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DeKalb County Government  
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes  
January 7, 2021**

A Zoom public meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, January 7, 2021, at 6:00pm.

Chairman Plote called the meeting to order at 6:04pm and called for the roll. Committee members present were Mr. Deutsch, Ms. Emmer, Ms. Jones, Vice Chair Luebke and Ms. Willis. Mr. Osland joined the meeting at 6:38pm. The County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz, Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager, County Board member Kathy Lampkins, County Finance Director, Pete Stefan and one other guest were also present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion made by Ms. Emmer and seconded by Vice Chair Luebke to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed with six yes votes, one absent, with a roll call vote.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Ms. Willis moved and Ms. Emmer seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020 regular meeting. The motion passed with six yes votes, one absent, with a roll call vote.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**RESOLUTION #R2021-01: AWARD RESOLUTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE NEW CAB AND CHASSIS**

Mr. Schwartz stated each year the Highway Department replaces one of their plow trucks. A zoom meeting bid letting was held at the Highway Department on January 6, 2021 at 9:00am with two vendors submitting bids. The low bid meeting specifications was submitted by JX Peterbilt from Rockford, Illinois. The amount of their bid was for a Peterbilt 348 cab and chassis in the amount of \$101,105.00. An engine warranty, after treatment warranty and a transmission warranty was also recommended for approval for an additional \$2,672.00. The total cost for the cab and chassis and warranties is \$103,777.00. Mr. Schwartz recommended forwarding this resolution to the

full County Board recommending approval. **Ms. Willis moved and Ms. Emmer seconded a motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. The motion passed with six yes votes, one absent, with a roll call vote.**

**ORDINANCE #O2021-01: RESIDENT SPEED ZONE ON LINCOLN ROAD BETWEEN DERBY LINE ROAD AND SOUTH OF EAGLE DRIVE**

Citizens along Lincoln Road had inquired into lowering the speed limit on a portion of Lincoln Road. Their concern lies where there are several houses that enter and exit onto Lincoln Road. Apparently the traveling public is utilizing this one mile stretch of roadway as a cut through between Derby Line Road and Base Line Road. These concerns were referred to the Highway Commissioner of Genoa Road District for consideration. The Highway Commissioner recommended the speed limit be lowered if appropriate. The County Engineer reviewed this section of roadway for compliance with 625 ILCS 5/1-172 to see if any portion could be designated as a residence district for the purposes of an altered speed zone. After analyzing Lincoln Road from Derby Line Road south to 410 feet south of Eagle Drive, it was determined that section met the requirements of being at least a quarter of a mile long with residences or residences and buildings in use for businesses spaced no more than 500 feet apart. Mr. Schwartz determined a speed of 45mph was appropriate for this zone and recommended the Committee forward the proposed Ordinance to the full County Board recommending approval. **Ms. Willis moved and Ms. Jones seconded a motion to forward the ordinance to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed with six yes votes, one absent, with a roll call vote.**

**RESOLUTION #R2021-02: OBLIGATING FY-2020-21 REBUILD ILLINOIS FUNDS**

Mr. Schwartz explained to the Committee that Springfield was having concerns over the lack of spending associated with the rebuild Illinois bond funds that were distributed during late 2019 and 2020. Due to the timing of the distribution in relation to the passing of the County's 2020 budget, DeKalb County was not in a position to begin to expend these funds until 2021. In order to relieve these concerns IDOT had requested the County produce a resolution showing these funds being obligated and were in the process of being spent. This resolution identifies all of the rebuild Illinois funds for FY-2020 and FY-2021 will be expended on required capital projects during the construction year of 2021. These projects are the resurfacing of Waterman and Chicago Roads. This resolution will satisfy IDOT's request and Mr. Schwartz recommended it be forwarded to the full County Board recommending approval. These funds are distributed through the MFT distribution process and will be distributed to all counties, municipalities and road districts. **Vice Chair Luebke moved and Mr. Deutsch seconded a motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed with six yes votes, one absent, with a roll call vote.**

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:** Chairman Plote welcomed our new Committee members, Mr. Deutsch and Ms. Jones.

**COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS:**

The transportation improvement progress report was reviewed with the Committee.

- Chicago Road from Shabbona Road to Illinois Route 23 will be resurfaced during 2021. This 1.35 million dollar project will be designed in house.
- McGirr Road Bridge will be constructed during 2021. The preliminary engineering is 100% complete and the design engineering stands at 95% complete.
- McNeal Road Bridge is 98% complete with the road back open to traffic. There remains some landscaping/seeding to complete in the spring.
- Motel Road Bridge is at 25% complete with the construction and will be completed in the spring of this year.
- New Lebanon Road Bridge is currently in the early stages of planning. This project is scheduled for construction during 2022.
- Peace Road Bridge Widening will be a project that prepares Peace Road from Illinois Route 64 north and east, to be widened to five lanes in the future. In order for that to happen two bridges along that route will need to be widened. This will be a complex project involving many Federal agencies and it is scheduled tentatively for 2023.
- Pearl Street Bridge in Kirkland will also be a Federal project. The County will share its Federal Bridge funds for the preliminary engineering phase of this project. The local match required for the engineering and construction will be 100% funded by the Village of Kirkland. This project has been selected for Major Bridge funding for a complete bridge replacement. It was approved prior for only a deck replacement. The project has now been reprogrammed for 2024.
- Plank Road Study is getting underway. This study will provide the County with valuable information on how to proceed with concerns over the safety of the traveling public on Plank Road, especially around the Moose Range Road curves.
- South First Street Culvert replacement is 80% complete and the road is open to traffic. The concrete outlet and dirt work will need to be completed during the spring when weather permits.
- Suydam Road Bridge is through the preliminary and design stages and is ready for a March letting in Springfield. This bridge will be constructed this year.
- Suydam Road resurfacing from Illinois Route 23 east to Gletty Road is 90% completed for both the preliminary and design engineering phases. This project is scheduled for an April letting in Springfield.
- Twombly Road upgrade will continue during 2021 with the construction of the curb and gutter and resurfacing from Rosenow Way to Annie Glidden Road. All underground work was completed last year.
- Waterman Road, Phase 3B, will continue with the extension of the box culvert south of McGirr Road. This road will also be resurfaced this year.

For a legislative update, Springfield is in transition right now after the elections. The Federal Government has passed a short term budget extension but has extended the infrastructure portion of the budget out to the end of the year. This will help ensure construction projects continue and will not have to be shut down every 90 days or so while waiting on new extensions or a new budget.

DSATS is working on cleaning up items previously delayed. A full-time employee has been hired and he is working out very well. Mr. Gerber is very knowledgeable in DSATS operations and came prepared to work. We are very fortunate to have him. The Committee asked if it was time to review the stipend for the DSATS Director. Mr. Schwartz stated that was determined back in 2020 and does not need to be addressed again until 2022. His 2021 stipend was adjusted upon the hiring of a full time DSATS employee.

The Department's Annual Highway Tour was forced to go virtual this year. The filming of it should be wrapped up in the near future and available for viewing at your convenience.

The new salt storage facility has been completed at the DeKalb Yard. Mr. Schwartz shared pictures of the project with the viewing audience. Many ooohhhhs and aaahhhhs could be heard.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Plote 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. Willis, seconded by Vice Chair Luebke and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Plote  
Chairman