

**VILLAGE OF BIRON SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – February 21, 2022**

The February 21, 2022 Special Village Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Jon Evenson at the Biron Municipal Center. The meeting was properly posted according to Wisconsin State Statutes.

PRESENT: Jon Evenson, Tammy Steward, Sue Carlson, Mike Guillemot, Mark Honkomp. Dan Muleski and Patty Gapen are excused. Also present: Dave Gale and Andy Westbrook of Westwood, Roland Hawk, Wood County Highway Commissioner, Mark Anderson, CWPCo.

MINUTES: Minutes of the February 14, 2022 Regular Board Meeting will be approved at the March 14, 2022 Regular Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COUNTY HIGHWAY U EXTENSION PROJECT:

The CTH U extension will be broke into two segments: (1) from S. Biron Drive to Fox Street, and (2) from Fox Street to Huffman Road. The purpose of these discussions is to review project concepts, discuss the refined alternatives, to review estimated costs and impacts to the Village, and to get a consensus that the Village is willing to participate financially as well as take over the roadway and its maintenance. Roland is also reviewing additional portions of CTH U outside of the current project limits that he is looking at improving and then having the Village take over.

Roland requested funding for Segment 1 thru the Local Program, which is an 80/20 funding split (80% federal/20% County). Roland is making Segment 2 a priority and plans to request funding for it through the stimulus bill. Details of the bill requirements are still developing, and therefore it is not yet clear how the money can be used. Be aware that if the bill/funding does not develop, or the project does not get selected for funding, the concept for Segment 2 will change dramatically.

If all proceeds as planned, construction for Segment 1 would be expected in 2024, and construction for Segment 2 in 2025 or later (contingent on funding approvals).

We discussed, the latest alignment is similar to the version discussed in December 2021. Most of the discussions from this point forward are for Segment 2. The typical section consists of two 11' side lanes with 2' wide paved shoulders. A 10' wide multiuse trail is on the north side and separated from road traffic by a cable barrier to about 700' west of Huffman Road. There is a 5' wide buffer from the trail edge to the top of rip rap along the river.

Prior to the meeting, Jon had discussed with Dave the concept of moving the trail to the south side of the embankment (vs. the north side). The benefit of this concept would be the road could remain along its current alignment allowing a mill and overlay of the roadway from Short Street to Huffman Road rather than a full reconstruction. The expanded embankment would be on the south side with the multiuse trail on the south as well. It would however require an additional cable barrier or MGS beam guard on the south side to separate road traffic from trail users.

Construction costs have risen sharply recently, with fuel, material, and labor prices increasing. We reviewed past estimates and added appropriate items/costs. For Segment 2, the cost difference between reconstruction with a trail on the north side vs. a mill and overlay only (no trail) was around

\$2 million more for the north side trail option. For Segment 2, the cost difference between reconstruction with a trail on the south side vs. a mill and overlay only (no trail) was around \$1.4 million more for the south side trail option. Therefore, the cost difference of Segment 2 with a trail on the south side vs. a trail on the north side was around \$0.6 million more for the north side trail option.

After discussion, it was determined the Village preference is to build the trail and keep it on the north side, assuming the funding through the stimulus bill is approved. They may consider widening the sidewalk near the mill, removing a road connection or two east of the mill, and parking/trail revisions from Fox Street to Short Street.

Roland requested a resolution from the Village that:

- Commits the Village to the project concept, including taking over segments of CTH U outside the current project limits (N. 80th Street).
- Specifies the north side trail concept as the preferred option in Segment 2.
- Commits the Village to assuming all maintenance and upkeep of the roadways and trails, as well as all future improvements (County would maintain the rip rap along the causeway to satisfy CWPCo's FERC requirements).
- Commits the Village to reimburse the County for approximately 5% of the County's approximate 20%.
- Commits the Village to reimburse for miscellaneous R/W or real estate acquisitions.

Roland and Jon will coordinate with Peter Kastenholz from the County to draft the resolution. Resolution approval needed by the Village since stimulus funding requests need to be in by June 1.

WATER UTILITY COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Sue Carlson reporting. The auditors requested clarification of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes for the 2021 and 2022 budgets. The loan for water infrastructure at the business park has already been submitted and approved by the Board and is to be paid by the Village out of TID increment. Motion Carlson, second Honkomp the Board approve the Water Utility request to pay \$100,000.00 of the \$112,596.00 payment in lieu of taxes, and the Water Utility will request a 3% simplified rate case to enhance future earnings per the 2021 budget. Motion carried. Motion Carlson, second Honkomp the Board approve the Water Utility request to pay \$110,000.00 of the \$144,491.00 payment in lieu of taxes, and the Water Utility will request a 3% simplified rate case to enhance future earnings per the 2022 budget. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURN: Motion Honkomp, second Guillemot to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Arndt, Clerk

Approved by Biron Board of Trustees

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Jon T. Evenson, President