

**MINUTES OF THE
INLAND LAKE PROTECTION AND
REHABILITATION DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 5, 2018**

The annual meeting of the City of Antigo Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District was held on the above date at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers, Antigo, Wisconsin, Chairperson Timothy Kassis, presiding.

Commissioners in attendance were: Rebstock, Kassis, Bauknecht, Feller Gottard, Bugni, Balcerzak, and Henricks. Absent: Fischer and LeBrun

Riparian owners and other voting members in attendance were: Mark Desotell, Kaye Matucheski, Sarah Repp, Joe Jopek, John McKenna, Elsa McKenna, Pat Frey, and Joe McKenna (for a portion of the meeting).

Others in attendance were Jeanne Jensen, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Kirk Packard, Street Commissioner, and Scott Martin, MSA Professional Services.

Commissioner Kassis reviewed the guidelines for voting eligibility.

Election of officers ensued: (Present officers being Tim Kassis, Chairperson; Tom Bauknecht, Secretary; and Barb Rebstock, Treasurer)

Commissioner Henricks moved, Commissioner Balcerzak seconded, to nominate the current slate of officers.

Kaye Matucheski moved, Commissioner Bugni seconded, to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the present officers to stay in office. Carried.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Budget/Capital Improvement Plan and Expenditures

a) Spring Clean Up Expense

Due to a late season snowfall the Springbrook Clean Up was rescheduled for Mission Antigo Week (Saturday, June 16- Friday, June 22). Mission Antigo did an excellent job coordinating the clean up and providing volunteers to assist. Lunch for the volunteers was provided on Thursday, June 21.

Springbrook Clean-Up is scheduled again for 2019. The tradition of offering lunch for the volunteers will continue.

In addition, approval to purchase trash pickers, trash bags, gloves, and other miscellaneous items used for the clean-up is requested. Advertising for the event and disposal fees are also included in the cost.

The clean up will also include the Springbrook Walking Trail and Biking Path.

Fund Balance Applied **\$300**

Sarah Repp, Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Director, reported on the cleanup and stated she would like to continue this annual project.

b) Improvement of Water Quality Flow (Milfoil, Run-off Fertilizer Pollution)

Based on the 2017 final monitoring report along with the continued success from previous years efforts to treat Curley Leaf Pondweed (CLP) it was decided that the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Monitoring by Onterra for CLP would not be necessary in 2018. Plans are still in place to conduct these efforts for the 2019 season.

A summary of a water chemistry and aquatic plant survey completed by the Bureau of Water Quality staff from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources subsequent to their June 28, 2017 on-site investigation has been included in the Commissioners' agenda packets for additional reference or is available at the Clerk-Treasurer/Finance Director's office.

The projection is needing \$5,000 in consulting fees with Onterra for continued monitoring and lake planning efforts in 2019.

Levy **\$0** Fund Balance Applied **\$12,000 Lake Treatment**

For 2018, limited funds have been expended to date; any funds expended before the end of the year will be deducted from the fund balance appropriation for 2019.

Levy **\$4,000** Fund Balance Applied **\$1,000 Lake Planning & Monitoring**

Mark Desotell, Director of Administrative Services, reviewed this item referencing a copy of a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) report.

c) Hydraulic Study

Updates to the existing hydraulic data base might be required in conjunction with future projects such as detention ponds, building construction, retaining wall replacement, bridge removals or stream rehabilitation. No specific projects are identified at this time for the 2019 calendar year.

Fund Balance Appropriation **\$0** Hydraulic Study Reserve \$8,800

Mr. Desotell noted this will be discussed following the presentation by MSA.

d) Springbrook Boardwalk and Trail

Although not completely funded through Antigo Inland Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District (AILPRD), the continued development of parks and green space along the Springbrook Trail has had many positive impacts for our community with highlights listed below.

In 2018, Peaceful Valley Park and Festival grounds has hosted, or will host, the following events that have generated awareness of our facilities, community and businesses.

- Antigo Garden Club Plant Sale
- Farmers' Market (every Saturday from June – beginning of October)

- Antigo Head Start - Stand for Children Day (in conjunction with Unified School District of Antigo (USDA) Read to Succeed and Optimist Bike Rodeo as well as many other sponsors and guests)
- Outdoor Movies
- Relay for Life
- Badgerland Classic
- CoVantage Loan Rally
- Halloween Bash
- Winter Fun and Family Wellness Day
- Numerous family gatherings, birthday parties, business picnics and various celebrations

The 18-Hole Disc Golf course is a popular recreational pursuit and there are very few times that the course is not in use. Development will continue with the addition of raised boardwalks connecting various holes as well as providing additional trail connections and expansion of the Springbrook Trail and City Wide Bike Route.

The trail is also used for a number of local walks and runs:

- Healthy Ways Spring and Fall Walk
- American Federation for Suicide Prevention Out of Darkness Walk
- Boys & Girls Club Color Run (fourth annual)

Funding from Antigo Rotary Club and Inland Lakes allowed for construction of two bridges that span Springbrook; the bridges are key connections which will allow for continued trail expansion and year-round use of the trail system, which is also connected to the City Wide Bike Route.

Grant funding to expand the trail was applied for in 2018 through the Transportation Assistance Program (TAP) grant as well as the Knowles Stewardship Grant; the results from both grants are not yet known.

The local Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) office worked with the City of Antigo to enhance the Springbrook Creek streambed at the first Rotary Bridge location. Gratitude is extended for their efforts and look forward to the positive impacts of their work. In 2018 they continued with their stream bed restoration efforts in the same location.

In 2008 the District agreed to fund a 10 year loan for \$200,000 as part of the matching funds for the grant at \$20,000 per year plus interest.

Levy for Boardwalk - **debt paid in 2018, no further levy**

Commissioner Kassis noted this was a great project and is paid in full in 2018.

John McKenna commented on how much nicer the walkway is with the truck removed and the grass being cut nicely. Mr. Desotell noted the property Dr. McKenna is referencing is privately owned.

Commissioner Balcerzak noted some asphalt problems with tree roots. Ms. Repp noted some areas are worse than others and she explained the process used in addressing the issues.

e) Restoration of Native Species

The plan is to continue the Springbrook Banks and Woodland Park restoration program as administered by the Parks Department and Timberland Invasives Partnership (TIP) to eradicate non-native plants and to restore wild native plant species. The program will focus on the removal of wild parsnip, garlic mustard, purple loosestrife, barberry, and other non-native species, and cattails. Removal of invasive plants and replacement with native species will promote wildlife while helping to enhance the waters of Antigo Lake and Springbrook.

The removal/maintenance of cattails at the viewing stations (located in Basin #'s 1 thru 3) as identified in the Antigo Lake Comprehensive Management Plan was last addressed in July of 2016. Removal efforts were suspended for 2017; the growth of the cattails in these viewing areas were evaluated in 2018. An appropriate watercraft for cutting and maintenance of the cattails is an anticipated purchase, so cutting can continue in subsequent years.

The balance of the 2017 funding remains available to be allocated for the removal of non-native and invasive species along the corridor.

The overall success of our cattail harvesting and invasive species removal will be evaluated for consideration of native species plantings in areas responding well to the eradication efforts.

The funding requested in this category will be for any combination of cattail harvesting, invasive species removal and native species plantings.

Levy Match to Offset Grant for Watercraft **\$5,000** Fund Balance Applied **\$24,000**

For 2018, limited funds have been expended to date; any funds expended before the end of the year will be deducted from the fund balance appropriation for 2019.

Mr. Desotell reported cattails were not cut this year as the vessel was not considered safe. He discussed the watercraft purchase being proposed. He noted the cattails can only be removed in areas approved by the DNR.

Upon inquiry by Pat Frey, Mr. Desotell explained landowners would have to contact the DNR directly and request approval to remove cattails. Mr. Frey commented on what a nuisance and eye sore the cattails are.

Kaye Matucheski, Clerk-Treasurer/Finance Director, commented that the other portion of funding for the pontoon would be a safety grant that the City is eligible for through it's insurance company.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Feller Gottard, Mr. Desotell explained the City contracts with a company to do removal of various invasive species. Ms. Repp explained wild parsnip, garlic mustard, purple loosestrife, and barberry are being looked at for now. Buckthorn will not be addressed at this time.

Upon inquiry by Elsa McKenna, Ms. Repp explained removal of the invasive species has to be completed before looking at replacement with native species.

f) Basin Dredging/Analysis Program

MSA Professional Services will provide a summary of the final Sedimentation Control Study report at this year's meeting including their recommendation for prioritized projects in 2019. An application under the WDNR Urban Non-Point Source and Storm Water Management grant program will still be submitted in 2018 to maximize available funds while addressing the recommendations of the plan.

With the requested \$25,000 tax levy in this category the available fund balance would be \$70,000 in 2019. If the City were to approve an additional \$50,000 from its storm sewer enterprise fund as part of its 2019 budget process it would provide an amount of \$120,000 for submittal under the above mentioned grant on a 50/50 cost sharing basis for a total potential project amount of \$240,000. Such a grant opportunity will be explored during the coming year.

Proposed to Levy **\$25,000** Fund Balance Applied **\$45,000**

Dredging Reserve Balance \$0 as of 12-31-19 if grant application is successful and a project proceeds.

Scott Martin, MSA Professional Services, explained in the analysis completed for sediment loading pinpointed seven to ten areas that sand could come in. He noted the sediment load is not tremendous with less than 1/3 increase from what it was 25 years ago. He noted the City did not proceed with a grant application because of the cost benefit ratio as it would be \$70,000 with only a minor impact.

Commissioner Henricks commented on sediment coming from upstream with the need to work with the County and property owners.

Commissioner Kassis commented about previously working with the farmers and the County and some of the successes they have had in the past.

Mr. Desotell stated he could work on getting some costs put together to find out more information on working with landowners and Langlade County upstream.

Commissioner Feller Gottard stated she would talk to the Conservation Committee at the County level next week.

g) Restoration of Springbrook Flowage from Faust Dam to Seventh Avenue

MSA Professionals will provide a summary of the final Restoration Study report at this year's meeting including their recommendation for potential future projects. No restoration funds are being requested for the 2019 calendar year. Potential grants will continue to be sought.

Applications for consideration by the University of Wisconsin Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture in Madison for a Senior Capstone Project are to be submitted by staff by August of 2019. If selected the project would be initiated in September and continue through May of 2020. A modest reimbursement to help with the student(s) travel, lodging and printing costs would be required. The results of the Capstone project would help to advance the study report to an early preliminary design phase to frame the project for potential future design and construction grants.

Proposed to Levy **\$2,500**

Scott Martin, MSA Professional Services, provided a handout and gave a presentation on the study their firm completed on the Spring Brook Channel Design.

Mr. Martin noted that reconstruction/restoration of the Spring Brook area from Fourth Avenue to Seventh Avenue would cost approximately \$300,000.

Mr. Martin further discussed the possibility of a walking path and bridge between Fifth Avenue and Sixth Avenue with an approximate cost of \$440,000.

Mr. Desotell referenced a portion of the MSA report and questioned the hydraulic study necessity at this point of time. Mr. Martin said the hydraulic study is not necessary to proceed with the other plans.

Referring back to Item C, there will be no additional funds levied for the hydraulic study at this time.

h) Trail Maintenance / Improvements and Future Expansion

SPRINGBROOK TRAIL & OUR COMMUNITY:

The Springbrook Trail is an incredible asset for the community. Recreational pursuits can be enjoyed on paved or rough trail; creating inclusive and accessible recreational opportunities for the entire community and visitors to the area. Economic opportunities for the local businesses exist through tourism dollars. Additionally, it is a sought after amenity for those considering relocation for a business or family. This project was constructed through the use of Grant, Lake District and Tax Increment Finance (TIF) dollars; maintenance and expansion efforts of the Springbrook Trail will continue to benefit the community.

MAINTENANCE:

The current trail system is relatively new, but still requires annual maintenance (woodchips, crack sealing, boardwalk board replacement, blacktop replacement, sealing and etc.); the use of inland lake funds in combination with general operating funds allows the community to maintain a recreational trail, which enhances the opportunities for public enjoyment along the three Lake Basins and watershed area. Areas that show signs of needed repair are noted and addressed during the construction season.

2018 Maintenance:

While the following have not yet been addressed in 2018 it remains a priority to address them with any funds expended before the end of the year to be deducted from the fund balance appropriation for 2018.

Plans include:

- Sealing the trail, or portions of the trail to extend the life of the blacktop.
- Making necessary repairs during the construction season that may have occurred over the winter months such as cracking and heaving.
- Continuing the trenching along the trail to prevent root damage.

EXPANSION:

The goal is to maintain the current trail system at the highest level possible while also expanding. Expansion provides the opportunity for, as stated in Wisconsin State Statutes Section 33.22:

(4m) "A district may undertake projects to enhance the recreational uses of a lake within its jurisdiction, including recreational boating facilities as defined under s. 30.92 (1) (c).

(4r) "If authorized by an annual meeting of a district, the district may appropriate money for the conservation of natural resources or for payment to a bona fide nonprofit organization for the conservation of natural resources within the district or beneficial to the district."

The proposed dollars levied through Inland Lakes will be used to maintain and expand the areas along Antigo Lake and the Springbrook Waterway, which allows the public to recreate and enjoy the natural resources along the lake basins and waterway.

2018 Expansion: Boardwalk expansion off the second bridge will continue with any available funds after sealing and repairs. Expansion funds would not be used beyond the Langlade County Fairground property boundary.

The request is for \$5,000 of the fund balance to be used to maintain the current trail system and expand in approved areas. This request is anticipated to be annual.

Proposed to Levy **\$0** Fund Balance Applied **\$5,000**

Mr. Desotell noted this allows maintenance to be continued.

i) Lake Accessibility

In 2018 the City of Antigo applied for a Knowles Stewardship Grant to provide 50% of the costs associated with the expansion of the existing bicycle/walking trail system from the North end of the elevated boardwalk through the County Fairgrounds to North Avenue. The estimated project cost of \$200,000 requires \$100,000 in local matching dollars. The following amounts are being recommended for 2019:

- \$35,000 from the City Timber Sale
- \$25,000 from the Inland Lake District (2019)
- \$25,000 from the City's Budget (2019)
- \$15,000 from funds redirected from the Park, Recreation & Cemetery CIP Budget (2019)

\$100,000 total matching funds

The \$25,000 being requested from the Inland Lake District is less than the previous annual levy (ten year) dedicated to the bicycle/walking trail paid in full as of the 2018 calendar year.

Proposed to Levy **\$25,000**

If the City's application for the Knowles Stewardship Grant is unsuccessful then the alternative investment of the \$25,000 levy for 2019 would be utilized to improve kayak/canoe access to the lake basins.

Discussion followed on the alternative investment if the grant is unsuccessful.

Ms. Matucheski stated she personally does not feel the walking path should be extended that far utilizing Inland Lake funds. The City Attorney has stated that he

believes it is bringing people to the lake for recreational use so it does comply with Lake District regulations.

j) Any Other Budgetary Items Arising from Discussion (No action may be taken on these items.)

No other budgetary items were discussed.

2. Adopt Budget and Tax Levy

Kaye Matucheski, Clerk-Treasurer/Finance Director, explained we are looking at \$150,635 expenditure with \$61,500 being levied. The proposed mill rate would be \$.1667059 which would be less than a \$2.00 increase on a \$100,000 home.

Joe Jopek moved, Commissioner Henricks seconded, to approve the budget as presented.

Carried with 14 aye votes and 0 nay votes.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO BE CONSIDERED

There was no other business to be considered.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bugni moved, Commissioner Bauknecht seconded, to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Carried.

Thomas Bauknecht, Secretary