

**Brodhead Public Works Committee**  
**Tuesday, February 3, 2015**

Call to order at 3:45 pm – Present: Rich Vogel, Troy Nyman and Barb Krattiger,  
Holly Everson, Dick Hale, Mary Mason

Motion to accept January 6, 2015 minutes by Barb, second by Holly. Motion passed.

Concerned Citizens: none

Rich reported that many billing mistakes exist in the Storm Water Utility database. MSA has proposed to review the Storm Water Utility budget and current Storm Water utility (SWU) database to identify data gaps in the existing database and to determine the revenue generation capability for an estimated cost of \$15,000. After discussion, motion by Barb to have MSA come to the March meeting to discuss in more detail the scope of work. Second by Mary. Motion passed.

Rich reported that he would like to get proposals for a new pick-up truck to replace the 1997 Street Department truck. Rich informed the committee that we need to be concerned with the constant cost of repairs, breakdowns when equipment is needed the most and an aging fleet. Committee suggested getting proposals.

Committee agreed that most everyone is very happy with automated garbage pick-up. There have been very few problems. The only concern is some residents using the terrace as the storage area for their totes.

Rich reported that the County E project could get delayed because of a problem getting an easement from Mr. Kerschner. Mr. Kerschner will be at the council meeting to express his concerns.

Pearl Island Report - Rich gave out copies of the Pear Island report that will be given to the council. (Report is attached)

Budget – No action. Holly requested a copy of the ending balance for 2014 as we have not seen it. Rich reported that he will have it for the March meeting.

Concerns of committee members – nothing

Motion by Barb to adjourn, second by Mary. Motion passed at 5:00 pm.

Prepared by Rich Vogel

# 2015 Pearl Island Report

## History:

The project began in 2011 when the Water & Light and Street Department started clearing the Mill Race and cleaning the area during spare time and weekends.

In 2012 Joe DeYoung from MSA Professional Services toured the area and suggested the city apply for several recreational grants. After a presentation, the council hired MSA to apply for the grants.

The city received two grants that run from November 2, 2012 to June 30, 2015. A Recreational Trails Grant for \$200,000 and an Urban Rivers Program grant for \$149,375. They are both matching grants and can be matched with donated labor and equipment, donated money, donated structures, city labor and equipment and city money. The only string attached to the grants is that the improvements must meet the guidelines of the grant to receive matching funds. There is no requirement for the city to spend a certain amount or to complete any work.

Since the project started as a volunteer project, we decided to do as much as possible with donated labor and equipment, donated money and donated structures.

## Objectives:

The objective of the Pearl Island Recreational Corridor project is to increase the awareness and accessibility of the general public to the beautiful water resource that exists in the city of Brodhead and the greater Brodhead area. This objective will be accomplished by improving the accessibility of the area, by improving the beauty of the area, using sound environmental practices, and by providing facilities to promote the enjoyment of the area for the public at large.

## Area Description:

- The project includes the city owned park and property off of Park Road.
- The dam and area between the Sugar River and mill race.
- The park at the head gates.
- City property along the west side of the mill race all the way to the Power House Park.
- Putnam Park.
- City property along the race (11th St. Area) from the Power House Park back to the Sugar River.

## Progress and Improvements:

- Researched area to determine city boundaries and marked the boundaries for future reference. It was determined that some land listed in the Green County Courthouse as city-owned property was, in fact, not owned by the city based on a study by Ecum Abstract.
- Removing downed trees from the mill race and clearing trees from the shoreline. There were 1.5 miles of shoreline from County Road F to the head gates where the trees were

so entangled in vines and brush that no access to the mill race was possible. All this was completed by volunteers. Volunteers included groups such as the Jaycees, the Brodhead Baseball Team, the Brodhead Police Department, the Sugar River Bank, Decatur Lake Mill Race Association and a large number of individuals from the area. All of the dead and dangerous trees from the head gates to the Power House Park have been removed. This work made it possible to sponsor the very popular boat rides during Covered Bridge Days. Ninety percent of the trees that clogged the race from the Power House Park to the Sugar River (11th St. area) have also been removed.

- Cleaned up garbage, brush, dead and dangerous trees along the trail (service road) from the head gates to the Power House Park.
- Cleared over 1 ½ miles of trails between the Sugar River and mill race in the area by the dam. Not completed.
- Cleared over a mile of trails in the area where the race meets the Sugar River. Almost completed.
- Replaced pier at Head Gates Park and placed small piers just south of the head gates and at the Power House Park all donated by Brodhead Water & Light.
- Installed three garbage/recycling reciprocals donated by Brodhead Water & Light.
- Shoreline Repairs - Cty F to Decatur Rd completed in 2013.
  - Water Resources Grant \$12,061.00
  - City Portion \$5169.25
- Other Shoreline Repairs, cost \$594.00
- 3 Message Boards, valued at \$2,951.00. Installed in 2013 donated by Brodhead Foundation.
- 4 benches, valued at \$525 each, three donated by the Bank of Brodhead and one donated by Tapco. Installed spring of 2014
- Power House Park Pier (for larger boats). Material cost \$1,254.85. Built June 2014.
- Pit Toilet at Head Gates Park, cost \$15,341.25. Installed December 2014.
- Shelter House at Head Gates Park. Material cost \$2122.26 (Still needs concrete pad). Installed December 2014.
- Native Plantings at Putnam Park, cost \$2990.10. 1/5 completed in 2013 and 4/5 completed in 2014. A 300 foot rustic walking path has been added at Putnam Park adjacent to the native plantings. Arborvitae logs for the path were donated by Ross Daniels.
- Nineteen birdhouses were made and donated by Don Spooner. The birdhouses were installed by Brodhead Middle School students under the supervision of Stephanie Tresemer and aided by Paul Roemer.
- Planted 33 trees donated by Applied Ecological.
- Set three benches made from removed city Ash Trees built and donated by Ron Risum.
- Created a parking lot just north of Decatur Road. Not completed.

#### Future Work & Projects:

- **Covered Bridge:** The Covered Bridge will be a structure built at Putnam Park, across the mill race, to pay homage to the historic Clarence Covered Bridge and to reinforce the long-standing covered bridge theme for the City of Brodhead. It will serve as an attraction to our community, provide a venue for many events and a link to the very successful Covered Bridge Days event sponsored annually by our Chamber of Commerce. Preliminary planning and soil sampling was provided by the UW Platteville engineering department. An architectural rendering was created by Dimension 4 of Madison WI, and this rendering is being used to create a workable engineering plan by Otie Engineering. The estimated cost of the bridge will be determined once the Otie Engineering plan is completed. Materials and labor for the cladding for the structure will be provided by donations from the community. Building of the bridge is on hold until the funds are raised to cover the cost.
- Apply for a grant extension.
- Complete more nature trails.
- Connect the Sugar River Bike Trail to the Pearl Island bike and walking trail.
- Repair the main trail (service road) from the Power House Park to the dam.
- Add more refuse containers.
- Add more benches.
- Finish parking lot north of Decatur Road with rock or possibly blacktop if budget allows.
- Add a shelter house and pit toilet next to the parking lot.
- Repair entrance road and parking lot at Head Gates Park.
- Add more native plantings.
- Add at least one more pier.
- Work with the Decatur Lake Mill Race Association to improve fishing and accessibility of the Decatur Lake and Mill Race.
- Build a water wheel in the spill way at the Power House Park and generate power to light the trail to County F.

Attached is the financial report.