

Municipal Services Committee
Mon, Mar 06, 2023 4:30PM • 8:21

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 00:03

All right. It's March 6, 2023. It's 4:30pm. I call to order the municipal services committee meeting. Let the record show that all members are present with the exception of Alderson Doran who's been asked to be excused and he is.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 00:22

Item number 3. 23-0222 minutes from the 2-20-23 meeting. Do I hear a motion?

Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3) 00:31

Move to approve.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 00:32

Second?

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 00:33

Second.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 00:33

Motion's been made and seconded to approve. Any discussions, comments, questions? If not all in favor signify by saying aye. All those opposed? Chair votes aye. Four, zero.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 00:46

There's no public hearings or appearances. And believe it or not, there's no action items, which leads us to strictly informational items.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 00:57

So, we'll go to 23-0219 negotiation update in regards to the Bird Rides. Any comments from our public works director. You saw your memo.

Deputy Director Ross Buetow (Public Works) 01:17

So, there's a memo here. So basically, the memo kind of outlines some of the comments and questions that were brought up by alders through the process. So, Director Block, reached out to Bird and basically brought to their attention. So, the items that are listed on the memo are basically the items that she's continuing to have discussions on.

Deputy Director Ross Buetow (Public Works) 01:35

So, then the plan would be to bring the formal proposed plan. I don't know where she's at in terms of actually making changes to the original recommendations in terms of the items listed on here. But, at the next meeting, she'll be able to provide an update not only to the proposed scope, but any discussions that may have happened between her and Bird.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 01:54

Okay, important word is "continuing".

Deputy Director Ross Buetow (Public Works) 01:56

Correct.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 01:56

Okay. And did she get a carbon copy of the Aldersperson Doran's comments? He made a comment in regards to the fee that we would get back.

Deputy Director Ross Buetow (Public Works) 02:10

Correct. That is mentioned on here. So, I don't know as far as if that would be up to Bird or staff, or if that would be an aldersperson request to raise that fee. So, we'll—it's difficult for us to basically track you know exactly how much our city labor is towards that program. So, as we're kind of estimating, like, what the, you know, how many hours per week or month that we may use or dedicate towards that. So, it's tough to quantify that. So, it's more like, more of a feel for like if the if the Council feels that, or the alders feel that that the current rate of 10 cents is low. I guess that would be—I don't, I'm not entirely certain if there's going to be a proposal as part of next week's action to raise that or adjust it. So, I'm sure it'll be discussed.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 03:01

Just anybody on the committee? Aldersperson Hartzheim, what mic number? Okay. I should know that by now.

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 03:11

Thank you chair. I am grateful to see that the MOU is hopefully going to be revised down to one year rather than two years, as we discussed. But my confusion, or hope is that the very first point that talks about underage usage. It says Bird could do such and such and so and so. I would prefer to have some firm language there that says that Bird will do at a certain period of time. So, if that can be added to the MOU, I would really appreciate that. And also, they talk about notifying all users. Well, I would prefer that Bird not notify all users right now when nobody gives a crap, and notify them when their first ride is for the season or when the peak of riding in Appleton occurs just so that we can do the best we can to try to curb underage usage of Bird. Thank you

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 04:06

Okay. Just so the chair has an understanding, the one year that Aldersperson Hartzheim mentioned that's still in negotiation?

Deputy Director Ross Buetow (Public Works) 04:19

Correct. The items that are that are listed here. Those were all brought to Birds attention. So, I'm just not exactly sure if they're, if Alder—er Director Block has received a response back, if it's going to be a concern to Birds. But ultimately, they are aware of the potential changes that we're asking for.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 04:36

All right. Any further comments, questions on that? If not, we'll go to 23-0220. Update on the College Avenue Lane reconfiguration. I don't know if there is an update, but...?

Deputy Director Ross Buetow (Public Works) 04:54

Not much of an update other than Director Block, the memo that was attached here. Basically, there's really three things occurring right now. Number one, she wanted to define the remaining process timeline that's remaining. But then there was also a couple other items dealing with, if this were to pass, then I think there was a request for some metrics that so we are in the process of identifying some qualitative and quantitative metrics to basically evaluate how would this be working. And the other portion that we're looking at is there seemed to be an interest in making this a pilot, like an 18 month pilot. So then, during that period, we would analyze those

metrics, and then I think with the goal in spring of 2025, we would, we would see how all the process worked and reevaluate that time. But there is still our intent to, based on the timeline, that we would be bringing this item as an action item, two weeks from today to actually present the proposal for committee's review and, and action and then ultimately, that would, whatever the committee would recommend would go to Council.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 06:05

All right. All right, Alderson Hartzheim.

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 06:10

Thank you, Chair for indulging me. I'm not sure how many people are going to be watching this particular meeting. But I've been asking for feedback from District 13 neighbors, and I've gotten a bunch of feedback from them. And a lot of them seem very confused by what will occur. So, I'd really like folks to check the city website, in particular, the project update site. The video links there show all of the things that we saw in the initial presentation, which was really helpful for all of us to sort of get a feel for "how bad will it be?" is what everyone is asking. And I don't expect it will be. But I again, I don't know how many people are watching this, but I would encourage them to go to that website and see those things, because that answers a lot of the initial questions that I've received from my constituency. Thanks

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 06:57

Awesome. Thank you. Any questions from committee members? Alderson Van Zeeland?

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 07:04

I don't have a question. I'll just add that it seems like in the feedback I received, there's some misunderstanding about where this is coming from. A lot of the people who I spoke with thought that this was driven by city staff, and not by people who live and work downtown. So, I just want to clarify that for everyone who's listening, that it is in fact driven by people who live and work down here. Thank you.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 07:30

Okay. Anybody else? Anybody in the audience? All right. If not, we'll go to inspections division permits summary Comparison Report for February 2023. You got a memo on that. Any comments, questions on that?

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 07:57

And my record shows, we're at item number seven.

Alderson Joss Thyssen (District 8)

Move to adjourn.

Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)

Second

Alderson William Siebers (District 1)

Motion has been made and seconded to adjourn. All in favor signify by saying aye. All, those opposed? Chair votes aye. Four zero. Thank you, everybody.