

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, NOVEMBER 22, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Mike Kuhle with the following members present: Larry Janssen; Chris Kielblock; Chad Cummings; Amy Ernst; Alaina Kolpin.

Staff present: Steve Robinson, City Administrator; Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director; Hyunmyeong Goo, Assistant City Engineer; Matt Selof, Community Development Director; Chad Nickel, Public Works Supervisor; Mindy Eggers, City Clerk.

Others Present: Peter Engelmeyer, MnDOT; Lisa Bigham, MnDOT; Aaron Holmbeck, Nobles County Engineer; Kari Lucin, Daily Globe.

MnDOT - HIGHWAY 59 TURNBACK DISCUSSION

Perter Engelmeyer, Project Manager MnDOT District 7, and Lisa Bigham, MnDOT District State Aid Manager, presented turnback options for a portion of U.S. Highway 59 between interstate 90 and Highway 60.

Mr. Engelmeyer said that the road needs work no matter who owns it and depending on who that is will determine what kind of work will be done. He explained the MnDOT looks at how the City and public will be best served in determining turnback options for cities.

Mr. Engelmeyer said in 2017 and 2018 a traffic study was done that showed the corridor served more local traffic compared to state highway travel.

Reconstruction plans of the corridor are slated for 2027 and depending on which entity controls it will determine on whether it's a mill and overlay or a total reconstruction project. Either way, state funds would pay for the project.

Lisa Bigham said that the MnDOT cannot make a City take a turnback it would have to be negotiated and agreed upon.

Council and staff discussed the pros and cons of the turnback. Staff said if the City agrees to the turnback, the City would become responsible for maintaining the road, which would be an additional cost of approximately \$90,000 per year for an additional snowplow and additional employee to operate it. Mr. Engelmeyer said the City would be compensated approximately \$60,000 per year for the turnback.

Moving forward, Mr. Engelmeyer said they would need a resolution from the City in January or February on whether or not to pursue the turnback.

ADJOURNMENT

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The motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Cummings and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 1:06 p.m.

Mindy L. Eggers, CMC
City Clerk