

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE MINUTES

JUNE 16, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Reams at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Reams, Deborah Groat, Dan Fogt

OTHERS PRESENT: Jillian Froment, Chief Golden, Brian Palmer, Rick Varner

CITIZENS PRESENT: Bob Parrott, Gary Jobe, Kristy Dearing

REPORTERS PRESENT: Ryan Horns – Journal Tribune

AGENDA:

1) W. Sixth Street Parking – Mr. Reams explained at the last meeting, the Committee decided to do a trial run and not enforce the two-hour parking. A couple business owners in that area were not pleased with that decision.

Chief Golden said Mr. Bob Parrott and Mr. Gary Jobe own businesses in that area. Mr. Parrott's office is located next door to the apartment. The tenant in that apartment continually parks right in front of Mr. Parrott's business, which leaves no room for his clients to park.

Mr. Parrott says it has been constant. In the past, a few of the tenants parked in front of the apartment and nothing was done, so those tenants who were parking elsewhere said if the others could park there, they could too, so they all started parking on W. Sixth St.. He feels it's a constant problem now because there are 4 apartments in the building, and there are six permanent vehicles, in addition to whatever guests they have. The apartment building has no parking lot, garage or driveway. Mr. Parrott said the landlord should be the one to figure out a place for his tenants to park if he can't provide space for them to park.

There have been other alternatives in the past. The former Chief allowed the tenants to park between the Fire Department and Eagles, just down the alley. The area around W. Sixth Street is busy because of court house parking, church parking, movie theatre parking, parking for businesses on S. Main Street and restaurants on 5th Street. If you give in to the tenants, the public parking becomes

private parking for the tenants. He feels the area should be limited to 2-hour parking. Another problem with not limiting parking is they don't move their cars for snow plows to clear the snow. It's just not working to have unlimited parking. He would like to see the 2-hour parking reinstated.

Chief Golden agreed with Mr. Parrott, that the trial period for no parking limit did not work. He will send a letter to Mr. Ambos to let him know that unlimited parking did not work, and that the 2-hour parking limit will be reinstated and enforced.

Mr. Jobe, Shear-Banks Insurance, addressed the Committee. His customers complained because no parking was available. He agreed, this is a very busy area. He would like to see the 2-hour parking limit reinstated.

Mr. Fogt said he talked to Mr. Liebold, who owns a business in the area. He feels the same as Mr. Parrott and Mr. Leibold, reinstate the 2-hour parking limit.

The Committee agreed to reinstate the 2-hour parking limit. Ms. Groat said if the law is on the books, it should be consistently enforced.

Chief Golden will notify Mr. Ambos of the decision to reinstate the 2-hour parking limit.

2) Handicap Parking Request – 7th Street

Chief Golden said that on the corner of 7th and Main St, there is a salon. They have requested that a handicap space be placed along 7th street, along side of their building, so elderly clients can park close. Chief Golden said if this does take place, the street will have to be marked. Right now, there is no marked parking.

Ms. Froment said this topic came before this Committee because there is nothing in place to advise the City when a handicap parking spot is appropriate, what the general policy is and what criteria should be followed.

Mr. Reams said there is a certain percentage of parking spaces that are handicap spaces within the downtown area, including several right behind this business at the Library. He expressed concern that if we allow this, what stops all the downtown businesses to request the space in front of their business to be a handicap space. If a business has their own off-street parking, they could designate handicap spaces. The City has the required amount of handicap spaces

for the downtown area per ADA requirements, and feels that's how it should stay for public parking.

Chief Golden said if they were to mark a space for handicap parking for the salon business, it would not be assigned to that business. Anyone visiting area businesses would be allowed to use that spot, so there would be no guarantee that it would be available when salon customers need it.

Ms. Froment said we need to look at how to determine when to mark the street. If City grants this request, the whole street would need to be marked.

Mr. Palmer said you may lose some spots when you mark streets, because you have to mark them so far away from the intersection. If spaces are not marked, you can park up close to the intersection as long as you are not blocking the crosswalk.

Consensus of the Committee was to not create a handicap parking spot on 7th Street.

3) Project Updates

- Sanitary Projects - Mr. Varner reported that the treatment plant is on schedule, progressing very well. Force mains are done. Adelsberger Road has been paved. Crew is working on restoration of the temporary road. Should be completed this week. Pump station is running three weeks behind, but should not affect getting the whole project put together. Trunk interceptor project is moving along. Crews feel they can be done in one or two months. The trunk project is scheduled to be done in March. A contract will have to be done to connect to several of the pump stations. That was not part of the original contract.

Mr. Reams suggested the committee tour the new plant at the July or August meeting.

- Water Projects - Mr. Varner reported on the reservoir. The dike is about 20' high on Raymond Road, and it goes to almost 40-45' on that, which the highest part of the diking is on the Raymond Road

side because it's the lowest part. Should open up Raymond Road tomorrow.

Piping contract 1 – Piping is almost complete.

Contract 2 is the contract from Rt. 33 up through the park and across the stream. They have the stream crossing to do yet, and they're starting to restore the path. Working with Lane Stillings to do some seeding. Lane prefers to do the seeding himself. City will receive credit from the contractor.

Mr. Reams asked about the ruts made by the trucks. Mr. Varner said those will be taken care of this week.

Contract 3 - That's the reservoir itself with Beaver. It's moving along real well.

Contract 4 – Kirk Bros. The pump station and the inflatable dam are moving along real well.

Will meet with consulting engineers tomorrow to put together a draft scope for the water plant design, and going to two pressure zones, dual pressure zones, should help some pressure zones in the City.

- Paving projects - Bids will be opened on Wednesday for the 2008 paving projects which consist of Charles Lane, E. 5th, Suntra Way, OPWC Project (Collins Avenue) and CDBG Project (uptown alleys).
- Traffic Study – Mr. Palmer distributed an update from MS Consultants dated June 3, 2008.

Task 1 – Thoroughfare Plan Update

- Traffic Impact Study Standards FINAL submitted to City
- Access Management Guidelines DRAFT due this week
- Existing studies, traffic count data obtained from City
- Geometrics, traffic control, land use and categories being reviewed and placed on GIS mapping

- Discuss and confirm with City future land use and roadway changes

Task 2A SR4 & SR31 Interchange Assessment

- Tasks completed with Safety Fund Application and IMS pending
- Documentation for safety funding – to be prepared for summer submittal based on ODOT District comments
- Interchange Modification Study still pending – will begin after revised DRAFT traffic study approved by City

Task 2B SR4 & Milford Avenue Study

- Counts and geometric, signing and marking data obtained
- Study to begin in July 2008

Mr. Palmer stated the school did a study that recommended the widening that's taking place out there.

Task 2C Milford & Maple Street Intersection Study

- Counts and geometric, signing and marking data to be obtained
- Study to begin in July 2008

Task 2D Delaware Avenue Corridor Study

- Counts completed; counts post railroad crossing opening completed
- Tube counts pending from City
- Majority of capacity analyses completed
- Alternatives under evaluation
- Results anticipated by end of August, 2008

Task 3 Traffic Signal Evaluation

- Equipment/timing field review completed and information obtained
- Documentation of recommendations and maintenance program to be submitted by June 13, 2008

Task 4 One Way Pair Study

- Traffic count data completed
- Analysis and recommendations under evaluation
- Draft Report anticipated end of August 2008

Mr. Reams asked if it's recommended to do something at Damascus, how soon could it be done. Mr. Palmer said it wouldn't take long. Mr. Reams said traffic backs up all the way to Rt. 33. Signal timing needs to be adjusted. All signals are tied together in that area.

- Stormwater Study

Mr. Palmer distributed a copy of the Monthly Status Report by Tetra Tech, Inc.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Task 1. Project Management and Quality Control – 100%

Have coordinated surveying services and sewer televising services with Joe Friday and Dreier and Maller, respectively.

Task 2. Infrastructure Assessment – 100%

Have started the video taping of the existing storm water conveyance system infrastructure in the areas highlighted in the contract and are 100% complete.

Task 3. Surveying and Mapping – 100%

Joe Friday has completed 35% of the survey of the storm sewer system and culverts as outlined in the scope of services. He will be surveying the retention pond depths at Mill Valley once the water surface thaws. Anticipate field checking of a few more manholes once the hydraulic model is constructed.

Task 4. Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis – 100%

Culvert Analysis. Tetra Tech has completed 100% of th culverts in the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis

Storm Sewer Analysis – Tetra Tech has completed 100% of the storm sewers in the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis

Task 5. Preliminary Design and Construction Estimation – 12% -Tetra Tech has began the preliminary design for the improvements based on the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis.

Task 6. Final Storm Water Study Report – 60% - Tetra Tech has completed approximately one-half of the final report based on the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis.

Task 7. Combine Town Run Ditch, Eastside and Northwest Storm Water Studies to Develop a Prioritized List of Storm Water Capital Improvement Projects – 9%.

On schedule to complete the study by July 31, 2008

4) Setting 2008 Goals

- Class A and B Wastewater Residuals Process – Update

Mr. Fogt, Extension Agent John Hixson and Dave Scheiderer went to see Tom Price, who is a hog farmer along the Scioto River, east of Marysville. He has a composting facility, which was started a few years ago. He gets manure from the Zoo, people bring him yard clippings, and he gets materials from many other sources. After he processes the mulch for a year or two, he resells it to landscaping companies and individuals. He incorporates the hog manure in it too. He said he would have the capacity to take two semi-loads per week of the City's product, which is only half of what is produced. The dumping charge would be more expensive than going to the landfill. Originally, cost was \$95,000 a year, but he reworked some numbers and it's a bit less.

It would be an extra fee for the City to do this instead of taking it to the landfill. Mr. Fogt likes to recycle, and City ought to do the right thing, but not if it's going to cost the City \$50/\$60,000 extra. The plant is being built such that it's not in the Class B form to be dumped for compost.

Mr. Varner said there are two types of residuals, Class A, the highest process, which is compost dried that can go on lawns. It's based upon the pathogen count. It's less than 2,000 organisms per 100 dry grams. Class B is a little less process but can go on farm fields. You have to post the fields that you are applying that material and it has up to 2M organisms per 1,000 grams. Those options have been kept open at the new plant, but currently the most cost effective option is to haul it to the landfill. Landfills actually like it because it helps break down the solid waste. To some degree, it's also green there. There is an area carved out in the future should we decide to go to a Class A or B facility.

Mr. Reams said he'd like to see us go to Class A in the future if we can financially make it work. He wondered if there was a way to work with Scotts since they sell fertilizer. Mr. Fogt said Scotts used to compost, but they lost government subsidy to someone else and it was too costly without a subsidy.

Mr. Varner said you have to develop your market ahead of time, rather than develop the product then try to get rid of it.

Ms. Groat asked if there is any way to take this and create an energy source from it. Mr. Varner said the anaerobic digesters take all the residuals and organics and you put them in and take the air away from them and anaerobic bacteria, and they actually produce methane gas. It was done here for many years, but the gas is so dirty and it's a low BTU, that you have to scrub it so much to use it. It's not a great mixture of methane. As energy prices increase, all of these options become more economical. The problem is when you do anaerobic digesters, you create a lot of odors or composting creates a lot of odor, so you have to do something to mitigate those odors. New research is being done which might make this a possibility in the future.

Mr. Fogt said, to summarize, I think that Mr. Varner and the City are doing the right thing. Currently, it is cheaper to haul sludge to the landfill, and it would cost a lot more to process the sludge for land application. Mr. Varner will continue to look at different ways to handle the sludge as new methods are developed and as the economics of disposal change.

Sidewalk priority was discussed. Some old subdivisions have no sidewalks. Is this an issue Planning Commission should be more focused on?

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The overall goal is to have sidewalks and walking paths connecting throughout the City. It brings neighborhoods together better.

Mr. Fogt mentioned the Walker Woods black top path, which is inside the development, but added there are no sidewalks near the curb for pedestrians.

Will see if City Council has the power to require sidewalks in developments. The way the code is written, it may not be possible. Possibly look at changing the code.

Another goal is to make all sidewalks handicap accessible.

Meeting adjourned.