

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Minutes – March 1, 2023

Committee Chair, Brian Holmquist, called the regular monthly meeting of the Monona Public Works Committee to order at 6:30 pm.

Members Present: Alder Holmquist, Alder DePula, Ms. Busse, Mr. Boyer, Mr. Stenzel,  
Mr. Selbig, Mr. Turino, Ms. Piliouras

Members Absent: Mr. Speight

Also Present: DPW Director Stephany, City Planner Doug Plowman

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion made by Ms. Busse and seconded by Mr. Boyer to approve the Minutes of the February 1, 2023 Public Works Committee meeting was carried.

### APPEARANCES

Linda Gardiner – 1186 East Lake Road, Mineral Point, WI – appeared in front of the Committee to ask for consideration of a water leak credit due to a leak in the plumbing system located in the crawl space of the cottage house they own at 6401 Winnequah Road.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and consideration of requested changes to the residential Certified Survey Map at 4506 Shore Acres Road. City Planner, Doug Plowman, attended the meeting to present the details of the requested changes to members of the PWC. Mr. Plowman provided materials for review that were included in the packet. Changes to the map include consolidating two lots into one which would allow the applicant to build a ground floor addition to the existing single family home. The addition would meet the required setbacks.

A motion made by Mr. Turino and seconded by Ms. Busse to recommend approval of the changes to the residential Certified Survey Map as presented for 4506 Shore Acres was carried.

### Discussion of City Council directive to initiate the process of renaming Squaw Circle.

Alders Holmquist and DePula presented this topic to the Committee. Monona City Council passed a Resolution at the February 20, 2023 meeting providing direction to the Committee to begin the process of renaming Squaw Circle. The City has made a commitment to identify and address racism within the community. The word “squaw” is recognized as racist and misogynistic and is skewed into a vulgarity. The marginalization of Native women and girls is institutionalized by the continued use of the word.

In September of 2019, Monona City Council passed a Resolution supporting a Dane County application to change the name of Squaw Bay, which was approved by the US Bureau of Geographic Names later in September of 2021. The Monona City Council wishes to remove racist language from place names in the City that are enduring signs of

embedded and systemic racism in our society. Squaw Circle should be renamed also because it no longer reflects the name of the body of water the street overlooks. To follow Monona Ordinances and State Statutes, the City Council directs the Committee to initiate the street naming process and recommend a new name for the street currently known as Squaw Circle. The Committee is further directed to seek input from the Ho Chunk Nation and the general public.

Alder DePula mentioned that the renaming of the street is not necessarily limited to Native names and all types of respectable street names will be considered during the process. Alder DePula also offered an initial suggestion to rename the street in honor of Kathy Thomas for more than forty years of dedicated service to the City.

The Director will complete research on renaming City streets and outline a process in the next month, which will be discussed at the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Mr. Turino and seconded by Ms. Busse to adjourn was carried (7:06pm).

Daniel Stephany  
Director of Public Works