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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Special Highway Committee Minutes
May 12, 2021**

A special Hybrid public meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 6:30pm.

Vice Chair Luebke called the meeting to order at 6:35pm and called for the roll. Committee members present were, Mr. Deutsch. Ms. Emmer and Mr. Osland were present in the Freedom Room of the Legislative Center and Ms. Jones, Vice Chair Luebke, Chairman Plote and Ms. Willis were present by Zoom. The County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz, Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager and County Board members Tim Bagby, (in person) Karen Cribben and Kathy Lampkins (by zoom), Ms. Dawn Wucki-Rossbach, Village of Maple Park Administrator (by zoom) were also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion made by Ms. Jones and seconded by Ms. Emmer to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed with seven yes votes by a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ms. Wucki-Rossbach encouraged the Committee to approve the Village of Maple Park's request for an honorary street sign to be placed on County Line Road at Center Street in the Village of Maple Park. Reasons cited were that the Village would maintain the sign per the requirements of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and place it on the Village's current street sign post. The Village also has an honorary street sign program to address future requests in a consistent manner.

RESOLUTION #R2021-10: ENGINEERING AGREEMENT FOR PHASE I AND II SERVICES FOR STRUCTURE #019-4506 ON PEACE ROAD OVER THE KISHWAUKEE RIVER

The County Engineer explained that Peace Road will be expanded to five lanes in the future. There are two bridges on Peace Road that are 30 years old and will need to be widened to accommodate the roadway widening. This agreement will address the first bridge to be widened and is with Chastain & Associates from Rockford, Illinois. The amount negotiated for these services is not to exceed \$372,430.76. Chastain & Associates was chosen after completion of the Qualification Based Selection process

involving 17 engineering firms. Mr. Schwartz recommended approval of this engineering agreement. **Motion made by Ms. Emmer and seconded by Mr. Deutsch to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. The motion passed with seven yes votes by a roll call vote.**

DISCUSSION OF A PROPOSED HONORARY STREET SIGN PROGRAM:

During May's regular meeting the Committee requested that the request by the Village of Maple Park to place an honorary street sign on County Line Road at Center Street be placed on a later agenda to be discussed. Mr. Schwartz briefed the Committee on his recommendation that the County should prepare and publish a comprehensive sign program to include roadside memorials. In the meantime it was the County Engineer's opinion that guidance and regulations pertaining to the current request from the Village of Maple Park simply be a Highway Department policy. Based on current regulations, the County Engineer must approve sign installations on County and Road District roadways and County Board approval is not needed for any such installation. After consultation with surrounding County Engineers and Department staff, it is our recommendation that the County treat these requests as they did the engine braking requests. That is, they are primarily intended for municipalities/urban areas and not rural areas. If a City/Village/Town has an honorary street sign program and it complies with the MUTCD, the County Engineer will allow placement of such sign on the County's right-of-way with Highway Department guidance. The Committee agreed with Mr. Schwartz's recommendation. No further discussion will be required on this subject until such time the Department brings forth a County wide sign placement program for signs other than those required by the MUTCD.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: None

COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chair Luebke 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 Mr. Deutsch, seconded by Ms. Jones and passed with seven yes votes by a roll call vote.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:51pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Luebke
Vice Chairman