VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND

Public Works & Utilities Committee Minutes

Monday, March 24, 2025 - 6:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.**

   Village President Clow called the regular meeting of the Public Works & Utilities Committee to order at 6:00 PM in the Community Room of the Municipal Center. This meeting was also held via Zoom webinar.

   Members present: President Clow, Trustee Prill, Chris Fredrick, Zach Freeman, Eric Kindschi, Marc Nielsen

   Members not present: Pauline Boness

   Staff Present: Public Works Director Lee Igl, Assistant to the Public Works Director Aimee Irwin, and Town & Country staff, Brian Berquist and Tim Stieve

2. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES.**

   a. *This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Public Works and Utilities Committee for items that are not on the agenda. Please remember this is a hybrid meeting conducted in person and through the Zoom online meeting platform. Meeting attendees wishing to address the Committee about items not on the agenda may do so at this time. Zoom attendees should type their name and address in the Question and Answer feature within the Zoom online meeting platform at this time. Members of the public who are present in person and wish to address the Committee should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. When you are called upon to speak, state your name, address, and provide your comments to the Committee for their consideration. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to public.works@mcfarland.wi.us to be included as part of the meeting.*

      Members of the public may also speak during their selected agenda item as they designate on the public comment form or in the Question and Answer feature on Zoom.

      None.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

   a. *Motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2025 Public Works & Utilities Committee meeting.*

      Motion by President Clow, seconded by Trustee Prill, to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2025, Public Works & Utilities Committee meeting. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0.

4. **BUSINESS.**

   a. *Presentation regarding the draft Babcock Channel and Stormwater Lagoon Restoration Plan.*

      Stieve presented the draft plan, including a brief history, the studies conducted for the area, data trends related to lake levels, and a cost analysis for possible restoration.

- Nielsen asked what area was dredged in 1987. Stieve responded that the entire channel was dredged.
- Nielsen stated that the stormwater lagoon had been dredged since 2006. Berquist responded that while some maintenance work has occurred, there has not been a full dredge of the area.
- President Clow asked the depth of the stormwater lagoon. Stieve stated that the last measurements show the area at about three feet, which is why the area was included in the stormwater maintenance plan.
- Igl asked Stieve to review the removal of piers related to possible work. Stieve stated that piers would need to be removed as part of the construction maintenance if the full-width dredging occurred.
- President Clow asked what access points would be necessary. Stieve reviewed the various proposed access points to the channel.
- Fredrick recommended that an option be added to the draft plan for the no-build alternative.

Public comments were provided by attendees in person and on zoom by the following:

- James Zirbel, 6107 South Ct, expressed his concerns related to the highway runoff, that the site is a neglected remediation site, and that the residents of the area may have to pay for the maintenance work. Zirbel recommended additional discussions with the county related to their suck the muck campaign and an inquiry into how the county could assist with the maintenance work.
- Gordon Kinder, 5210 N Autumn Ln, provided his additional history of the area.
- Tim Ebert, 4592 Burma Rd, commented on the importance of the area for the village, his observations of the area, including the lack of current flow, and recommended that the north end be opened first to allow for flow through the channel.
- Joan Garrett, 5911 Lake Edge Rd, provided her history of the area, including the storm sewer. Garrett supports the dredging of the entire area.
- James & Cynthia McNielly, 4620 Burma Rd, stated they are in favor of dredging all four areas and suggested that the cost be borne mostly by the Village.
- Michael Margetis, 6021 South Ct, provided his observations of the area following rain events. Margetis recommended the village be required to pay for the maintenance, not only the adjoining property owners. Margetis added that the pictures he provided were taken in September 2024.
- Tara Gray Zirbel, 6107 South Ct, expressed the importance of the channel to the McFarland community.
- David Junck, 6106 Overlook Dr, supports dredging of all areas and believes the village should fund the project.
- Jack Watts, 4604 Burma Rd Unit 1, commented that the channel provides a sense of community and should be maintained. Watts commented that it's in the best interest of the village to keep the area clean and presentable.
- Kathy Carl, 6014 Lake Edge Rd, provided written comments which were included in the packet for the evening's meeting. Carl recommends the area be

dredged, and no special assessments should be imposed on adjacent property owners.

Stieve provided additional comments related to current lake water levels, sediment quality, the lack of flooding concerns, outfalls in the channel, and the proper functioning of the gabion wall.

President Clow and Igl provided an overview of the draft plan in terms of financial plans and next steps. President Clow noted that area four is included in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for 2026, but the other areas of the plan are not currently included in the CIP. Igl explained that the draft plan would be updated based on this evening's meeting and would return to the committee in a future month for additional review and possible recommendation to the Village Board.

- Fredrick recommended that objectives are developed and included in the draft plan as to what the goals of the project would be. Fredrick also commented that this work would involve the waters of the state and be a project conducted on state property.

b. *Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the award of contract for the 2025 Street & Utility Improvements project.*
Stieve reviewed the bid results and scope of work, including an explanation of the alternative bid items.

- Fredrick asked if the quantities were reviewed for the water items as the pricing was higher than estimated. Stieve stated quantities were reviewed and stated that the work corridor was a contributor to the higher-than-estimated pricing.
- Freeman inquired about the resurfacing of Severson Rd and potential damage that may occur in 2026 related to the stormwater lagoon.

Motion by President Clow, seconded by Fredrick, to recommend to the Village Board the award of contract to Parisi Construction, LLC of Verona, Wisconsin for an amount of $2,551,414 including the base bid and supplemental bids, while rejecting all alternative bids with additional expenses for engineering, construction administration, and contingency for a total project cost in the amount of $3,033,000 with the condition of staff evaluating the resurfacing of Severson Rd. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

c. *Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the MS4 Annual Report for 2024*
Stieve provided an overview of the MS4 annual report which summarizes the village's activities in 2024. Stieve added that the new permit term may have new requirements based on discussions with the DNR.

- President Clow asked if the stormwater basin cleaning helps keep the village in compliance. Stieve stated that the maintenance helps the village stay within requirements.

Motion by President Clow, seconded by Freeman, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding the 2024 MS4 Annual Report as presented. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0.

d. *Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding award of contract for sanitary sewer main cleaning and televising services.*
Igl reviewed the proposals received for sanitary sewer main cleaning and televising services. Igl stated the low bidder was Green Bay Pipe & TV, which is the same contractor the village had contracted with for the previous three-year term.

- Fredrick asked what the cost escalation was from Green Bay Pipe & TV from the previous contract. Igl stated there was no change.
- Freeman asked for clarification regarding the lineal footage per year. Igl stated the lineal footage is an estimated amount per year for approximately one-third of the village's system.

Motion by President Clow, seconded by Trustee Prill, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding award of contract to Green Bay Pipe & TV of Green Bay for sanitary sewer main cleaning and televising services for a three-year term not to exceed the village's budgeted amounts. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0.

e. *Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding a proposal from Baker Tilly to conduct a conventional rate case for the water utility.*
Berquist provided an overview regarding a proposal from Baker Tilly to conduct a conventional water rate case. Igl stated the main reason for the conventional water rate case is related to the construction of Well 5.

- Freeman inquired about engaging Baker Tilly for the rate case. Irwin responded that Baker Tilly is the village's auditor and Baker Tilly has conducted previous water rate cases for the utility.

Motion by President Clow, seconded by Fredrick, to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding a proposal from Baker Tilly to conduct a conventional rate case for the water utility as presented. Motion carries 5 - 0 - 1, with Nielsen abstaining.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

a. *Monday, April 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.*

6. ADJOURNMENT.
Motion by Fredrick, seconded by Freeman, to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

Pursuant to law, written notice of this meeting was given to the public and posted on the public bulletin board in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Respectfully submitted,
Aimee Irwin
Assistant to the Public Works Director