MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS

AUGUST 16, 2012

A Special Meeting of the Board of Local Improvements convened at 11:09 a.m. on Thursday, August 16, 2012 at 3505 N. Dries Lane, Public Works Operations Facility, Peoria, Illinois and was called to order by President Gene Hewitt.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following Board of Local Improvements Members in attendance: President Gene Hewitt, Board Member Erle Currie and Board Member Amy Benecke McLaren – 3; Absent: Secretary Randall Ray and Board Member Jeff Smith - 2.

Others in attendance included City Project Engineer Steve Letsky, Steve Kerr of Mohr and Kerr Engineering, and Administrative Specialist Ruth Blanchallor.

MINUTES

Board Member Currie moved to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of July 12, 2011, as printed; seconded by Board Member McLaren.

Approved by viva voce vote.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 1  DRAFT RESOLUTION to the PEORIA CITY COUNCIL In Support of the City’s Continuance of FUNDING for the SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM for Future Projects.

President Hewitt gave an overview of the funding problems and stated that, since requests fluctuated, some projects get held up because of lack of funding.

In discussion with Board Member McLaren regarding whether or not the City had any contingency to address individual neighborhoods, President Hewitt stated it did not. However, he said, there were times when several residents got together and went through the Sidewalk Participation Program to improve an entire block. Otherwise, he said, there were no other programs to improve an entire neighborhood.

Board Member Currie stated he believed it was important to note that the special assessment process is the only citizen-initiated program to improve a neighborhood.

President Hewitt suggested that a paragraph be added to state it was important to have the process, as a citizen initiative for the benefit of a neighborhood.

Board Member McLaren suggested it include information that the process is the only avenue for a neighborhood group to cause an infrastructure improvement that adds sustainable value to a neighborhood.

It was also suggested to state that, historically, special assessment projects have provided additional, intangible benefits that exceed the value of the infrastructure improvement to the neighborhood, and increase the livability of the area.

Board Member Currie moved to approve the Resolution in Support of Continuance of the City’s funding for the Special Assessment Program for future projects, with the discussed revisions added, as outlined; seconded by Board Member McLaren.
Approved by viva voce vote.

ITEM NO. 2 OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE BOARD.

Board Member McLaren announced the Wilhelm Road Bridge was open for traffic and it was a good improvement for traffic in the area.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 1 UPDATE on FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH PROPERTY OWNERS AND ENGINEERING REVIEW Regarding Drainage Issues Possibly Affecting the Design and Construction Estimate of the W. Stonegate Road Roadway Improvement Project; (City Staff and Steve Kerr, P.E., Mohr & Kerr Engineering & Land Surveying).

Engineer Steve Kerr, of Mohr & Kerr Engineering and Land Surveying, gave a report to the Board of his further discussions with the property owners on Stonegate Road. He said he met with Mr. and Mrs. Sollberger, residents of 513 West Stonegate Road, Peoria, and he distributed a copy of his Minutes of that meeting to all members of the Board. He explained the Sollbergers’ property is on a corner, between Wyss Lane and Pleasant Ridge Court, and he met with them to address their concerns about drainage conditions.

Mr. Kerr stated that the project included plans for an overlay, new curbs and sidewalk, driveway approaches, a widening of the roadway between Wyss Lane and Pleasant Ridge Court, and new storm sewer system. He said there was a rural section there that had been overlaid, but not really improved, and so there was a gap in the development coming between east and west. He said Stonegate has been sealcoated and overlaid so many times that it has created a high crown in the street, and the storm water drainage of every point from Pleasant Ridge and from the high point on Stonegate flows down. So it was apparent that, if it was again overlaid and curb was added, he said it would have back-pitched more flow into the driveways, which wouldn't have been an ideal situation, given the amount of water possible.

Considering the existing situation, Mr. Kerr stated he then looked into changing the plans to lower the road. He said cores of the pavement were taken, which showed 5” of asphalt base, so there should be no concern about milling the roadway. He said he then lowered the profile of the road in the plans and included the reconstruction of the road between Pleasant Ridge and Wyss, keeping all the road water running down Stonegate and draining away from front yards. He said the cost of the changes stayed within the project Budget.

Board Member Currie said since the changes incorporated in order to handle the problems stayed within the original project budget, he had no problem going forward. He had been concerned that a new public hearing would be necessary if the costs increased beyond what was previously presented to the property owners, he said.

In further discussion, the Board was advised that the total project went up $45,000, but not more than 10% of the original cost.

In discussion with President Hewitt regarding the addition of more storm sewer inlets, Mr. Kerr said inlets were added at both corners on Pleasant Ridge Court. He said the storm sewer pipe traveled all the way down to the bottom and there was already a storm sewer all the way up to Wyss, so the inlets would be connected there.

The Board thanked Mr. Kerr for his report.
ITEM NO. 2 CONSIDERATION of RECOMMENDATION of an ORDINANCE Concerning the Proposed Public Improvement of the W. STONEGATE ROAD (N. SHERIDAN ROAD TO NORTH STREET) SIDEWALK AND ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT to the PEORIA CITY COUNCIL for APPROVAL. [Council District 3].

Board Member Currie moved to approve the project with the changes outlined by Mr. Kerr and to recommend an Ordinance concerning the proposed public improvement of the West Stonegate Road (North Sheridan Road to North Street) Sidewalk and Roadway Improvement Project to the Peoria City Council for approval; seconded by Board Member McLaren.

Approved by viva voce vote.

CITIZENS‘ OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

After three calls, President Hewitt determined there were no citizens present who wished to address the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Board Member Currie moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Board Member McLaren.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Special Meeting of the Board of Local Improvements adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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Gene Hewitt, President
Board of Local Improvements

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Attachment