March 5, 2019 Street Committee – Minutes

The City of Adel’s Street Committee met at Adel City Hall, 301 S. 10th Street, Adel, Iowa, in the Council Chambers on February 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Members present: Christensen, Miller, and Selby. Others in attendance: Council members McAdon and Ockerman, City Administrator Brown, Public Works Director Overton, and McClure reps. Sandberg and Schug.

Miller motioned, seconded by Selby, to approve the February 5, 2019 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion began on the proposed HWY 169 Growth & Safety Projects. Christensen stated that, for the February 21 public meeting at the school, approximately 85 people signed in and 27 comment cards were received. Christensen noted that, on Adel169.com, most questions received had already been answered in the FAQs.

Christensen noted that ADM had indicated that it may signal support for roundabouts from an engineering perspective, especially near a new school. Christensen stated that the sooner the council decides on these projects, the sooner the DOT will be able to decide. No additional public input meetings are scheduled.

Miller stated that, overall, the February 21 meeting went well and had great turnout. Miller stated that some folks were looking for a presentation like last June’s meeting. However, the February 21 event provided much information and gave residents the opportunity to voice their opinion to the council and engineers.

Christensen stated that the Citizen Focus Group recommended the Roundabouts Concept (compared to the Traditional Turn Lanes Concept) but that there are several factors before a final decision can be made. Miller noted that five comment cards were in favor of roundabouts, eight were against, and the rest just asked questions.

Christensen stated that the financing questions are critical. Miller noted that he has heard questions about other City fees increasing. Ockerman suggested that the focus should be on whether the City sees a need for this project or not.

Selby asked about the number of roundabouts. Schug stated that roundabouts in a series were important for the design’s safety and speed factors. Schug also stated that the design would not make the traffic any worse. Christensen stated the Meadow Road improvements should be contingent upon the location of ADM’s new school.

Miller asked Overton whether the Street Department had any concerns. Overton noted the need for a new snow plow wing and additional staffing if the DOT requires the City to maintain HWY 169. Christensen noted there are concerns about having a median that requires right in, right out traffic at several intersections. Schug noted that accidents should be reduced. There could be issues with rerouting traffic, but these issues are present today.

Selby motioned, seconded by Miller, to bring both concepts forward to the council for further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Miller motioned, seconded by Selby, to bring the Meadow Road concept forward to the council for further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

In other business, Overton noted that the City would be receiving more salt soon. The committee asked about engine break signs on HWYs 6 and 169. Overton noted that the speed limit signs on Meadow Road would be installed soon.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Anthony Brown, City Administrator