

Unofficial Minutes until approved by the Town Board

**TOWN OF CAMPBELL
LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023 6:00 P.M.
OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH
2100 BAINBRIDGE STREET, LA CROSSE, WI 54603**

1) Meeting Called to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:

Meeting called to order at 6:02 P.M.

2) Roll Call & Verify Public Notice:

Present: Chairman Dan Kapanke, Supervisor Mitch Brohmer, Supervisor Lee Donahue, Supervisor Ralph Thoren, Supervisor Jason Stratman, Clerk/Treasurer Cassandra Hanan

Pursuant to law, written notice of this meeting was given to the press and posted on the public bulletin boards.

3) BUSINESS:

A) Public Hearing to discuss future plans for the Bainbridge Street Pedestrian Walkway.

Clerk Hanan read a letter submitted by *Jeff Foellmi, 1503 Caroline St.*, in opposition to the Town being responsible for the footbridge.

Bruce Becker, 3111 Lakeshore Dr., stated that he would have liked the meeting to start at 7 p.m. and wants a referendum held on this issue.

Brian Meyer, Wisconsin DOT Project Manager, spoke regarding frequency of bridge inspections and provided a background on the structure and the other alternatives that were presented in 2020.

Town Board members asked Mr. Meyer questions regarding the agreement and future ownership of the structure, in addition to questions related to the structural integrity of the bridge.

Kelsey Craig, 2500 1st Ave E., asked Mr. Meyer questions regarding the span of the proposed alternatives.

Mike Horstman, 910 Susan Pl., spoke in opposition to the Town being responsible for the footbridge. He raised concerns regarding usage, trouble with juveniles and protesters on the footbridge, and current and future financial constraints of the Town. He stated that

the County will address pedestrian walkways when they reconstruct County B and County BW.

Don Anthony, 2541 Bainbridge St., stated concern regarding the County B alternative in regards to safety. He stated that he would support the alternative over County BW.

Patricia Christie, 2737 Del Ray Ave., spoke in opposition to the Town being responsible for the footbridge. She stated concerns related to the safety of the footbridge, the usage, and future Town expenses. She stated that she would be in support of the alternatives.

Sue Adams, 1837 La Fond Ave. spoke in opposition to the Town being responsible for the footbridge. She stated concerns related to financial constraints, a compromised structure, and liability. She stated that she would be in favor of the County BW alternative.

Brent Banicki, 2508 2nd Ave E., spoke in support of keeping the footbridge. He cited safety concerns with the alternatives and stated that he feels the footbridge is used a lot.

The Town Board members asked Mr. Meyer questions specific to Section 2 of the agreement related to the wording “*The Town shall be responsible for the financing, maintenance, rehabilitation and replacement of the Path and bridge beyond this deck replacement Project.*”

Cindy Adams, 2507 1st Ave E., spoke in support of keeping the footbridge and stated that she feels the Town uses too much salt on the bridge. She stated that she uses the bridge regularly.

Amanda Hartley, 2530 2nd Ave E., spoke in support of keeping the footbridge citing safety concerns with the alternatives. She stated that she and her family use the bridge regularly.

Shawn Werner, 3337 Hanson Ct., spoke in support of keeping the footbridge and questioned the count of how many people use the footbridge.

Barbie Johnson, 1904 Caroline St., spoke in support of keeping the footbridge and stated that the Town should try to apply for a grant to obtain funding for the bridge.

Julie Boen, 239 Elm St., spoke in support of keeping the footbridge.

Kelsey Craig, 2500 1st Ave. E., stated that she would like to see the Town post meetings on its Facebook page. She spoke in support of keeping the footbridge, citing safety concerns with increased traffic on the proposed alternative routes. She stated that she would like this decision decided by voters through a referendum.

Al Miller, 212 Callaway Blvd., asked questions regarding the wording of the current agreement.

Sue Adams, 1837 La Fond Ave., raised concerns over the interpretation of the agreement.

Mary Hagen, 904 Spillway Dr., stated that in 20 years, we may not even be a part of the Town of Campbell and asked the Board if they had taken that into consideration.

David Boen, 239 Elm St., spoke in support of keeping the footbridge and stated that there is no timeline for the County highway reconstruction projects.

Ken Christie, 2737 Del Ray Ave., stated that he believes the Town needs clarification on the agreement before any decisions can be made.

4) Adjournment of Meeting:

Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Donahue/Supervisor Thoren. **Motion carried 5-0 (7:17 p.m.)**

Respectfully Submitted,
Cassandra Hanan
Clerk/Treasurer