

**SAUK CENTRE CITY COUNCIL/NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2007– 6:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Sauk Centre City Council met for a Neighborhood Meeting on Wednesday, August 29, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers pursuant to due notice being given thereof. Present were Mayor Brad Kirckof, Council Members David Thomas, Keith Johnson, Warren Stone and Al Coenen. Also present were City Administrator/Clerk Vicki Willer, Public Works Director (PWD) Butch Wessel, City Engineers Keith and Justin with Bonestroo and Administrative Assistant Nicki Vogt. Mayor Kirckof presided thereat.

3. COMMENTS

Mayor Kirckof stated that the Council will be holding two separate meetings for Ash Street to inform citizens of the project. City Engineer Yapp will make a presentation and following the presentation he will open for general questions. Once all general questions are over the meeting will close and citizens can get their individual property questions answered. Mayor Kirckof noted that this meeting is for informational purposes only.

The purpose of the project is due to the fact that the road is very worn out and no longer has structural integrity.

City Engineer Yapp stated that the project will take place from Sinclair Lewis Avenue to 12th Street. Sinclair Lewis to 10th Street will be a total reconstruct with the removal and replacement of sewer, water main and storm sewer. 10th to 12th Streets will be a mill and overlay. Existing sidewalks will be replaced in deteriorating areas only. New sidewalks will be placed in areas without. Seventeen trees are preliminarily identified to be removed as the likelihood of trees surviving is low due the roots being cut. The road will be surfaced with a 4 inch layer of bituminous pavement. Due to the traffic volume, the road will be a 9 ton toad.

The total preliminary cost of the project is estimated at 1.6 million. The Public Utilities Commission will pay for the main sewer and water lines and the City will pay approximately \$427,000 which is a 50/50 split. Corner lots will be assessed by road frontage. The average single family assessment cost is \$8,370.37. The project timeline is as follows:

- Public Hearing - 9/19/07
- Project Bid – Early February 2008
- Project Award – Late February/Early March 2008
- Begin Construction – Early to mid-May on north end and June for South end
- Substantial Completion – End of August 2008.

City Engineer Yapp opened for the following questions:

How will the Contractor cater to water/sewer needs during construction?

The street will be constructed one block at a time. When one area is being worked on, they will pump around the construction. The services will be re-hooked up every night. The water services are currently on the west side of the road and the new water services will be installed on the east side of the road and the purpose is to keep everyone in service.

If the homeowners desire to have their house lines re-done, are they responsible to arrange their own?

Yes, individual homeowners are responsible for replacing their own services. A licensed plumber is required to do so. The Contractors will try and work with the homeowners and their plumbers to coincide with times when they are working on that particular home.

Is tree removal part of the project cost?

Yes, and the cost will be distributed evenly.

Why is the project assessed 50/50 when the road is a major thoroughfare?

Assessment policy dictates that 100% of the cost is assessed to property owners but because this is a major thoroughfare, the City has opted to pay 50%.

What is the criteria for replacing sidewalks?

It is based on the amount of cracking and pitting in the existing sidewalks. All areas that are to be replaced will be marked with paint. If the contractor damages an existing sidewalk during construction, it is their responsibility to replace. One gentleman felt that if the City wants new sidewalks they should be responsible for paying for it.

How do homeowners get in and out of their property if they only have one access?

The property owners will be notified ahead of time. Also, everything is put back and re-hooked up each evening.

Is there a possibility of widening the road?

The Council does not have much interest in widening the street, which is currently 36 feet. If they choose to widen, it will go to a 40 foot wide street. One option they are looking at is to restrict parking to one side only. City Engineer Yapp took a poll on whether those in attendance were in favor of widening and street and the majority were not interested in widening.

Has a traffic study been completed on Ash Street?

No.

Is Ash Street a State Aid road?

No. In order to be considered for State Aid roads, the City must have a population of 5,000 or more.

What will the lifespan be of the new road?

The life span will be at least 20 years and anything beyond 20 years will require a mill and overlay. The road will not need to be reconstructed for approximately 40 years if routine maintenance is performed.

Will the lights be replaced?

No decision has been made to date although the Council is discussing the option of putting in decorative lighting similar to the lights in the new developments.

Council Member Coenen stated that the purpose of the sidewalks is to keep pedestrians safe, especially since there are schools and churches in that area.

Council Member Johnson encouraged citizens to call the Police Department if they notice people speeding on Ash Street.

Council Member Stone welcomed citizens to call with comments and input.

Mayor Kirckof thanked everyone for coming. He also stated that the Council will try and make the decision that is in the best interest of the City.

4. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and seconded by Council Member Johnson to adjourn the meeting. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Stone, Johnson, Thomas, Coenen and Mayor Kirckof. Against: None. The motion passed.

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Kirckof adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mayor Brad A. Kirckof

City Administrator Vicki Willer