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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes
October 4, 2018**

A meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, October 4, 2018, at 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the DeKalb County Highway Department, located at 1826 Barber Greene Road, DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

Per DeKalb County Board Rules Mr. Stoddard moved and Ms. Polanco seconded a motion to elect Mr. Frieders to preside over the meeting. Motion passed. Mr. Frieders called the meeting to order at 6:05pm and called for the roll. Committee members present were Mr. Bunge, Mr. Frieders, Mr. Osland, Mr. Stoddard and Ms. Polanco. Chairman Plote and Vice Chair Willis were absent. The County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz and Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Mr. Osland and seconded by Mr. Bunge to approve the minutes of the regular September 6, 2018 meeting and the special September 24, 2018 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Stoddard moved and Ms. Polanco seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

ORDINANCE #2018-27: DESIGNATING A PARK ZONE ON ROWANTREE ROAD AND NICOLAS DRIVE AT WETZEL PARK IN SYCAMORE ROAD DISTRICT

Mr. Schwartz informed the Committee that the Sycamore Road District Highway Commissioner along with the Sycamore Park District, have requested a Park Zone be established for east/west traffic cutting through the subdivision utilizing Rowantree Road and Nicolas Drive that parallel Wetzel Park. The zone would be in effect when children are present within 50 feet of the roadway and it would be a 20 mph zone. The Park is surrounded on three sides by roadways and the Committee inquired why the north/south street was not being considered for a park zone as well. Mr. Schwartz stated children would be less likely to be near the roadway on the east side of the park and the tennis/basketball courts that are on the east side are surrounded by a fence.

Per the National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, which governs the installation of signage nationwide, signs should be installed only where justified by engineering judgement or studies. When signs are used in excess they tend to lose their effectiveness. After the required review of traffic in this area, Mr. Schwartz has determined only east/west traffic, which is utilizing these roads as a thruway, and not the north/south road traffic which is not utilizing this road as a thruway, should have a lower speed zone when conditions warrant same. **Mr. Bunge moved and Ms. Polanco seconded a motion to forward the recommendation for the park zone to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed with three yes votes and two no votes. No votes were in favor of a Park Zone on all three sides of the Park.**

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: None

COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS:

The transportation improvement progress report was reviewed with the Committee.

The Barber Greene Road widening and resurfacing project continues and stands at 70% complete. The hot-mix widening has been placed this week and patching and paving will begin next week. This project is still on schedule.

IDOT is striping Illinois Route 23 and that project should be completed next week.

The East County Line Road Bridge was open to traffic last month and now all remaining work has been completed.

The preliminary engineering agreement for McNeal Road Bridge has been approved by IDOT and work will get underway shortly.

The Peace Road intersection with State Route 64 preliminary engineering is 80% complete and design engineering stands at 25%. Currently looking at flood plain issues for this project. Phase four of the Peace Road Safety Study will be presented to the Committee during November.

A new project has been added to the progress report for Peace Road from Bethany Road to Sarah Drive and Mercantile Drive. This is a DSATS project that was just recently approved by the selection Committee and is tentatively being scheduled for 2021-2022 time frame.

Pearl Street Bridge is currently waiting on approval from IDOT before any work can commence on the preliminary engineering.

The preliminary engineering for Plank Road Safety project stands at 80% complete and design engineering at 60%. Chastain & Associates have provided the Department with

pre-preliminary plans for review prior to submitting to IDOT for review.

Somonauk Road culvert replacement at Union Ditch #1 (Gurler Road) is 40% complete. The new completion date for this project is October 31, 2018.

Mr. Schwartz stated he will be submitting the special use permit for the stockpiling of dirt on County property north of Gurler Road. There is a bit of vegetation now growing on the pile to control erosion and the silt fence has been repaired.

As a legislative update, elections are coming in 33 days as Mr. Stoddard reminded the Committee. Mr. Schwartz stated there might be a push to get a capital plan in place. Mr. Frieders indicated the seven collar counties are pushing ahead with a mileage tax according to the Beacon News and wondered if Mr. Schwartz had any information about that situation. Mr. Schwartz stated he was not aware of any such movement but he would do some research and report back to the Committee.

For DSATS, the new County project selected was discussed earlier. DSATS will be conducting traffic counts in the near future. These will be done in-house. If folks see a pole strapped to a traffic signal with a camera on top that is the purpose – counting traffic – not watching where people are going or what they are doing.

OTHER BUSINESS: None presented

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Frieders asked if there was any additional items that needed to be presented tonight and hearing none asked for a motion to adjourn. **A motion was made by Ms. Polanco and seconded by Mr. Stoddard and the motion passed unanimously.** The October 4, 2018 meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Plote
Chairman