

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
CITY OF NISSWA
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2018
5:00 P.M. – CITY HALL**

A meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Members Present: Johnson, Stachour.

Members Absent: Ryan, Mann.

Staff Present: City Staff Tom Blomer and Jenny Max; City Engineer Mark Hallan; Crow Wing County Engineer Tim Bray; Bryant Ficek and Max Moreland from Spack Consulting. There were approximately six people in the audience.

Gary Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

1. Open Forum – None.
2. Max Moreland, Spack – Moreland reviewed the work done in late June and early July for the traffic study, and stated the study provides forecasting out to 2025 to include Grand View Lodge's (GVL) planned improvements as well as general area growth. The study incorporated turning movement counts, speed data and sight distance checks, and also considered the 2011 and 2015 counts previously conducted. The Nokomis and CSAH 77 intersection is found to meet an eight hour warrant for a traffic signal in 2025, which does not factor in any of the improvements currently taking place at GVL. Moreland noted they found six main issues that will be addressed in the final report:
 1. Pedestrian/Bike safety at CSAH 77/Nokomis Avenue
 2. Westbound vehicles on CSAH 77 using the right turn lane at Nokomis Avenue as a bypass lane
 3. Future poor operations on northbound Nokomis Avenue at CSAH 77
 4. Pedestrian/Bike operations on roads around GVL
 5. GVL traffic on residential roadways
 6. Residential traffic conflicting with pedestrian/bike traffic, as well as general GVL traffic and non-lodge traffic

Moreland reviewed five alternatives that were reviewed for the CSAH 77 and Nokomis Avenue intersection:

1. Adding a northbound right turn lane
2. Adding eastbound and westbound left turn lanes onto CSAH 77
3. $\frac{3}{4}$ access – only turning right
4. Adding a four-way signal
5. Single lane roundabout

Moreland noted that option #5, a single lane roundabout, would likely be the best option at this time.

Moreland discussed pedestrian and bicycle improvements and noted ideally it would be best to complete the connections throughout the resort. Moreland noted some ideas for one-way road options on Woodward and possibly reducing the speed limit to 25 MPH, which is the lowest allowed per MN statute.

To address the resort traffic imposing on Linden roads, Moreland suggested adding wayfinding signage at the main resort decision points, similar to what you see in colleges and campgrounds. Another option is to add a connection from Linden to the maintenance road, with proper signage. The road could be designed to keep the vehicular traffic on the main road with a turn needed to get onto Linden.

Tom Farrell noted concerns regarding lodge traffic; issues with delivery trucks; laundry facilities, etc. Farrell asked if golf carts are incorporated into the counts. GVL should be addressing the golf cart issue.

Ficek said they would need to have GVL clarify what their standards are for golf cart traffic.

Bray asked when is warrant 1 met? Moreland noted warrant 1 will be met in 2019 if all of the cottages are built and in use. Moreland will provide the warrant data collected to Bray.

Farrell noted the service entrance onto CSAH 77 and asked if GVL can give up some land to improve the point of connection?

Ficek advised the Committee to not take the draft report as identifying an exact place, but rather ask where's the compromise to put the connection in the best and most logical place?

Ficek also noted there was a 25% drop in westbound traffic after they pass the Nokomis entrance.

A Linden resident asked if the City can consider any other entrances on CSAH 77. Ficek noted it may be hard to do with the amount of spacing needed between entrances on a County road.

Matt Hansen, West Linden resident asked if walking paths could be added on each side of the road. Ficek noted that would be ideal, but not sure if space would allow for that.

Farrell asked if the maintenance road was available to the public, who would pay for it?

The Committee thanked Spack Consulting for their presentation and Max noted any follow up comments or questions would be sent to Ficek and Moreland for consideration as they complete the final report.

3. Grand View Expansion Project Update – None.
4. Spack Presentation Follow-Up Meeting – Max inquired if the GVL Traffic Committee would like to meet again prior to receiving the final Spack report. The Linden resident members

noted that yes, they would like to have another meeting. A follow-up meeting was set for Wednesday, August 22nd at 5:00pm.

5. County Road Project Cost Sharing - Blomer explained the current Crow Wing County cost sharing policy with the Committee that was provided by Tim Bray. Bray noted the County's five year road plan is published on the County website. The timeline for CSAH 115 is undetermined, may possibly take place in 2023 with CSAH 13 taking place in 2021. The usual item that triggers cost sharing with local jurisdictions is curb and gutter. Blomer asked Bray if the County policy is older than the new sales tax funding revenue stream, to which Bray said yes. Blomer asked if there is an option for the County to amend the policy? Bray noted he is looking at keeping the policy current and if the City has any opinions he would like to hear them.

Bray noted the County has no history of assessing road projects to the taxpayers, but the City could look at assessing the local costs if it wasn't manageable within the City budget.

6. Post Office 3/4 way stop and downtown parking – Johnson noted he has noticed how difficult the Main street activity is to see coming from Nisswa Avenue. Blomer said we should be aware of possible ADA concerns when making improvements to the intersection and we don't want to add confusion. Blomer would like to have a study done and be more comprehensive to have done right.

Stachour said he would like to just place a stop sign.

Hallan said he saw a concept design done by staff but that the City needs to have warrants identified to justify a stop sign; otherwise the City could have legal implications.

Stachour said he asked the Postmaster how many people go in and out of the post office each day; an average of 500 people per day is going in and out of the post office. Stachour noted we need an engineering analysis, not a traffic study.

Hallan said a geometric study is more complex, and would recommend a combination of both WSN and Spack to get the information the City is looking for.

It was the consensus of the Public Works Committee to recommend the City Council authorize staff to obtain quotes for geometric engineering work at the intersection of Main Street and Nisswa Avenue.

7. Engineering Proposals for Hazelwood and Smiley Road – Blomer noted staff would like to get the engineering work going for Hazelwood and Smiley Road, in order to be ready for bidding late winter 2019. Hallan noted he completed a proposal for each of the two roads, including an option for sewer engineering if the City would like that done at the same time.

It was the consensus of the Public Works Committee to recommend the City Council approve the proposal from WSN for engineering services for Hazelwood Drive and Smiley Road as presented.

8. Replacement Electrical Panel – Blomer noted an electrical panel for lift station #3 is in need of replacing and the cost is \$17,100, plus \$1,000 for electrical work. The cost is covered by the lift station replacement fund.

It was the consensus of the Public Works Committee to recommend the City Council approve the purchase of a replacement electrical panel for Lift Station #3 from Electric Pump at a cost of \$17,100 plus approximately \$1,000 electrical work for Holden Electric.

9. Change Committee Meeting Dates – Blomer noted the future Public Works meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of the month, starting in September.

There being no further business, Johnson adjourned the Public Works Committee meeting at 6:25pm.

DRAFT