. Turtenwald noted the paving machine is too big for that street and the company we work with on a lot of street projects won't do just outside lanes; he also noted repairing the whole road is a six year project. Turtenwald recommends we limp along until DOT will pay for it. Mayor Kabat noted he advocated for \$1M for Memorial Pool, but that wasn't feasible this year. Council Member Marshall was an advocate for Memorial Pool with additional money coming from police access item instead. Marshall noted the City could send squad cars home with officers and incentivize officers to live in certain neighborhoods; he also noted the building improvements may not be needed in a few years with potential for a new police facility in a few years. Council Member Janssen echoed advocacy for Memorial Pool. She also noted that some projects need to be wrapped up before extending money to new projects, such as police parking security, Roellig Park tunnel, and Badger Hickey Park; she also noted we could take a year off from Bluffland acquisition and some of GENA projects could be reallocated to Memorial Pool. Mayor Kabat commented that police entrance has become more significant with 6th St and Badger St reconfigurations and it also gives secure access to building for people, not just security of cars; he encouraged Commissioners to not adjust the item. Chief Tischer noted the secure building access is a liability and absolutely necessary. Susan Bulk

noted Memorial Pool should be a priority because of fundraising ability of neighbors. Jacob Sciammas noted \$1.5M would be great and \$1M would be enough to get a bathhouse started; the neighborhood expects to fundraise seven figures and noted they need the same commitment from the city. He also noted they have been waiting for funding from this budget for three years and some of the new projects also need to wait their time; he also it is a historic landmark. Sciammas commented that GENA projects 133-136 could be reallocated to Memorial Pool. Bob Kremer inquired if UWL could put pressure on the state to make La Crosse St a priority. Karla Doolittle advocated for Badger Hickey Park noting she sees many other parks in the city are being improved and northside needs some attention too. Mark Weis advocated for Hickey Park noting \$200,000 is a great start and northside parks haven't been improved to the same level of southside parks. Council Member Olson is an advocate for \$1M for Memorial Pool, as well; noted less could be allocated to Trane Park since it is supposed to be mostly privately funded. Mayor Kabat noted Trane Park and Diagonal Rd is funded by TIF 15 increment. Council Member Ostrem needs item 245 to be edited to remove name of street because there is a discrepancy in neighborhood plans as to whether it is Adams or Farnam St.

A motion was made by Medinger, seconded by Yager, to amend item 245 to 'neighborhood lighting'. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

Council Member Richmond noted Hickey Park has waited for funding for several years, as well. She noted item 190 needs to be kept in 2018 for \$100,000 as a representative of the Hwy 53 committee. She also noted item 110, Copeland Park Trail, should be moved back to 2018 to connect trails to Black River Beach Neighborhood Center. Lastly, she noted Floodplain Housing could be cut at the federal level, so advocated to not move it out at the local level. Council Member Padesky would like to see the Weigent Hogan and Losey Blvd items left alone. He also noted he is sponsoring a resolution next week for new borrowing to repair the fire alarm connection at the main library; the money will be reimbursed to the reserve account after the 2018 CIP borrowing is complete. The Library Board had a reserve fund that is now almost depleted and not available for emergencies. Kelly Krieg-Sigman does not want to defer other requests. Council Member Marshall spoke up again about Memorial Pool and read his correspondence to the pool committee, noting renaming to Veterans Memorial Pool will be up for consideration in October. A member of the public inquired if some of the Cass St lighting could be reallocated to Memorial Pool or if some of Copeland Park funding could be postponed to cover more of Memorial Pool. Turtenwald noted landscaping, signs, lighting are part of that project to indicate it is a historic district.

A motion was made by Medinger, seconded by Tischer, to reallocate items 133-136 and item 54 to Memorial Pool. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

Council Member Richmond inquired of Mike LaFleur about necessity of Cass St repairs; Mayor Kabat noted he wouldn't support reprogramming those dollars. Bernie Lenz noted stormwater improvements by DOT would hook up at 9th St. Council Member Padesky noted need to do projects throughout the city. Jason Gilman noted the comprehensive plan needs to be a priority; staff will update the data background section. Gilman also noted continuing the downtown façade improvement program in TID 11, which does have a surplus.

A motion was made by Marcou, seconded by Turtenwald, to move item 204 to 2018 for \$100,000 SOF 30 and decrease item 219 to \$100,000. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

Jason Gilman noted Isle le Plume could be moved out, but Mayor Kabat wants to keep it until we know what happens with boat harbor negotiations. Gilman noted item 222 may not happen in 2018. He also noted item 251 should be done at same time as sidewalks and landscaping.

A motion was made by Tischer, seconded by Marcou, to move item 251 up to 2018 and change to SOF 30. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

Gilman noted TID 14 has a probable deficit. Mayor Kabat noted staff will research and update figures before Council meeting.

A motion was made by Tischer, seconded by Marcou, to reduce item 75 to \$75,000. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

A motion was made by Yager, seconded by Medinger, to eliminate item 94 and 95. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

A motion was made by Yager, seconded by Marcou, to change \$100,000 of item 161 to SOF 4 local road improvement program grant. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

A motion was made by Turtenwald, seconded by Schoenfeld, to update item 122 for porous asphalt paving in Diagonal Rd neighborhood with \$750,000 SOF 24 TIF 14, \$30,000 SOF 3, \$1,650,000 SOF 27 and \$340,000 SOF 4, and to add a new item for sanitary sewer on King St between 13th St and West Ave for \$31,050 SOF 3 Sanitary Sewer Utility. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

A motion was made by Turtenwald, seconded by Medinger, to eliminate items 123, 124, 173, 174, 149, 265 and 267. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

A motion was made by Tischer, seconded by Turtenwald, to move item 154 up to 2018 and change the amount to \$180,000. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

A motion was made by Turtenwald, seconded by Medinger, to adopt the budget as modified and forward to the Common Council for approval. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Marcou, seconded by Medinger, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Tim Kabat at 5:34 p.m.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.