

Village of Rapids City
July 24th, 2023
Committee of the Whole Meeting

Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss:

- 17th Street Project discussions

President Mire called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 4:30pm.

Roll Call:

Physically Present: Schnieder, Fowler, Rankin, DeMarlie, Robertson and Mire

Virtually Present: Fiems

Absent: None.

Others:

Physically Present: Clerk Housenga, Public Works Director Bump, Marty & Jen Brooks, Cheryl & Lacy Mullens, Chalyn & Ron Fornero-Green, Rebecca Solomon, Jeff Corson, Terry Hanson, Larry Fritts, John Lamb, Greg Kerner, Corey Fulton with Rapids City Fire Protection District, Sara Ferguson, Joe Newberry, Sharon Lefever, Reg Stearns

Virtually Present: Samsung SM-S906U

Mire opened this Committee of the Whole Meeting by thanking everyone for attending but noted key attendees had not arrived and requested a recess until they arrived. Recess started at 4:32pm.

Jamie Massa and Bill from Centennial Contractors arrived at 4:35pm.

Mire reconvened this Committee of the Whole meeting at 4:35pm. Mire laid out how he would like to conduct the meeting by letting the engineer speak then those in the audience speak. Mire first reassured the residents and business owners that communication will improve and apologized for the lack thereof. Mire elaborated by pointing out examples of the lack of communication. One occurrence happened when Mire halted paving at the top of hill due to concerns pertaining to Stearns driveway. Axiom Representative, Brad, just thanked Mire for the notice but did not question why the stop work order was imposed nor for clarification as to which part of the project was halted. Mire also noted communication with IDOT was not conducted concerning the project, our Public Works Director had to step in to resolve the issues. Additionally, complaints from residents, business owners and staff that phone calls and emails are not being responded to for several days. The website designed for this project by Axiom Consultants for weekly project updates has only one post from June 29th. Mire also stated it seems there is a serious lack of communication between Axiom and Centennial Contractors.

Boelk reviewed what has occurred with the project to date with all in attendance. Boelk noted he did not know that subcontractor Miller was conducting work last Wednesday below the hill for watermain replacement preparation. Boelk committed to updating the website provided for the project as well working closer with the Village and Centennial to ensure everyone is aware of project schedules and progress.

It was disclosed that greater easement is being requested from Stearns, which is a variation from the original agreement. A meeting will need to be scheduled with all parties evolved to come to an agreement and an understanding as to how the new agreement will affect Stearns' property.

Other persons in the audience spoke of concerns which ranged from access to their homes and businesses during construction, prior notice to easement work and closure of driveways,

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handling of tree removal and debris and water quality and emergency vehicle access. Attendees were satisfied with all answers to their questions.

With no further business to conduct Rankin motioned to adjourn this Committee of the Whole Meeting; Fowler seconded. All members of the board concurred, motion passes. President Mire adjourned by consensus of the Board at 5:45pm.

Missy M. Housenga
Village Clerk