

**City of Batesville
Special Common Council
Memorial Building
Feb. 28, 2011
5:35 PM**

Members Present: Herman Struewing, Gene Lambert, Edwin Hunter, Robert Narwold,
Brad Dreyer

Mayor Rick Fledderman City Clerk-Treasurer: Ron Weigel

Mayor Fledderman opened the meeting to discuss with council members the topic of the pedestrian sidewalk for the Columbus Ave. Road - Bridge Project to be done by Franklin County. He noted the 76 year old bridge will be replaced soon and that if the City of Batesville wants the pedestrian walk on the bridge that the city will need to incur the cost at between \$33,000.00 to \$40,000.00 maximum. Mayor Fledderman said that he was in full support of adding the pedestrian bridge. He also noted that County Commissioner, Tom Linkel, stated that \$40,000.00 will be the most that the city will have to pay even if the construction does not start until 2012.

Batesville resident, Jim Dreyer, came before council stating that he felt the city should not spend the money on the pedestrian bridge since sidewalks are not on either side of the bridge currently. He suggested that the city spend the money for sidewalks to the park and the new Youth Baseball Complex instead. Mr. Dreyer also noted that he did not know until the Board of Works meeting at 6:30 PM today that Mayor Fledderman and the City of Batesville was awarded a \$98,000.00 grant from the D.N.R. to construct a walk/bike path from Brum Woods to the new Youth Baseball Complex. He still felt the city funds should not be used to pay for the pedestrian bridge because there are currently no sidewalks and he felt the walks would possibly never be constructed.

Discussion with Police Chief Stan Holt noted that the speed monitoring device that is used to record speed for vehicle traffic was set-up to monitor east bound traffic on Columbus Ave. on Friday 2/25/11 & Sat. 2/26/11. The count was 3,640 vehicles with 40% clocked at 31- 40 MPH, 13.9% @ 41- 50 MPH, 1% @ 51 MPH, the remainder at 30 MPH or less. Chief Holt noted he felt the pedestrian / bike sidewalk for pedestrian and bicyclist usage on the bridge was a good idea for safety reasons because of the large volume of traffic on Columbus Ave.

Each of the councilmen spoke on the issue and all agreed that because of the opportunity to add the pedestrian walk now, prior to construction, they could save money as to add it later would cost approx. \$120,000.00. They also felt that safety was a big concern due to the large volume of traffic and high speed on that section of Columbus Ave.

Brad Dreyer made a motion, seconded by Gene Lambert, to approve spending up to \$40,000.00 from the Riverboat Tax Wagering Fund to pay the cost of the pedestrian walk on the Franklin County Bridge Project. All ayes so passed.

Brad Dreyer made a motion, seconded by Edwin Hunter, to allocate \$4250.00 as a match to the Batesville Beautification League for a watering utility vehicle as presented at the previous meeting. The motion also allocates an additional \$2367.00 from Belterra Funds to complete the project. The total amount is \$6617.00. All ayes so passed.

Robert Narwold made a motion, seconded by Brad Dreyer, to adjourn. All ayes so passed.

Mayor Richard Fledderman

Attest:

Ronald C. Weigel, Clerk-Treasurer