



CITY OF WAUWATOSA

MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTER
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting – Tuesday, September 11, 2012

Committee Room #1

PRESENT: Aids. Berdan, Causier, McBride, Moldenhauer, Pantuso, Roznowski, Walz-
Chojnacki, Wilke – 8

ALSO PRESENT: Aids. Birschel, J. Archambo, City Admin.; A. Kesner, City Attorney

Ald. Roznowski as Chair called the meeting to order at 8:07p.m.

Land Combination – 2545 N. 100th Street

Mr. Kesner commented that a Land Division was just done on this property during the summer. The applicants are new owners. They bought both properties and they want combine them again. Staff recommends approval and the Plan Commission recommended approval 7-0.

No one present in favor or opposition.

Moved by Ald. Pantuso, seconded Causier to recommend approval
Of the Land Combination of property located at 2545 N. 100th Street – 7

ATC Western Milwaukee County Electric Reliability Project

Mr. Kesner explained that the issue involves the power needs for the future in western Milwaukee County. He recapped the alternatives that are for consideration that have been discussed at previous meetings. He also gave a history of the application that was filed with the Public Service Commission (PSC). He noted that WE Energies filed an amended application on August 29, 2012 for a substation and after a time of preparation the project is moving forward. The applicants will give testimony on Thursday, September 13th and the interveners will give testimony on October 15th. The public hearing will be on November 27th. Party hearings will be held the same day and continue in Madison the next day if necessary. There will be a briefing in January, 2013 with the decision deadline in March 2013. He asked if the Council will endorse a specific route. He stressed that it is better support a specific route than just opposing everything. If the Council chooses a route the interveners and WE Energies may support the choice as well and a stronger case can be presented.

Mr. Kesner noted that the City of Milwaukee has taken the lead on the southern route. The parties involved are waiting for Wauwatosa to take the lead on the western route. He described the routes under consideration and the possible work involved with each. The costs range from \$12 million to approximately \$24 million. There have been a large number of city and outside engineers working on how to execute a number of the scenarios involved. He described the work and cost entailed in using overhead power lines or underground power lines. WE Energies would support the underground option. There will be a public hearing on November 27th with the PSC decision by March 30th. He noted that the City Engineer will coordinate with ATC and possibly postpone paving until ATC does their work in 2014.

Present: Ald. Birschel, Seventh District, 1225 N. 122nd Street
County Supervisor, Jim Schmitt, 2517 N. 88th Street
Joe and Bobbi Polecek, 11615 W. Underwood Parkway
Terry Stealey, 11326 Underwood Court
Kathleen Hansen, 12123 W. Underwood Parkway
Will and Betsey Gonwa, 11929 W. Underwood Parkway
John Novotny, 849 N. 117th Street
Mary Rose Armstrong, 1673 N. 119th Street
Cheryl Nonn, Milwaukee River Keepers, 400 N. 58th Street, Milwaukee
Jenny Wisniewski, 11718 W. Walnut Road
Denise Herzog, 11918 W. Walnut Road
Mark Walters, 12012 W. Walnut Road
Patrick Albert, 12026 W. Walnut Road
John Haupt, 1675 N. 120th Street
John Bahr, 1674 N. 118th Street
Ann Kammerer, 728 N. 113th Street

The residents appearing with comments and questions had a range of thoughts and ideas regarding the placement of the power lines. One major thought was that above ground power lines were an eyesore and would be a detriment to the city's image. The concerns were:

1. The impact on the environment physically and aesthetically
2. The detrimental impact on any parks or green space
3. Concern for property values
4. Costs for some of the plans would be prohibitive or discourage them from being viable options for the PSC
5. Concern that the data provided by ATC and WE Energies was not consistent or reliable

The committee recessed at 9:45 p.m. and reconvened at 9:58 p.m.

The committee members discussed the possibility of postponing the decision for two weeks in order to get more information. Mr. Kesner agreed to try and do that, but he cautioned that he had already given the committee all of the information ATC and WE Energies had provided to date. He was unsure that any further information would be forthcoming in a timely manner.

Moved by Ald. Wilke, seconded by Ald. Pantuso to hold this item until September 25th for further information --

The committee members had questions regarding the differences in the plans and the costs. Ald. McBride and Ald. Pantuso felt strongly that the decision should be made because they were running out of time. The entire committee expressed concern regarding the fact that a decision in one direction would be a positive for one neighborhood and a negative for the other neighborhood involved. Ultimately that was the most difficult part of the decision-making process.

Ald. Roznowski stressed that the residents and elected officials involved need to understand that the PSC will ultimately make its own decision. He didn't know how much more they would be able to learn in two weeks.

The motion to hold was withdrawn.

Moved by Ald. McBride, seconded by Ald. Walz-Chojnacki to recommend approval of a resolution supporting the Walnut Road route (“Route A”), with variation from ATC proposal as follows: 1) all underground, if practicable, 2) in the road under Walnut Road, 3) Underground to Watertown Plank Road (details to be figured out later), 4) underground in Watertown Plank Road, 5) “reduced impact of drop structures” at 119th & Walnut, and 6) also specifically oppose overhead route on Underwood parkway (“Route B” and variations)
Upon a roll call vote Ayes: 7, Noes: 1 (Berdan)

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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