

MINUTES
January 18, 2005
City Services Committee
City of Batavia

Chairman Beckman called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Members present: Aldermen Beckman, Frank, Barnard, Volk, and Frydendall

Members absent: Aldermen McCarter and Vance

Also present: Aldermen Wolff, Clark, Nelson, and Miller (arrived at 7:05 p.m.); William McGrath, City Administrator; Noel Basquin, City Engineer; Joel Strassman, Acting Community Development Director; John Noble, City Attorney; Dave Zawada and Dan Herring, H. W. Lochner, Inc.; Kathy Montanari, Recording Secretary

2. WILLIAM J. DONOVAN BRIDGE: PHASE II ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE PROPOSAL

Basquin reviewed his January 13, 2005 memo. The agreement covers final plans, bid documents, and specifications.

Volk noted that lighting of bikeway or bike racks was excluded from the scope of services in Phase II electrical engineering. Basquin responded that the area under the bridge is to be lit.

Basquin explained that the overall proposal amounts to \$868,000, not including construction inspection services.

McGrath clarified that the document was a proposal describing the scope of services to be performed, along with an estimated cost. The committee will recommend whether or not the proposal is satisfactory and can be transmitted to IDOT for its review. In turn, IDOT will review the proposal and make a determination of allowable hours. McGrath said the City would learn what is to be covered by the grant. After the IDOT review, the City can then put the proposal into contractual form. Depending on IDOT's determinations, the City Council may need to discuss the scope of non-bridge items.

Nelson asked what would happen if IDOT lowers certain amounts. McGrath responded that the document is not a contract, but if IDOT removes an hour from a task the City will ask Lochner to do the task for one hour less.

Nelson asked how long the IDOT review was expected to take, and Zawada replied that he hoped the turnaround would be about four weeks. The schedule is based on a start date of March 1, 2005.

McGrath explained that IDOT projects are reviewed in February. Mayor Schielke and Zawada have been working with IDOT representatives to ensure deadlines are met.

Barnard asked if a reduction in hours by IDOT would affect the project in terms of quality or scope. Zawada explained that IDOT may decide it will not contribute towards certain

items, and then the City will need to determine if it wants to cover 100% of those expenses. In some cases, the scope of work may need to be adjusted. If the reduction is minimal, his firm usually accepts it.

McGrath said IDOT will make a determination of eligible items to be covered by the 80% grant, as well as the number of items needed to perform a task. The bridge reconstruction can be broken into four projects:

- the portion of the bridge covered by the 80% grant;
- the portion of the bridge not covered by the 80% grant;
- Wilson Street streetscape; and
- walkway beneath the bridge.

Basquin then responded to several questions sent to him by Ald. Wollnik:

- A second CDC meeting will be scheduled to discuss the bridge in April.
- Staff will be reviewing sanitary sewer lines during the design phase to determine whether they should be replaced. The Electric Department liaison will ensure that all necessary conduit is installed.
- The proposal was revised to reflect that the staging concept should maintain one-lane of traffic in each direction along Wilson Street.
- Regarding the question on ice melting systems on stairways, Basquin said this was a Public Works request but he was concerned that the cost may be prohibitive. Dan Herring explained that ice-melting systems are embedded in concrete and are not durable; they must be replaced frequently at significant expense. It is included in the scope, but the City Council may wish to weigh the durability problems and cost against the cost of having a laborer remove the snow.

Clark asked if snow removal would be a responsibility of the new Public Works employee included in the 2005 budget. McGrath explained that the position was not added solely for downtown maintenance. A new Public Works person was added and that department is taking over the responsibility for downtown maintenance. Committee members thought it was important to keep the stairways shoveled whether they are used or not. Frydendall commented that salting concrete would affect the durability of concrete stairways, as well. McGrath was concerned that deicing systems have not yet been perfected. Nelson asked if any less corrosive product could be used in those areas. Herring said experimental types of salt are available, but he would need to check on the cost. Herring said if the stairways were concrete, they would have epoxy coated rebar to prevent them from degrading. Although ice melting systems are used elsewhere, the expense of replacing them may be too great for the City. McGrath suggested the ice melting system be left in the scope of services and additional research can be done while IDOT is reviewing plans.

Returning to the list of Wollnik's questions:

- Basquin said that watering systems had been removed from the proposal by the electric subconsultant, but Lochner will put the irrigation system back in. There will also be irrigation from light poles to maintain hanging baskets, etc.
- The City will receive electronic versions of final plans as deliverables.

- Regarding the difference between work being done by Lane Allen Architects, Inc. and Johnson-Lasky Architects, Inc., Basquin said the firms are working together as a team to develop the design. Zawada said Allen is focusing on the downtown context of the bridge (character, bike path, Riverwalk, etc.) and Johnson-Lasky is to ensure that those concepts are carried through in the design of the bridge.
- Basquin said the new scope of services from Kabbes Engineering included a breakdown, and the firm will be submitting electronic versions of their modeling to the City.

McGrath remarked that staff and the engineering/design team believed it was critical to adhere to the time schedule. He explained that it would not be possible to have a la carte choices on the elements in order to keep the project moving forward expeditiously. In the interest of time and in acknowledgement that design professionals have been hired, two complete bridge designs will be produced for the open house. The process still allows for changes, if necessary. There will be an open house to obtain public input, a CDC meeting to discuss the input and provide direction, and final presentation of the two concepts.

Nelson asked if both bridge concepts would be similar in cost, and Zawada said yes.

Clark asked if Allen was responsible for tying the bridge into the aesthetics of the downtown, and McGrath said yes.

MOTION: To recommend to City Council approval of the Phase II Engineering Proposal for the William J. Donovan Bridge with H. W. Lochner, Inc., subject to IDOT review and approval

MAKER: Volk

SECOND: Frank

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Volk, Frank, Beckman, Barnard, and Frydendall

Nays: None

Motion Carried, 5 to 0.

3. OTHER

None.

4. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by
Kathy Montanari