



MINUTES OF THE IMPROVEMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021, 5:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE

Virtual Meeting. Public may join via Zoom.

A. ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION.

I. This item contains documents which provide call in information and instructions for the Zoom meeting.

B. ROLL CALL.

Present: Ald. Randy Scannell, Ald. Lynn Gerlach, Ald. Brian Johnson, Ald. Jesse Brunette

Excused: Ald. Chris Wery

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Lynn Gerlach to approve the agenda of the Wednesday, May 12, 2021 Improvement and Services Committee meeting. Motion passed. Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Moved by Ald. Lynn Gerlach, seconded by Ald. Jesse Brunette to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, April 28, 2021 Improvement and Services Committee meeting. Motion passed. Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None

E. REGULAR BUSINESS.

I. Consideration with possible action on request by resident at 1604 Hillcrest Drive to extend the payback period and waive the interest for the water assessments associated with the Hillcrest Drive

Reconstruction project (held at the April 28, 2021 Improvement and Services Committee meeting).

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Lynn Gerlach to receive and place on file the request by resident at 1604 Hillcrest Drive to extend the payback period and waive the interest for the water assessments associated with the Hillcrest Drive Reconstruction project. Motion passed.

Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None

2. Consideration with possible action on a constituent idea about improving fall loose leaf collection (referred to staff at the March 24, 2021 Improvement and Services Committee meeting). (Ald. Brunette)

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Lynn Gerlach to open the floor. Motion passed.

Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None.

Moved by Ald. Lynn Gerlach, seconded by Ald. Jesse Brunette to close the floor. Motion passed.

Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Lynn Gerlach to hold until the Wednesday, May 26, 2021 Improvement and Services Committee meeting a constituent idea about improving fall loose leaf collection. (Ald. Brunette). Motion passed. Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None.

3. Consideration with possible action on the review and award of the contract PAVEMENT 4-21 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Lynn Gerlach to approve the award of the contract PAVEMENT 4-21 SOUTH MAPLE AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION to the low responsive bidder, DeGroot, Inc., in the amount of \$1,336,138.43. Motion passed. Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None

4. Report of actions taken by Department of Public Works

A. Granting of Licenses

1. Sidewalk Builder

- a. Crete Workx
- b. Delahaut Custom Concrete LLC
- c. TC Concrete LLC

2. Tree & Brush Trimmer

- a. Rigo's Landscaping LLC

Moved by Ald. Lynn Gerlach, seconded by Ald. Jesse Brunette to receive and place on file the report of actions taken by Department of Public Works. Motion passed. Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None

F. INFORMATIONAL.

1. Director's Report on recent activities of the Public Works Department.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Lynn Gerlach to receive and place on file the Director's Report on recent activities of the Public Works Department. Motion passed. Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, No- None, Abstain- None

2. The next Improvement and Services Committee meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2021.

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

H. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ald. Lynn Gerlach, seconded by Ald. Jesse Brunette to adjourn the Improvement and Services Committee meeting. Motion passed. Vote: Yes- Jesse Brunette, Lynn Gerlach, Randy Scannell, Abstain- None.

VERBATIM MINUTES

- And I'm ready.

- Ready? Okie dokie. Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye the Improvement and Service Committee Meeting for May 12th, in the year of our Lord, 2021, is now in session. The roll call. The chair, Chris Wery is, even though he knows well, he does not. He's inexcusable, as an excuse to not be here. And the vice chair is now running the meeting, I'll just count all present. Alder Gerlach.

- I'm here.

- And last, but definitely not least, alder Brunette.

- Here.

- All three are present, we have a quorum. Let us move on to our agenda. I'll take a motion to approve.

- So, moved.

- Second.

- Motion by alder Brunette, seconded by alder Gerlach. All in favor?

- [All] Aye!

- Opposed? We have an agenda that passes unanimously. I'll take a motion to approve our minutes from our last INS meeting.

- Motion to approve.
- Second.
- Motion by alder Gerlach, seconded by alder Brunette. All in favor?
- [All] Aye.
- Opposed? Our minutes are approved and I've slowed down here. I'll slow down. Let me know when you're ready for regular business.
- No, you can go ahead.
- Oh, okay. Number one, consideration with possible action on requests by a resident at 1604, Hillcrest Drive, to extend the payback period and waive the interest for the water assessments associated with the Hillcrest Drive reconstruction project, held at the April 28th, 2021 Improvement and Service Committee meetings. Staff?
- I have not heard back from Mr. Dietrich at all. I know that alder Brunette was also trying to get ahold of him. And at this time I think I would recommend that we just leave it at the five-year, and he can pay whatever he can. And then we'll go to the five annual payments at the 3.77%, unless he wants to get his own financing.
- Alder Burnette.
- Yeah, I did speak to Mr. Dietrich and I informed him he would have to apply for a hardship. He would have to submit financial documents. It doesn't seem one, a couple of things. One, I don't think he wants to do that necessarily. And then second of all, he says he didn't receive the paperwork. And so I've kind of made that connection between him and public works. I'm helping where I can, but I think to remain unbiased if we have to vote on a final decision, I don't wanna get too closely involved. So what I would recommend is a receiving place on file, not have this on the agenda anymore. Mr. Dietrich wants to apply for the hardship he should do so directly with public works and I'll communicate that message with them again.
- So .
- Yes sir.
- I want the receiving place on file.
- Brunette made the motion, alder Gerlach, second it?
- Oh, okay, sure, I'll second it. But I thought you wanted me to make the motion.
- No, no. As Jesse was speaking so I thought... You know, he did make it. So we have a motion by alder Brunette, to receiving place on file, seconded by alder Gerlach, any further discussion? All in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Opposed? Okay, that passes unanimously. Should I just keep rolling or do you need some time for...

- Yeah, I'm good.

- Okie dok. Regular business number two, consideration with possible action on a constituent idea about improving fall loose-leaf collection, referred to staff at the March 24th, 2020 Improvement and Service Committee meeting. Alder Brunette, brought this forward, do you wanna speak on this alder Brunette, or should we kick it off to half and then you'll have the floor?

- Yeah, what I would recommend is have staff do a brief overview and then open I'll make a motion after that to open the floor.

- Okie doks, staff?

- And I will turn this over to operations manager, Pirlot.

- I did a draft. There's a three page summary report, if you will, memo to the Improvement and Services Committee and submitted it within the information packet. I don't know if anyone who's present at the meeting had a chance to take a look at it. A lot of it is just background on what our goals are, if you will, federal state and local rules. But to put it into a nutshell, the city has a storm utility, storm water utility. It's obviously, it's city, but it's a separate fund not funded by our Property Tax Dollars but funded through a service fee, if you will, that's assessed and paid for with your water utility or the water bill. It's ERU, it's equivalent runoff units. So that's how it's assessed and that fund is built. It pays for stormwater, e-System, maintenance and upgrade and the equipment to maintain it. And the people who work there, work in that section and the utility division, all that fun stuff. Well, the federal government says that the city, and we're one of 290 groups, over 200 communities in the state of Wisconsin that have to meet storm water quality standards. And you have to reduce your pollutants which are phosphorous and just dirt runoff into the waters of the state. They clear the rivers and lakes. In order to do that the storm water utility can get credit for doing different things from the feds and the States with DNR. One of those things is if they have a program to help reduce the runoff from the dead or decaying detritus that comes off of our trees and lawns, i.e our yard waste. And in order to get the credit for that, there are two, three things that have to have happened. One is we have to have an ordinance prohibiting residents from placement of leaves in the street. They have to have parking restrictions, that's kind of generalized. Basically the parking restrictions are so we can... Unlike Milwaukee or the bigger cities where you can park on the street, 24/seven, 365, it makes it more difficult to sweep. We have parking restrictions like the overnight. So we can sweep the streets, make sure we get that stuff off the street. And along with it, believe it or not, a policy stating that the residents may place leaves on the terrace or bags, in bags or piles for collection. But they have to be on the terrace. The proposal that we have was to, you know just to modify our existing ordinance to allow during the fall collection period, or in collection period. I'll just say collection periods 'cause we have two yard waste collection periods. We're just finishing the spring one this week. That has to remain. It could go on the street, if remains at least three feet away from inlets. Unfortunately, according to the feds, if the city's gonna get credit for storm water cleanliness reduction, it has to be out of the street. Period. So it doesn't matter how far away it is or

isn't. It has to be up out on the street with a shelter into the natural soil. Not just, you say water going through leaves and then making what we call internally, called "Leaf tea." And then that falls just directly over the concrete and asphalt and into the stormwater without having an opportunity to naturally filter itself from mother nature, through soils or whatever. And here's a big part. Everything in the world boils down to money. The stormwater and utility, because they're getting credit for that from the feds for maintaining their program, says, "Okay then we will participate and we will pay. "Instead of the taxpayers paying "out of their property taxes. "We, the storm water utility, "funded by a different method, of course, "but it still will contribute." I think it's somewhere between two and \$300,000 to the actual activity, the operation of the curbside collection program that the city maintains and enjoys. But if they can't get the credit, they won't give the money to the city, which means the city would have to find that money somewhere else. And I can tell you, we don't have that in our budget. So therein lies the rub where, okay if that money goes away, DPW would not have the funding source to maintain our curbside yard waste collection process. Kind of the old Catch 22. So I appreciate and understand... You know, from a professional and personal standpoint, I live in Green Bay, I do the same thing, to deal with that. It's not dying, but it goes dormant in the terrace area. You know, in that pile of leaves and yard waste in the spring and fall. But unfortunately that's the Catch 22, there's a cost for everything type of issue here that if we would allow the yard waste in the street during collection periods, we would not have the money to do the collection. So unfortunately, we are from a professional standpoint and financial standpoint, we cannot recommend that the ordinance be changed because it would just, basically kind of dissolve the whole program.

- And pick up their leaves for we pick up, I thought we couldn't, we didn't. Do we collect the bagged leaves?

- You can, bag leaves as long as the containers are biodegradable. So they, you know you'd have to get the special paper, biodegradable bags. You don't see those a lot. I see them offered at certain lawn and garden centers online. We do get them occasionally at the yard waste center whether I'm not sure if it's mostly people bringing them in. But typically, by and large, if people are putting their yard waste to the curb, they're not putting them in bags because all they want, all they can have to do is rake into a pile. Why spend the extra money on containers? Container is called the earth. Just hold it up because we're gonna peel it off, pull it back off the curb and put it into trucks, and haul it away. So it's kinda like, don't waste your money on the containers, just pile it nicely and we'll take it for you during the period, the collection period.

- If I can make a motion to open the floor.

- And I second it.

- Motion by alder Brunette, to open the floor, seconded by alder Gerlach, all in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- No opposed? Okay the floors are open, please state your name and address and let us know what you're thinking.

- Okay. I'm Paul Janquart, 1045 Village Green Court, 54313. And, Emily.

- Just go on, ask them if they can hear you.

- Can you hear me all right?

- Yep.

- Okay. I wanna start out, of course, by acknowledging Mr. Pirlot. I remember him from many years ago. He's a long time city employee and it's nice to see a familiar face. Congratulations on your longevity, Chris. We were hoping when this obscure ordinance, which really up until now has not been enforced, came to bear this past fall that we didn't know. When I say we, several of the neighbors here and Village Green Court at least, didn't know in the fall we have just huge, huge amounts of leaves. It's an old you to find wooded area, and the leaves, the volume is just... I mean, we start around the 15th of October, and usually we're not done yet come deer hunting season. And that infamous "Work week," when everything's slows down. So it's a big, big, big problem. Now, depending upon the winter, if winter comes real early, we get early snowfall. We usually can't finish fall all clean because of the snow and freezing. And so that we get so far and then the rest lays there in our yards until spring. So then that makes a rather large spring cleanup. Normally like this year, that's not the case. It hasn't been the case for the last few years. So it's fall as the biggie, spring, much less so. Problem is, you have so many leaves and that we would have to go so far back, the terrace won't cut it in some cases, because the volume is there. That let you go so high and then that tends to just, as you know, blow over and go into the street anyhow. Because it's just... First, myself included have a fairly large yard. I mean, in my case, it's a half acre exactly. But the frontage on the street, the linear frontage is very, very small. My lot is on the street and then it fans out from there. We have many neighbors in the very same situation. And so it's very, very problematic. I must start out always, in my remarks, but a compliment to the city and the crews, in the department of public works, of course. And the last four or five years, the service for leaf yard waste removal has only improved, each year seems to get better and better. A lot of that has to do with automation. A lot of it now is done smart, very smart, smartly. And then two, there just seem to be organization, much more efficient than they were in the past. And so it really has been working very, very well. They have been coming this past year, just about once a week to collect leaves. And that's very good service. so I can't complain about the service, it's wonderful. But of course they're picking it up now, they have been, off of a hard surface which makes it quite fast. I mean, they're very efficient. They're here and they're gone in 15 minutes. And totally cleaned and then followed by a street sweeper. So the service has just been terrific. But then when this sudden desire to enforce the obscure portion of the ordinance came about, it surprised us. I got to thinking about it all winter long, and we have a neighbor down the street, for several years now, has been putting leaves on the street, but he keeps it three feet off the gutter. I got to thinking that's really quite a smart idea. I mean, the gutters stay open, the water can run. And we also of course have to keep it away from the the storm basin, the storm sewer. So I'm really borrowing this guy's idea. I wish I could claim originality for it, but I can't. And so we talked about it, and we think it's probably a good idea. We thought it, by limiting it only to those four or five weeks. I think it's five weeks for fall and five weeks in the spring. Otherwise, nothing in the street at all. Just that you're back to the way the ordinance is. It's just those short periods and then once in the fall. Once in the spring, we thought that... We thought perhaps the city would compromise with us on this. I think it would be in the city's interest. I think they could continue to collect yard waste off a hard surface, much, much more easily and much faster than off our yards. And of course there's a problem with yards, particularly with landscaped grass, whatever gardens. Sometimes gardens and irrigation systems, lawn irrigation systems are being put in

increasingly. And I'm afraid that removing... Bringing in the sophisticated equipment that the city uses, Ha! Whatever it is. I mean, be it brushes or, it's gonna really tear up the landscape and certainly, do damage to some of the hard structure there. So it just doesn't seem to be a practical solution. I understand Chris, what you're... You did a very good job explaining that and off the top of your head, I think that's wonderful. But I just think that, it comes to a point, well, is the juice worth the squeeze. And I was hoping that by limiting it to those few weeks in the fall, few weeks in the spring that maybe the city would go along with that. And otherwise we keep it off the street entirely like we're being told. So that's really, seemed like a real good idea. And if there's any way that the city could accommodate that I think it would work well throughout the city, because thirty-something years, we've been tree city, USA one of them. And we've been planting trees and we have a lot of trees, and they're beautiful but there's a downside, there's maintenance, as you know, with trees. So that's really the gist of it. We hope we can get some help here. Otherwise, I think there'll be problems on both ends. Our end with trying to accommodate these leaves on the yard and in the city's end, trying to pick them up. Trying to collect them. So-

- If I may, I just wanna make sure I understand. There's basically two problems we're trying to address here. One is that there's too many leaves at once, and it overflows into the street when you're piling it up. That when the machinery comes to collect it can rough up the yards, so to speak.

- Yeah.

- Would that be? Am I accurate there? Is that the two problems we're really trying to solve here?

- Well, yeah, there's... Volume is number one, and then method is number two.

- Okay.

- And-

- Alright, thank you. I just wanna make sure I understood the problems we're trying to solve, and that's basically it, correct, those two.

- Essentially, that's right.

- Okay, thank you.

- Any other questions from the committee? If anyone else would like to speak on this, please state your name-

- Are you still looking for outside comments?

- Certainly yes-

- My name is Randy Griswold, I live at 10, four... I'm sorry.

- I'm sorry, your address?

- Can you hear me now? Can you hear me okay?

- Yep. Yeah, just need your address.

- My name is Randy Griswold. I'm at 1041, Village Green Court, Green Bay. Ironically, I'm Paul Janquart's next door neighbor. That happens to be a coincidence. This happens to be a coincidence with regard to this meeting. Alder Brunette and I have had... And just so you know, I'm president of the Fresh Park Neighborhood Association as well. Alder Brunette and I have had several conversations about this issue, over the last several months. Once the notifications went out to the residents citywide with regard to the enforcement policy, I guess that they wanna start. The thing that was a little perplexing for us as residents is that, if this ordinance policy has been in place for a number of years, it seems to be very... It just seems to be interesting as to why all of a sudden it's being enforced now. That was kind of one of the first questions we had as residents. Secondly, as Paul indicated, there are a number of neighbors who have very narrow frontage, to the point that they just simply, there's... If Paul were to pile all the leaves from his yard on his front, it literally would back up to the front door of his house. I mean, he has that much, that many leaves. I would like to do it all, what Paul says with regard to the DPW and the loose-leaf collection. The people that have been doing it have done an exemplary job. It's been noticeably better the last four to five years, particularly as Paul indicated. And I've complimented Jesse on that as well. So my compliments to Chris and his department, you know for doing what they're doing with regard to that. I have spoken to all of the DPW workers that are up here to bring the loose-leaf collection periods, and at least, within my cul-de-sac, and then some of the other streets that are to get their perspective. Right or wrong, they would prefer the leaves on the street. It's more efficient for them. It's easier for them. And I mean, they're looking at it from their vantage point. So from an efficiency standpoint, it makes more sense dollar wise to move them out of the street quicker, if they're on the street. Now, it seems to me, Chris, for what you're saying is that the overriding issue, really here is, the DNR and the state or the feds would really prefer that these leaves leach into the earth. in terms of the chemicals that are then running into the storm sewer. Is that a fair statement?

- Right, yes.

- Okay, is there a benchmark that the city is being judged at, with regard to any change in storm water chemistry relative to that leaching process? In other words, if we get it under a certain part per million, but we still qualify for that federal money or if we go above it, then we no longer qualify has with regard to that storm water chemistry, to your knowledge?

- No, unfortunately there's no way, no good way for anyone in the country or world that we're aware of, to measure that because there's so many different inlets and so many different outlets-

- Paul, if that's the case-

- So it's just a policy that the feds would and the state say, "If you do this we'll give you 40% reduction in your . "But this is what you have to do." And they don't, and there's no... Okay part of it, will give you this. It's-

- Okay.

- It's just the way that-

- it's either all or nothing.

- Yeah, the way the fed rules are laid out. And just to answer your question, excellent question there that Randy and Paul asked that I didn't... I've answered it for many people but, DPW started enforcing, if you will. We really have, not really. We have not written any citations or we have been noticing people for the last two years of the stuff in the street. That wording has been in the yard, it's for a long time and fortunate or not, DPW has not been really enforcing it. We've just been trying to keep the city clean. The unfortunate part is that the city was served several years ago with what's called a notice of non-compliance. So basically, we got called on the carpet. Therefore we had to do something about it. So we're starting with a public education campaign to get the word out. We're not issuing citations to violators. We're educating right now. We're hoping that the dream is, "I don't wanna issue citations. "We just wanna do the services." That's what public works wants to do, is to get the word out and to get people to comply. Honestly as a person, we can all understand that we're never gonna have a hundred percent compliance, but we gotta try and do what we can.

- All right. I've talked to a number of our residents in our neighborhood and my feeling and Paul's feeling is pretty consistent for the number, most of the other residents in this particular neighborhood. I can't speak for the city-wide but I can imagine the other residents in the city would probably feel any differently than we are. I mean, the reality of it is you're dealing a federal government and a boatload of money that we obviously can't walk away from. I mean, we understand, and it sounds like it's time to be in any compromised position. At least that's what I'm hearing from your department. Is that a fair statement?

- Yes.

- Okay, well... Okay, we have a resident who will sell his home and move, go to a different community over this, he's told me that flat out. And it's an isolated event, I hope it stays an isolated event, but they're that upset. So, if any other way to work around this, any way possible, we would appreciate the city's efforts in that regard, as a possible long-term solution to this. Because it's gonna upset a lot of people and it hasn't right now because they're in the Loan process right now. A lot of them probably not taking it real seriously, but I can tell you when they start getting the fines, Jesse, or whoever the alders are in their respective districts are gonna get a lot of calls. So I'm just giving you a heads up. Okay, that's my 2 cents, thank you. And we did provide a photo of the leaves, parked back from the curb. In fact, they happen to be the leaves in front of my house. I took photos and then forwarded them on to Jesse, just so you can see what we were looking at but parking the leaves off the curve, apparently doesn't really seem to be the issue. The issue is the feds and the DNR wants the leaves to leach into , correct? That's really what they want.

- Right. They don't want Mother nature to have an opportunity to filter up, filter the runoff.

- All right.

- Any questions for Mr. Griswold from anyone? Is there anyone else here to speak on this? Okay, I'll take a motion to close the floor.

- Move to close the floor.

- Second.

- The motion by alder Gerlach, seconded by alder Brunette, all in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Okay, the floor is now closed, alder Brunette.

- Thank you, Mr. Pirlot, and thank you to my two constituents for speaking. I've been working with both of these gentlemen for quite some time, as well as other people in my district. Okay, we'd like to think each of our districts is unique because they are. What makes my district, the 12th district unique is it's heavily wooded in many of our neighborhoods. And there are also many cul-de-sacs. So Mr. Janquart's situation, where he has both heavily wooded and on a cul-de-sac creates a situation where, if he can't put the leaves properly on his terrace without creating a big issue. Now, luckily I would agree that public works has done an outstanding job with leaf pickup and spring waste pickup. I've seen it in my neighborhood just this spring. It's been a remarkable and incredible thing. Not that they haven't done a good job in the past but I'm noticing increase how they... Increase in the methods and the volume of times they collect. I guess what I would like to, and I understand completely the funding, anytime you have a higher level of government and they hold a lower level of government hostage with funding, it creates a real tough situation. I fully acknowledge that. I guess what I'm wondering is maybe would be appropriate for the public works department to think of some exemption or some application that homeowners can apply for to be exempted from the rules. If they're in a situation like Mr. Janquart, where he has a very large lot, half acres with heavily wooded in the back, with a very narrow curb. Mr. Pirlot, has that been considered, obviously would you create a hardship situation? If one neighbor does it and applies for the hardship and gets granted it, then other people who may not understand that them, those property owners did in fact get that approval from public works. Is there anything that you can do? Can we refer this to you to explore that Avenue? I'm not aware that there's anything in the federal or state rules that allows exemptions. It can be explored, have to go back to our utility division engineer who leads our stormwater quality charge for the city, operations division DPW. We've collected in forest work, we're the, what do you wanna call it? We're the broad, but utility division is the brains behind it.

- Yeah.

- Why we're doing it? I mean, like I said, it can be explored. I can't guarantee anything. I'm not aware of anything in the state or federal rules that would allow that. Excuse me for interrupting Alder Dorff is trying to get in. She needs someone to let her in. She just texted me.

- Oh.

- And here she is. Here's what I would like to do, is to refer to motion to refer... Well, first of all, does anyone else have any comments? I'll wait.

- I got a few things that-

- I surely do.

- Oh, alder Gerlach...

- You can go ahead first if you'd like.

- No, no, I didn't mean that-

- I have questions.

- I'm the chair, so I'll wait back here and-

- Oh, thank you.

- First.

- Okay, I have questions. First of all, both of these gentlemen have indicated that the city was not enforcing this until this last fall. And Mr. Pirlot, you're saying that you've been enforcing it for two years, in terms of notifying people nobody's actually been getting cited yet. Okay.

- Correct.

- So I just moved back to Green Bay in late 2018, and I got that book about all the rules for living in Green Bay. And so I read it, and it told me that I couldn't put my leaves in the street, so I never have. So I just want to go back and ask you, how long has this ordinance been in effect?

- I can't tell you for sure. It's been a long time. It could be decades.

- Okay, and now I wanna ask you also, because I do see them come and remove the leaves from my front yard. They use this thing that's like, what three feet wide. It's sort of like, it looks like a metal cage and it has stiff wire bristles all the way around. Is that the same piece of equipment they use everywhere?

- Yes, yeah, we call it a broom. It's just a homemade attachment to one of our, you know for our tractors to kind of sweep it, if you will. They're metal bristles, sweep it off the terraces.

- Right, so I see them sweep it off the terrace and I see them then, then the truck lifts down the back end and they sweep it into the truck. Okay. I don't see that as doing any damage to my lawn or anything like that. Also if I don't get my leaves out there in time, spring or fall, because I got to do it all myself. I put them in boxes or bins or something and I take them to the drop-off site. How many drop off sites do we have?

- The city has two drop off centers, yard waste centers. One on Hurlbut Street, just off of Military Avenue and the other one on East shore Drive, a quarter mile, half mile East to Danz Avenue. Except in the winter, they are open in the winter, but only on Saturdays. And not many people haul yard waste when there's storm, but they are open on Saturdays on Winter.

- Right, I used the one on East shore Drive and I guess I'm kind of strange, but I kinda think it's fun. I don't mind it at all. I would prefer the city pick them up but if I don't get it out there in time, the city leaves me and I pick it up myself. So I wanted to, I don't quite understand this thing about the federal

government holding us hostage, because this is what I'm concerned about. I see things in the street leaves, branches, trash and I see how it washes into the storm sewers. I dunno, is that what you call them? I don't know.

- Yeah, storm sewers.

- Okay, and so I actually go around sometimes with a little miniature rake and clean them out in my immediate area, because it can't drain properly otherwise. But this is the thing, is it really just the money or is it the water quality? I mean, is there damage being done to our water?

- Sure, it is the water quality. It's United States... What's it called? Hold on one second. It's an Act of federal government, act of the federal government that was established. I don't have the year here, but it's called the... Where is that government, I just had it here. It's the United States Stormwater Act to keep the waters of of the State, the United States clean and clear as much as possible. And interestingly, I was reminded just recently, that's if it's related to this, but I never thought of it this way. And the idea, I don't see it as us being held hostage. We're all in this together, if you will. Everyone. It was a kind of a Star Trek kind of an analogy, but I was reading something related to environment, and they said, "On a spaceship called earth, "we are all crew members, there are no riders. "So we all have to pitch in." So, you know, if you wanna say watering it down, we're all responsible for the maintenance of our planet. So that's where the feds come in and asking everybody to pitch in and do their part.

- And that's my concern. My concern is debris following our storm water system. And my concern is the quality of the water when this all gets filtered through. And I know that it's inconvenient and it's a pain in the neck and I don't have a half-acre, but I have had a half-acre in the past, in my life. And so I know about raking all that stuff and getting rid of it and everything. But I just believe that our obligation is to take care of our environment. And someone said something about, is it in the cities... It would be in the city's best interest to compromise with, you know, and get... I just don't think so. I don't think this, I think that we have to take care of our water system. We have to take care of our stormwater sewer system and we're gonna have to do the hard thing. I absolutely do not believe we should be putting leaves in the street, ever. Now, Mr. Pirlot, am I wrong?

- From a purely, from a managing or environment standpoint, by putting leaves in the street you give them no opportunity to, and of course, you're not gonna have 100% opportunity to leach any runoff if they're on a terrace.

- Yep.

- But if you put them in the street it boils down to closer to 0% opportunity. So we have to do our best to do our duty, if you will, to our environment. So to answer your question, , yeah, it does no service to place them in the street with respect to helping clear water runoff.

- Okay, thanks.

- Okay, so for operations, so then you typically do use the broom to pull it into the street and then collect it, correct?

- Absolutely.

- Okay, so I'm trying to work on a compromise here. I don't know, it's operation wise. How well do you know what street, when you're gonna be doing a street?

- One thing we can really tell, and this is not the first time this question has been asked.

- Yeah.

- I've been in operations division for, coming up on 16 years. And it's pretty much an every year type-thing, especially the last two to three years has been asked a lot. We can tell you at the end of the day, when the crews report in, what we have done and where we're gonna be tomorrow. But that we're not gonna say. But we can't tell you, "We're gonna be on the streets, ABC and D." And of course it would be A through Z, plus then AA through EE because, you know, you can operate slow depending on what's out there. We don't know that until... So all we can tell you is that we're 50% done in the Wednesday routes. We don't report, "Okay, it's this route here in Wednesday routes," that's the square that you see me in. "We got this locked on and this one, "and this one, and this one, and this one. "And Wednesday routes." It's just too complicated and I update through these... Through the process, spring and fall every day. The best week we can report on the city, DPW Facebook page. What we have done in round one, round one done. Round two, we're here. We got this done, and this is where we're working today. But as far as what streets or what areas specifically, that's asking a heck of a lot that it would just be a logistical nightmare.

- Okay, that's what I was wondering. If it'd be possible to say, "We did this today, "tomorrow we're gonna do at least this street "and that street." And if we can get that on the web, since we recommend to the lead into the street. Anyway, if they did that the night before and had the leaves in the street overnight-

- Oh, I see-

- I'm wondering if that would be some kind of compromise. I don't know if that helps them at all. So I need to hear from them. I don't know if that makes much of a difference, to be able to have one day where you got everything piled up or almost piled up, and then you can put it into the street that night and then grab the rest of what's on your lawn and get out and get it to the curb. Or I dunno if that's helpful at all to the residents. And I don't know logistically, if that's doable at all for the city. But that's the only kind of compromise I could think of, is where, since we put them in the street anyway, if we let them know and they did it, they put it in the street for us. That actually helps us go quicker, I would think. But we wouldn't want it in the street more than 12 hours, the night before. So I don't know if that works for the residents or if that works for the city. That's really the only kind of compromise. I can think where it might work where we're helping each other, but I don't know if that helps off the residents enough to address... They'd be raking pretty quick. You don't have much notice to get all your raking done. You'd can have a bunch, and waiting to go on the curb and then get that into the street and then finish the rest to get it up there. 'Cause it sounds like it's too much. And I know what that's like. I've got five Oaks and a Birch in the city here, and that's on Dawson Street. So my terrace gets pretty high. I got to do it in a couple of different waves. I can't do it all at once. So I don't know, maybe and I'm assuming that would be for other streets as well. I mean, Dawson has done a couple of times, have other streets done a couple of times too?

- Yeah, yeah. For example, in spring, we're on our fifth round through the city right now, but this week is the last round. Fall, depending on the kind of year and the weather, we could, we've done anywhere from four to six rounds.

- Yeah, so maybe that's the only thing we can do for residences, is bust it up and do half at a time. And I know the weather can make a deep problem. I mean, I got Oaks and they don't drop their leaves very early. And sometimes there's a real small window dependent upon the crazy weather to take care of it. So I see falls being real problematical sometimes. And I think that's when we get most of our, leaf pick up, is when they come off the trees initially. So I dunno, I dunno if there's a way we can help out the residents or not, but we definitely are concerned about reaching into the gutters. I mean that's not only, that will go, the guy goes right into the Fox right into the Bay, right into the Bay beach in green algae. So that is a major concern for the city now. Now, that we we're trying to get our beach going again. So if there's a way, do you think alder Chris, that that would be a possibility to at least look at to see if we can get coordinated like that? Or is it just to logistically-

- It can be discussed, but I'm not so sure that the federal or state rules would allow anything like that.

- Oh, okay. Well, that's the other thing, I guess. Yeah, okay, alder Gerlach.

- I have two more questions, please. One is, when you mentioned the possibility of, if DPW would even be able to consider this, you mentioned the possibility of putting the things in the street the night before, if you knew they were coming in the morning. Am I just making this up in my head or is it a fact that if it would rain that night, that that would cause a bigger problem. Because it seems to me it washes these into the sewers and I mean, would that cause more of a pollution problem if it rained on those leaves?

- Absolutely, that rainfall is the biggest enemy of leaching of contaminants.

- Okay, my other question. I remember and was I just dreaming, didn't director Grenier tell us recently that since you started giving out these warnings last year there were X number of infractions. And this year it was like 10% as many infractions or something. Could you speak to that please?

- Sure. When we started doing this, as I'm recalling this stuff tipped off of my head. Two years ago, there were over three, we issued over 300, 300. Over 3000 notices, there are no citations, but just notices of, "Hey you, we saw that you put your yard waste in the street, "please don't do," a little of that public education. This spring we issued the last count that we had, that I got off of our field reports was that we should all write 538, citywide through four rounds. So it's gone down quite a bit. So it's one-sixth of what it originally was. That's big difference. One-sixth is what? 16%?

- Yeah, yeah.

- Okay, so it does now-

- But, the big component is public education. You know, we don't have a "Public education department." We got, there's three P's. Here I go again. Paul's heard this a million times through his service with the city over his many years. There's three P's, public... The three E's, I'm sorry.

- EE's.

- EE's. Education, enforcement and engineering. We head the engineering, it's called public works and you know, doing the projects. Enforcement; police, parking, but education. There's no education department. That's all of our responsibility. And honestly, I'll be the first one to admit DPW being any kind of engineers, we have not always been good at educating. So we're trying to get the word out better. And I strongly believe that by sharing the information with the residents, "you know people first, "we're people first." That's a direct contributing factor in reducing these issues, from \$3,000 to 500.

- So then what I would conclude is that when people are told that it really is serious and that they must comply, they are for the most part complying.

- I see that, yes and I agree with this statement.

- Okay.

- Alder Brunette.

- I think if the state or federal government do not allow any exemption, then the decision's pretty simple that we have no choice. I guess what I do, because there's really no rush now because spring is done, fall is several months away. But I would encourage the committee and I ask the staff to look, to see if the federal and state governments allow any exemptions for individual property owners if they prove a hardship based on their property. So I guess my motion would be a simple hold until our next meeting-

- I will not second that unless I can ask Mr. Pirlot, if he already knows the answer to that.

- I do not know the answer, but from my experience all I can speculate, is pure speculation, I can't give you an answer. Is that I'm not convinced based on my general knowledge, dealing with this on a day-to-day basis in our system that there is any way to do it. But we can ask the questions and get an answer.

- So we have a motion to hold this while staff looks into the impossibilities here. I'd also like to see if it's possible we can coordinate somehow, I don't know, whatever. Anyway, is there a second alder Gerlach? Oh wait, alder Brunette.

- I wanna hear what alder Brunette has to say.

- Well, I was gonna say, again what I'm saying is I think this is a very good discussion. The reason I wanna hold this and get that information because if we really are over a barrel, so to speak, and we have no choices and we've exhausted all looks into whether we can be exempted with certain properties. Then that information would be really good to know, to let our neighborhood associations know before fall. Because we'll get the same complaints, the same concerns perhaps in the fall. And I'd rather dispatch of this now with a few months before fall. If we get that answer from director Pirlot. Mr. Pirlot, we can communicate that to the neighborhood associations. Mr. Griswold, I'm sure would appreciate knowing that as Neighborhood Association president. Yeah, exactly.

- So is there a second that, alder Gerlach?

- I think he's a reasonable man. I'm gonna second it.

- Yeah, I don't see a problem with holding this and seeing what we can do with it. I would be surprised if there is exemptions from the federal level, but it doesn't hurt to look into it and see what else we might be able to do. It doesn't hurt. So, I certainly support that. Any further discussion? Motion by alder Brunette to hold this while DPW looks into some possibilities. Seconded by alder Gerlach, all in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Opposed? Okay, that passes unanimously. Thanks everyone for your comments. Appreciate it.

- Thank you.

- Thank you.

- Keep going.

- Yes.

- Regular business number three, consideration with possible action on the review of the award of the contract pavement four-21, South Maple Avenue reconstruction. Staff.

- Okay, we received these bids yesterday. We tried to email out this morning the summary so that you guys could see that because we weren't able to get it into the packet. Even though for us this time of year is kind of a late time to be bidding these things. And we still got five bidders on it. The bid was very aggressive. The bid was substantially lower than what our estimate was. And as you can see from the bid results, on a project this size of about \$1.5 million project, the bids are only two or 300,000 apart. So that speaks a lot to how competitive this bid was. On this, we would recommend going to the low responsible bidder, which is the Groat Incorporated, in the amount of \$1,336,138.43.

- I love the 43 cents. Hey, any questions come in from the staff? Oh, staff, I'm sorry. Committee?

- Move to approve.

- Move to approve by alder Brunette, seconded by alder Gerlach. All in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Opposed? That passes unanimously. Onto number four. Report of actions taken by department of public works, A, granting of licenses. Number one, sidewalk builder. A treat or cakes. Oh, that's an

interesting name, Work X. B, Bella Custom Concrete LLC, and C, TC concrete LLC. We can do this all together in just receiving place on file. All that's to wonder, do we need this?

- Yeah, so you can just do them all.

- Okay, Two tree and brush trimmer, a Regal's landscaping LLC. Does committee have any questions?

- Move to receive in place on file.

- Second.

- Move by alder Gerlach to receiving place in file, seconded by alder Brunette, all in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Opposed? Okay, that passes unanimously. Informational, director's report. Who's gonna be the director tonight?

- This is one I would turn over to Chris, just to give a quick summary on where we are with spring pickup?

- Okay

- If you care to.

- You're muted.

- You're still on mute, Chris. You're still muted.

- Sure, there we go. Sorry about that. But yeah. DPW fueled activity, services that we're providing. Nothing really exciting on the parking side but parking has started to pick back up, just a FYI, Schreiber Foods we heard, is gonna start coming back and forth downtown. So we're gonna see a little more activity downtown for parking and maybe some moving around people. As far as the services, this is the last week of the spring yard waste, curbside yard waste collection program. Of course, people can bring their yard waste to one of our two sites, no problem. But at the end of the day, on Friday we are done collecting curbside. Like I had mentioned earlier, we are down quite a bit on a number of residential properties in the city that we've noted where they had placed yard waste in the street. So that's good. I had also mentioned our biggest message is getting out there. Social media does work. Whether it's the website, Facebook page we have established over the last couple of years a really good interaction and relationship with our public media. Where Steve Grenier or myself, Jim, whoever might call and say, "Hey, we got this going on. "We got it. "What's your news day look like, you wanna do a story?" Sometimes they might, sometimes they don't. But if you don't say something or ask the questions you don't get the answers. So sometimes it takes a while to realize that, "Hey, communication is the key to success. "So we're gonna keep at it." We are out starting a crack filling and joint ceiling on our asphalt streets. So you'll see that, as always we never stopped patching potholes. Roads keep aging as people keep driving on them. Other than that, not a

super lot to report. Pretty soon, it's gonna be time to start looking at what do we need to do for budgeting for 2022 when it's... Hate to think of that, because it's barely 2021, but that's what we do. We plan ahead. Other than that, I can answer any questions that anyone has, otherwise that's pretty much all I have. But it's a summary today.

- Alder Brunette.

- I was gonna say, Chris and Mr. Brunette, I just wanna commend you and the public works for adapting to this virtual meeting format. I'm not quite sure how long we're going to be doing this. If this is our last one with each interview, I just feel like we've spent a weird year and you both have been outstanding through this entire process in connecting the public services. So thank you both.

- Oh, questions?

- Alder Gerlach?

- Is director Grenier, definitely gonna be back on Monday?

- I believe so. Jim probably knows more because he shares an office space at city hall with him.

- Yes, that's what he told us, alder Gerlach prior to him leaving, that he planned on being here for half a day, on all days, next Monday through Friday.

- Okay, and my other question is, who is the person who's the head of the garbage pickup program?

- The direct person... You know, I'm obviously the operations division director which is bunch of sections. But our sanitation section leader, as you might remember, Debbie Haines, she retired last year and we brought up one of our supervisor, existing supervisors into her vacant position, and his name is Dustin Kamala. And he occupies the same office that Debbie did. And I think he's doing a great job. So if you have anything related to sanitation, whether it's brush recycling or garbage collection, just let Dustin or myself know.

- Okay, thank you.

- That's it for everyone? Okay, I'll just second to that. I appreciate staff's good work. All you've done and all you're doing. And our next meeting for INS, is scheduled for May 26th of this month, in this year.

- I do believe we need to get a vote on the informational stuff, though.

- Oh-

- Motion to receiving place on file.

- Okay, Vega motion to receiving place on file, on the report. Then all in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.
- Okay, opposed to that message nicely, thought we did that. It went too quick. All right, so I believe we're all done.
- An hour on the dot.
- All right.
- Move to adjourn.
- Second.
- Motion by alder Gerlach, seconded by alder Brunette, I don't know though. Whatever.
- I guess.
- We could stay for a while.
- Yeah, all in favor?
- Aye.
- Aye.
- Bye, take care, everybody.
- Have a good evening, everybody.
- Take care, everyone.