

MINUTES

STREETS & DRAINAGE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2025, 4:30 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Members present: Chair Robert Warren, Keith Klimek and Joel Ahrens

Others Attending: Mayor Katie Berman, Public Works Director Matt Decur, Gayle Lindenberg representative of REL via zoom, and Parks & Recreation Director Lori Tonn, and Alderman Tony O'Neill

Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Motion by Warren and seconded by Klimek to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 3/0.

Minutes:

Motion by Warren and seconded by Klimek to approve the October 30, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried 3/0.

West Park Drive project design:

Gayle Lindenberg of Robert E. Lee presented plans:

Design / Impacts

Updated layout removes the parking lane near the park/school to reduce park impacts and keep disturbance within the right-of-way.

Sidewalk approach:

8-foot sidewalk along the school segment.

Transitions to 5-foot sidewalk after the cross-culvert for the rest of the corridor.

Curb & gutter stays on the same side throughout.

Wetland impacts remain a key factor; DNR/wetland permitting is the main schedule risk.

Privacy / Screening

Vegetation loss near campsites prompted discussion of screening.

Current direction: keep fence + trees as shown for now, with possible adjustments later.

Cost / Funding Update LRIP & City

Original estimate referenced: ~\$950,000 total, including \$400,000 grant, leaving ~\$550,000 city share.

With sidewalk + wetland mitigation, earlier estimate referenced as ~\$1.15M.

Updated estimate with reduced lane width: cost reduced by about \$35,000, with city share cited around ~\$715,000 (after grant).

Clarified that contractor bid estimate differs from total project cost due to items like wetland mitigation (paid through DNR process) and lighting (through WPS).

Timeline (Key Dates/Deadlines)

Advertise bids: Feb 4 and Feb 11

Bid opening: Thu, Feb 19 @ 1:00 PM

Streets Committee (award recommendation): Thu, Feb 26 @ 4:30 PM

Council approval target: Tue, Mar 3

Construction window

Target start: around June 1 (after school ends)

Early milestone: campground access area to top-of-gravel within ~3 weeks of start

Target completion: before school starts (after Labor Day timeframe)

Closeout: final paperwork ~1 month after completion; final billing likely Oct/Nov

Grant reimbursement: submit Nov/Dec, with reimbursement expected by year-end (if closeout stays on track)

Limiting parking on the north side of French Street from corner at 200 French Street west to the 240 French Street driveway:

Discussed whether to limit/enforce parking near the corner due to a recent minor morning collision and visibility concerns.

Concern raised about enforceability/legality without clear ordinance language; discussion referenced standards like vision triangle distance (~50 feet) and crosswalk proximity rules.

Multiple members expressed skepticism that this is a people/driving behavior problem more than a code problem.

Outcome: No motion; tabled, with intent to research/consider enforcement and consistency

Mayor and Public Works Director will look in to seeing if Judiciary committee needs to update or amend any ordinances pertaining to parking near corner on French Street, along with striping and painting curb.

Storm Drain Art Program:

Mayor Berman reported award received: \$2,440 from the M&M Community Foundation. Mayor is gathering program models from other cities, identify storm drains downtown, engage schools/local artists; target implementation spring/early summer. Mayor will report back to committee with more information at next meeting.

Motion by Warren and seconded by Ahrens recommending Council approve the award of \$2,440 from the M&M Community Foundation for the Storm Drain Art Program. Motion carried 3/0.

Streets & Drainage report (see attached):

2026 recycling calendars available online, at City Hall, and to be included with utility bills.

Dumpsters at the garage closed for the season, but pickup still available.

Staffing update: Chuck started as labor operator in November; credited with strong help on leaves and snow removal.

Leaf pickup complete; snow/ice control ongoing.

Reminder: no parking on city streets when plows are out; overnight parking restrictions noted.

Ash tree removals ongoing when not responding to snow events.

West Park Drive project still on track for June start, with bid date shifted to February.

Other matters:

Agreed to push public messaging that blowing snow into roadways is not permitted, with intent to address both residential and commercial behavior.

Mayor noted this will be included in the January newspaper article, with intent to strengthen language and get it into print soon.

Set future meeting:

The next Streets & Drainage meeting will be January 15, 2026 4:30 p.m. and February 26, 2026, 4:30 p.m.

Motion by Warren and seconded by Klimek to adjourn at 4:27 p.m. Motion carried 3/0.

Minutes prepared by:

Katie Berman

Mayor