

**BAXTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Work Session**  
**October 16, 2018**

Mayor Darrel Olson called the Work Session to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Darrel Olson and Council Members Quinn Nystrom, Steve Barrows, Todd Holman, and Mark Cross

**Council Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Brad Chapulis, Community Development Director Josh Doty, Finance Director Jeremy Vacinek, Public Works Director Trevor Walter, and Assistant City Administrator Kelly Steele

**Landscaping the Excelsior Road and Edgewood Drive Roundabout**

Chuck Rickert, WSB consulting engineer, explained in conjunction with the 2018 Excelsior Road and Edgewood Drive improvements a single lane roundabout has been constructed. At the March 20, 2018 work session, direction was provided by the council to continue with a plan to landscape the center island. The current construction plan calls for a grass berm center island, similar to the CSAH 48 and Isle Drive roundabout.

A proposed landscaping design plan embraces a pinwheel planting pattern with three ornamental trees in the center, an inner ring of ornamental grasses and an outside ring of flowering perennials. Preference was given to native plant species or varieties that are well adapted to the microclimate. The perennials have white and purple flowers with longer bloom times through the summer and fall months. Natural fieldstone boulders are placed in groups to blend with the mass plantings.

Pratt's Affordable Excavating was asked to provide a cost to install the proposed landscaping plan. The cost provided by the contractor is \$69,832.13. This cost is consistent with the landscaping costs for similar projects, such as Cypress Drive. If approved, a formal change order will be provided to the council in November.

A grass berm, not the proposed landscape design, was included the original project construction bid. In March the council authorized staff to solicit bids for the improved landscaping. This landscaping cost was included in the assessment process but is not assessed as it is a 100% city cost. Joe Brenny was provided an opportunity to install a veteran's memorial statue, though staff expressed safety concerns of placement within the roundabout.

**Edgewood Drive at Woida Road Stop Sign**

Chuck Rickert, consulting engineer with WSB, explained there was a miscommunication between WSB and the contractor about the sign being removed.

During the construction of the Excelsior Road and Edgewood Drive improvements, concerns were raised with traffic existing the area using Edgewood Drive to Woida Road to continue north on TH 371

to avoid the construction. With the increased traffic, turning right from Edgewood Drive to Woida Road was becoming more difficult. In order to provide gaps, a stop sign for eastbound Woida Road only was installed.

Edgewood Drive at Excelsior Road is now open to traffic and the temporary signs at Woida Road have now been removed. The operation of traffic during construction at the Edgewood Drive and Woida Road intersection work well and it has been suggested the temporary 3-way stop be made a permanent condition.

Reviewing the traffic conditions and operations, providing the 3-way stop as a permanent condition at the Edgewood Drive and Woida Road intersection is recommended. The operations would include adding a stop sign on the eastbound Woida Road approach at Edgewood Drive. The westbound Woida Road traffic would continue to flow without stopping; a 24” white stop bar on the eastbound Woida Road approach at Edgewood Drive; a stop ahead sign for eastbound Woida Road; signs below the new and existing stop signs indicating traffic from westbound Woida Road does not stop; a “Do Not Stop Other Approaches Stop” sign for westbound Woida Road; and a temporary traffic control change ahead sign for eastbound Woida Road and northbound and southbound Edgewood Drive.

The estimated cost for the additional signs and pavement markings is \$2,335. City staff would install the signs.

Both stop sign designs are compliant with state aid standards. A traffic study was not completed to determine if the stop sign should be installed. The city is not aware of any accidents at the intersection while the stop sign was up. The traffic volume on Woida Road would justify a four-way stop except it cannot be done because traffic would back up on TH 371.

The consensus of the council was to make the stop sign permanent.

**MOTION** by Council Member Barrows, seconded by Council Member Cross to adjourn the council work session at 6:47p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved by:

Respectfully submitted,

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Darrel Olson  
Mayor

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Kelly Steele  
Assistant City Administrator