

**CITY OF CHIPPEWA FALLS
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2012 – 5:30 PM**

The Board of Public Works met in City Hall on Monday, December 10, 2012 at 5:30 PM. Present were Director of Public Works Rick Rubenzer, Finance Manager Lynne Bauer, Alderperson George Adrian and Darrin Senn. Absent was Mayor Greg Hoffman. Also, present at the meeting were Senior Technician Todd Berg, Alderperson Jane Lardahl, Roger Kressin, Pat Popple and Don and Donna Sypniewski.

1. **Motion** by Bauer, seconded by Adrian to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2012 Board of Public Works Meeting. **All present voting aye. MOTION CARRIED.**

2. The Board considered the attached risk analysis prepared for a possible quiet zone at the Pumphouse Road Progressive Rail/Union Pacific Railroad Crossing. Director of Public Works Rubenzer explained that the crossing was eligible for quiet zone status because its risk index of 9293.52 was below the Nationwide Significant Threshold of 13,722.00. He noted risk factors such as number and severity of accidents, crossing highway type, number of trains and vehicular traffic volumes are considered when calculating the risk index. He stated that if a change in any factors pushed the risk index over the threshold at a future date, the quiet zone status would be removed from the crossing. He continued that he believed any letters to or requests of the Railroad or the Sand Companies should come officially from the Common Council. Don Sypniewski of 1032 Pine Cone Lane appeared and complained of train horns sounding between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. at the E.O. G. processing plant site. He stated that he hadn't slept well in months due to "twenty second" train horn blasts in the stated 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. time period. Alderperson Lardahl added that Mayor Hoffman has spoke with a railroad representative and that railroad engineers were supposed to be using radios vs. "horns" to communicate while in the yard. Pat Popple inquired as to whether the City's noise ordinance would be applicable and stated that the ordinance didn't have enforcement "teeth". She recommended it be studied and changed if necessary. She stated that sand companies should band together and work "with" the railroad. She also stated it was a countywide issue and that the County and City should send a letter to the railroad detailing the concerns. Rubenzer stated that the agenda item was the Pumphouse Road Crossing only but that the concerns raised were valid and should be voiced at a Common Council meeting. Board member Senn agreed and suggested the issue be discussed at a future Board of Public Works or Common Council meeting. Rubenzer stated that Progressive Rail had ignored city stormwater and WI DNR wetland ordinances while doing a project east of the E.O.G. plant last year. He also stated that the Pumphouse Road Crossing quiet zone preliminary construction estimate is \$275,000 to \$350,000 and that \$10,000 would have to be paid to the railroad for an actual construction estimate and plan preparation.
Motion by Senn, seconded by Bauer to recommend the Common Council consider and discuss the Pumphouse Road Crossing quiet zone. **All present voting aye. MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **Motion** by Adrian, seconded by Senn to adjourn. **All present voting aye. MOTION CARRIED.** The Board of Public Works meeting adjourned at 6:04 P.M.

Richard J. Rubenzer, PE
Secretary, Board of Public Works

Please note, these are draft minutes and may be amended until approved by the Common Council.