



# PUBLIC WORKS MINUTE

October 2015

Autumn brings to mind falling leaves, falling temperatures (is that why it's called fall?), and in the world of public works, a mad scramble to finish up the year's projects before winter sets in. This year in New Richmond is no exception – with street and utility projects, new businesses, and park expansions alongside our normal yearly maintenance tasks, there is a lot going on.

As always, we're doing our best to keep the public informed on all of the projects that are underway, so be sure to check in on Facebook for regular updates. Also, we've created a dedicated tab on our website for Street and Utility Projects where you can find FAQ sheets, photos, and project status reports.

While we're trying to provide information to you, we're also going to be looking for information and input back from you on upcoming projects. We will be holding public open houses for all of the street/utility projects that are slated for 2016 in the next couple of months as we begin design on those projects. Look for more details below, and please be ready to share your ideas with us!

Jeremiah Wendt, Director of Public Works

## 2015 Street Reconstruction

Reconstruction is underway on three streets in the City of New Richmond – High Street (Lakeside Foods east entrance), 115th Street, and 175th Avenue. The reconstruction process includes the following steps:

- Pulverize (or mill) the existing pavement. The pavement is crushed into pieces less than an inch in size. The millings are then stockpiled and reused as the base that is placed underneath the new pavement.
- Excavate unsuitable materials. When these streets were originally constructed, there was not a lot of thought given to what was underneath the road itself. With modern engineering practices, we understand the importance of having good material underneath a road to make it last a lifetime. In some places on 115th and 175th, we removed 4-5 feet of clay and muck that was underneath the existing roadway.
- Place granular backfill. Once the unsuitable materials are removed, the excavated area is filled with granular material (sand) up to a level about 12" below the surface of the pavement. This material is placed and compacted in layers 12-18 inches thick to ensure that no settling occurs after the road is constructed.
- Construct underground utilities. Concurrent with the previous step is the installation of any piping that will be placed under the roadway. This may include storm sewer, sanitary sewer or watermain.
- Place crushed aggregate base. Depending on the specific design of the road, 8-12 inches of aggregate base (or gravel) will be placed and compacted to serve as a structural surface on which to place pavement.
- Install curb and gutter. On urban streets, curb and gutter serves as a structural edge to the road as well as a stormwater collection component.
- Place pavement. Depending on the road design, 3-5 inches of bituminous pavement (asphalt or blacktop) will be placed in 2 layers. The layered placement allows for compaction of the pavement so that it reaches an acceptable density to ensure long life.



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## 2016 Project Design

City staff and consultants are kicking off the design of street and utility projects for 2016. The following streets are scheduled for reconstruction:

- Paperjack Drive
- North Starr Avenue/East Hughes Street
- East River Drive/West River Drive/Fairfield Road/Summit Road
- East North Shore Drive

On October 22nd, we held a public open house to get feedback from residents on the Paperjack Drive project before we put pen to paper on the design. This meeting was right on Paperjack Drive, just east of Hallewood Blvd. We plan to have similar open house style meetings for each of the projects, but the rest will be in the warmth and comfort of the Civic Center. Residents on those streets can watch the mail for updates on the dates of the meetings.

For the rest of the public, watch the City's website and Facebook page for announcements on these meetings.

The whole point is that we want to inform you and get your feedback, so if you have an opinion or want more information, please attend the open house or get a hold of Jeremiah Wendt at 715-246-4268 or [jwendt@newrichmondwi.gov](mailto:jwendt@newrichmondwi.gov).

## 2015 New Streets/Utilities

Due to development in New Richmond's Business and Technical Park, new streets and utilities are being constructed in 2015. City staff found out in July that Culver's was planning on building in New Richmond. One minor complication was that we didn't have a road to the specific site that they were intending to build on. City staff and consultants quickly bid out the construction of Grant Way to serve this site, along with two other parcels that are still available. Construction of this street will wrap up in late October or early November.

In August, we found out that Goodwill wanted to move forward with construction of a store in the same area. Again, not having a road to the site came up as a minor complication. Once again, staff and consultants moved quickly to bid out the construction of this road – a northern extension of Hamilton Way and creation of Roosevelt Drive, which will connect Hamilton to St. Croix Avenue. Preliminary grading and installation of underground utilities will take place on this street in 2015, with completion of the project in spring of 2016.

