

**Minutes of the Grand Forks City Council/Service-Safety Committee**  
**Tuesday, August 26, 2014 – 5:30 p.m.**

The Service/Safety Standby Committee met on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers in City Hall with meeting chaired by Chairman Vein . Present at roll call were Vein , Bjerke, Schneider; absent: Sande..

Others present: Al Grasser, Mark Walker, Rich Romness, Todd Feland, Dale Bergman, Chief Kirby.

**1. Bid acceptance – Rydell Chevrolet for 3 unmarked 4-door sedans.**

There were no questions or comments. **Motion by Schneider and Bjerke to approve recommendation. Motion carried.**

**2. Request for driveway variance.**

Bjerke questioned these items coming to committee/council, that if the need is there for trucks/ semis for additional space for turning without tearing up sidewalks, grass, etc. could be handled by engineering department. Grasser stated that by Code can give a 10 ft. variance for driveways but beyond that it is a council action. It was suggested they could have the ability to rant the variance or have appeal process if not granted. Committee asked if engineering could look at that to see if any changes could be made. **Motion by Bjerke and Schneider to approve recommendation and refer to city council. Motion carried.**

**3. Bids for Project Nos. 7271, Dist. 510; 7272, Dist. 319; and 7273, Dist. 511 – Sanitary Sewer, Watermain and Storm Sewer for Southern Estates 9<sup>th</sup> Resub. Phase I (43<sup>rd</sup> Ave.S., Crystal Drive to South Columbia Road).**

No questions or comments. **Motion by Schneider and Bjerke to approve recommendation and refer to city council. Motion carried.**

**4. Transportation Infrastructure Needs Analysis.**

Mark Walker, asst. city engineer, reported that engineering had been contacted by the Upper Great Plains Traffic Institute that had been hired by the State of North Dakota to look at transportation needs of cities throughout the state. Upper Great Plains was looking for the transportation needs of the city for the next 20 years and wanted it in categories of **maintenance** (seal coat, overlays and replacement projects); **improvements** (reconstruct roadway without adding any lanes); and **enhancements** (construct new streets or reconstruct the street with additional lanes).

Transportation needs on these three categories were reported for Classified Street Network in Long Range Transp. Plan; Classified Street Network not included in LRTP; Local Street Network; and Transportation Support Systems (includes traffic signals, ADA curb ramps and shared use paths) with summary in the staff report.

Information is being shared with the committee and when have discussions with legislator about financial needs for the city. The Long Range Transportation Plan was based on a 25 year period and Upper Great Plains was looking for our transportation needs over 20-year period.

Bjerke suggested several items to consider during Legislative Committee –questioned why trying to fund 2 bridges in the southend of town, as don't have money for one; need to pick one bridge and focus on that. Grasser noted that the Merrifield bridge is not in this group of data because on the Long Range Transp. Plan the primary funding governmental unit locally is the County. Vein stated that the time to talk about that would be when the MPO Long Range Transp. Plan comes back to council where all have opportunity for input at that time.

Bjerke asked what Legislative Committee will do if we don't have information ready to go forward with the 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue interchange and if potential for Plan B for that session – to look at overpass on 42<sup>nd</sup> and DeMers as a backup plan for 47<sup>th</sup> Ave.S. interchange. There was also some discussion relative to increase in rail traffic because of Bakken oil and ag. products and need for better data on number of trains and types of trains that are going through that intersection - that between railroads, the traffic shift and now University of ND who are partners who work with us to make things happen – and lobby for that overpass because it's their people going to school and their staff that are being affected – UND can help support us because large part of this community; and re. overpass discussion is that BN Santa Fe or BNSF are willing to partner and help assisting with that project, but another positive that got out of meeting with BNSF that they are willing to help from safety prospective and that is another partner we should throw in on that 42<sup>nd</sup> St. overpass is that they are a willing partner,

Grasser stated going to be work in progress – that for a federal project the underpass is quite a bit ahead of the 47<sup>th</sup> Ave.S. interchange. and is part of what we are going to have to consider with the Legislative Committee when start trying to prioritize and make some of those requests-

Feland stated need to come forward with is we have to prioritize our one regional project and that is either the overpass or underpass on 42<sup>nd</sup> or the 47<sup>th</sup> Ave.S. interchange but we need to prioritize if have Plan A or B.

Bjerke also brought up the matter of how much bikepath usage is for recreation as opposed to people riding to work – because if for recreation have a separate tax entity and it's their job to provide for recreation in the city- and should talk to the Park District to ask them to assist us in maintaining our bikepaths.

Bjerke asked if debate in committee and will come back before the legislative session so council can make decision. Vein stated legislative priorities will come back and go through council before they go onto the full legislators. **Information only.**

**5. Bids for Project #2014-27 CAT Security Management and Access Control Project.**

Dale Bergman, Transportation Dept., reported hearing there may be a bid protest from one of the bidders but has to go through approval before that can be done and documents stated that they have it in writing to us. – that in looking at the documents, doesn't see anything that will cause him to do that. **Motion by Schneider and Bjerke to approve recommendation and refer to city council. Motion carried.**

**Adjourn**

**Motion by Schneider and Bjerke to adjourn, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.**

**Alice Fontaine, City Clerk**