

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE MINUTES

JULY 21, 2008

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

Members Present: Mark Reams, Dan Fogt Excused: Deborah Groat

Others Present: Jillian Froment, Brian Palmer, John Mitchell, Ryan Horns (Journal Tribune), Brad Bills

AGENDA:

1) Parking tickets

Ms. Froment explained at the last meeting this committee authorized discontinuance of a waiver of non-ticketing for an area on Sixth Street near apartment buildings. This discussion prompted Administration to look at areas that they had received concerns from uptown businesses. Thus Administration began looking at parking for purposes of tickets. A lot of questions have come up. URT has approached the City regarding long term parking.

City plans to take a fresh look at uptown parking. Police Chief Golden prepared a summary of all the parking ordinances for uptown. Administration will be talking with uptown businesses, URT and the Chamber about issues raised, such as aggressive enforcement of current parking, as suggested by URT, and also placement of appropriate signs directing people to the parking areas and making sure people are aware of the two-hour parking limitation. There is a question about the need for a part-time ambassador to direct people to appropriate parking. There is also a question about consideration of a future parking garage. Ms. Froment plans to attend an URT meeting in the near future to discuss these issues. There are costs involved with a parking garage, which would impact the City and businesses.

Mr. Froment noted some of the parking restrictions in the City.

- Must park within the painted lines in certain areas.
- Parking hours are restricted to two hours between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, except legal holidays.

Mr. Reams received a comment from someone that said the signs say Monday thru Friday. Ms. Froment wasn't aware of it, so she'll check into it. Mr. Reams

said if the signs say Monday thru Friday, people should not be ticketed on Saturday, no matter what the code says.

Mr. Fogt said he received a comment that it seemed like out of the blue, the City decided to start issuing tickets on Saturday. No warnings were given ahead of time.

This individual parks there quite often and has never been ticketed. In this instance, the individual parked two cars uptown and received two tickets totaling \$40.

Ms. Froment said communication is key. Any type of change from status quo in the future should be communicated. She committed to focus on this issue very strongly in the future.

Mr. Fogt noted the signs which read, "No Parking Monday and Wednesday from 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. for snow plowing and street cleaning. That sign is just below the two-hour parking limit sign.

Administration is going to take a fresh look at signage and this is part of it, to make sure signage is clear and standardized.

Administration will report back to Committee with what they find and some recommendations on change. They want to talk to the Chamber and URT and get their feedback. She encouraged members to get with her on any issues.

Mr. Fogt noted there is a vacant building and a vacant lot on N. Court. He hates to tear down a usable building for parking, but parking is a necessity to get people uptown. He realizes there are budget issues, but if there is any space that comes up for sale in the uptown area, should possibly consider it for a parking lot, if it's within walking distance.

Mr. Reams noted in downtown Columbus there are private parking lots and private parking garages. It doesn't necessarily have to be the City that spends the money. We may need to expand on how to look at this parking issue.

Ms. Froment said when you start introducing parking meters and a pay-for-parking concept, it changes the feel of the city and changes the perception of going downtown. That may be something people want to explore, but keep in mind, what is the feel you want uptown. How do you keep attracting business

and people to uptown. She suggested visiting a couple other cities that have had parking issues to see how they handled their parking challenges.

2) Flood plain regulations

Mr. Palmer handed out information on the Flood Plain. FEMA is updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps and as a part of that, City needs to update their code to reflect maps and current regulatory standards. ODNR provides technical assistance to communities in implementing/management of floodplain and as liaison to FEMA.

New maps become effective December 16, 2008. City must have updated Codified Ordinances effective by December 16, 2008, which means they must be passed 30 days prior to that date. Draft regulations to ODNR 30-days prior to Council Agenda (Sept. 1). Revised Regulations on October 9 Council agenda. Council approval at Nov. 6th meeting.

ODNR has provided a Model ordinance for adoption. Changes have been made to reflect Marysville's standards.

General changes outlined that have been updated from the 1996 code are as follows:

- Clarify duties of Floodplain Administrator
- Clarify technical analyses required in support of development application
- Update exemption inflation value (from \$1,000 to \$5,000)
- Clarify information to be obtained/maintained (requires use of FEMA forms and certificates)
- Better organization of standards
- Clarification of watercourse alteration requirements
- Addition of CLOMR/LOMR community responsibilities and requirements for submission
- Clarify compliance/violation sections

ODNR outlines 15 possible "Higher Standards" with staff recommendations in parentheses.

- A zone Freeboard (in existing code and recommend continuing)
Recommend top of bank plus 2'.
- Access (recommend adding)
Any development, house or anything new coming in to the city would have to have access from their lot out, so house is not stranded.

➤ Compensatory Storage (recommend adding)

If you are going fill the floodplain somewhere, you have to provide equivalent storage somewhere else.

➤ Critical Development (need to discuss impacts on improvements)

Any critical functions to the community, hospital, fire station, etc. if they plan to rebuild, would have to demonstrate that they're close to a floodplain and that they're outside the 500-year floodplain, .2% instead of the 1% floodplain area. The hospital is already fairly close to the 100-year floodplain.

➤ Cumulative Substantial Damage/Substantial Improvement (Do not see as a problem in Marysville, hard to track, do not recommend)

This is a way of regulating/managing the floodplain. If a house is destroyed, you cannot build there. If partially destroyed, keep track of the damages to see if it should be destroyed.

➤ Fill (recommend)

Instead of someone just going in and dumping the dirt, you must compact it and do density testing. It must be controlled fill.

➤ Floodway Rise (requires extensive modeling on the part of the City, not recommended)

This is the main flow channel for the river if it is at flood stage. Everything is designed for the Floodway Rise. Maps are set up with a 1' Floodway Rise built in to it. If you fill in all the floodplain and it's already set, it would raise 1' and then that's the south end of the storage area too.

➤ Foundation Design (recommend adding)

If something is built into the floodplain, certain guidelines must be set.

➤ Freeboard (recommend adding)

Any structure in the floodplain. The base flood elevation that's determined by the map, it actually adds 2' freeboard. It could be 1' or 2' freeboard, which raises the lower level of the house that can be in the floodplain, up 2', instead of right at the base flood zone.

➤ Future Conditions Hydrologic Mapping (No community in Ohio has implemented, not recommended)

➤ Materials Storage (recommend adding)

Addresses hazardous, explosive, flammable materials being stored in the floodplain. Currently includes underground and aboveground storage tanks. Also addresses a lumber yard located in a floodplain.

➤ Setbacks (Should be reviewed over time and may be part of additional stormwater regulations, not recommended at this time.)

You would expand the floodway by whatever the setback is. Mr. Reams said this is a topic recommended in the Comprehensive Plan.

- Stormwater Management (will be addressed with updates to stormwater regulations as part of MS4 permit, not specific to these regulations)
- Subdivision Standards (recommend adding)

A lot of the standards are already in the Zoning Code. By having this in our code, the building part of the lot has to be out of the natural floodplain. Ms. Froment asked Mr. Palmer if he makes sure these aren't in conflict with our other zoning requirements. Some of this is already reflected in other areas. He noted the subdivision standards say preliminary map/plat shall show floodplain map. Current zoning code already says floodplain shall be shown on preliminary and final plat.

Highlighted sections in the document are areas that are represented by each of the recommendations, other than 2 specific ones. Highlighted areas indicate actual language added.

- Use Restrictions (recommend prohibiting new construction in floodway, material storage)

No new construction in the floodway specific.

Mr. Reams asked about proposed dugouts in the field in the park below the High School. Mr. Palmer said Marysville Jr. Baseball/Softball has money and wants to build them. Mr. Reams asked why we would want that when it floods repeatedly every year. He said if they just want shade, why not build a roof on 4 posts. Mr. Reams asked who is going to clean 12" of mud out of the dugouts. Mr. Palmer will discuss these issues with Steve Conley. A dugout may be a maintenance nightmare.

Ms. Froment asked Mr. Palmer if he had analyzed or read through to determine what we're losing out of Chapter 13 that we need to put in the draft. Mr. Palmer had not. He needs to look at it closer. ODNR has done that. Ms. Froment noted changes were made in 1996 via ordinance. We need to check to make sure that we're not losing something.

Mr. Fogt asked how all this affects wetlands. Mr. Palmer said this has nothing to do with a wetland that's outside a floodplain.

He noted the Planning Commission is the Appeals Board for these regulations.

Ms. Froment expressed concern that Planning Commission, since the other things they oversee references the code, there is no check & balance built in if

they are also over this particular portion of the code. It doesn't give them anywhere to turn when they're dealing with a subdivision plat. It puts them in an awkward position in dealing with the developer. It was suggested that BZA be the appeal board. Mr. Fogt felt the expertise may not be in the BZA board. It's possible to build in an appeal that would come to Council. Mr. Fogt prefers that process. Mr. Reams feels Planning Commission or BZA should hear appeals, not Council. This issue will be discussed with the Law Director and brought back to this Committee for further discussion. Mr. Mitchell suggested involving a third party. Some building departments use this process. On the Board are engineers, builders, contractors, architects, etc.

Mr. Reams asked about Section 3.4. How does the City define a special flood hazard area. Mr. Palmer said that would be based on the maps. Mr. Reams suggested clarifying the zones in this section. Mr. Palmer pointed out the definition of "Special Flood Hazard Area" on page 8. Mr. Reams was okay with the definition on page 8.

Mr. Reams asked about the 2' of freeboard mentioned earlier, but the draft mentions 1' of freeboard. Mr. Palmer said it is 1'. Mr. Reams said he'd like to see 2'. Mr. Palmer will make that change.

This topic should be on the next Public Service Committee agenda.

Mr. Fogt would like to see the map again to see how this all affects Marysville, vacant lots as well as occupied lots. Everyone is grandfathered in unless they make a \$5,000 improvement.

3) Project Updates

- Sanitary Projects – Four different contracts out for the Water Reclamation Facility.
 1. Kokosing – Facility – On schedule. Have requested an additional 10-day extension due to weather-related items without any additional cost. With documentation, it will probably be approved.
 2. Kirk Bros – Crossroads pump station - Requested additional days. A little behind schedule. Won't adversely affect the project. They are working additional hours and Saturday's. They've had to deal with a lot of the rain

water coming in from the gravity into their headworks and pump station. Issue has been resolved.

3. Trunk Interceptor – ahead of schedule. Going well. One issue with a small air conditioning unit malfunctioning in a resident nearby. Contractor working with inspectors on that.
4. Force Main – completed. Tie it to the Treatment Plant force main. Need to do some seeding and restoration.
5. Adelsberger Road projects are all completed. Paving is completed. There are a couple of final bills from the homeowners for some damage that needs to be taken care of. They all seem to be happy.

Mr. Fogt mentioned the pump station by the YMCA. He asked if there is any way to plant evergreen trees around it to hide it. The beautification project was done on Delaware Avenue, and then this building was built. The building is a nice brick building, but everyone knows it's a sewage pump station. Ms. Froment will follow up on this to see what can be done.

- Water Projects – Four contracts with reservoir project
 1. H & K – well water. Reservoir from the plant to Maple Street. Basically completed except for seeding and restoration in the parks.

Mr. Reams noted the restoration work and dirt work. He noticed 3 or 4 weeks ago, 4 or 5 old junk tires showed up on City property while at the same time 4 or 5 old junk tires disappeared from where they were doing the fill work at Marysville Performance Center, just south of Mill Creek on Maple Street. Staff will look into it.

2. Elite – They are finished for now. That's the water line from 33 to the reservoir. There is some restoration and fine grading to do, and they have to come back on the punch items. Mr. Stillings is going to do the final seeding. Elite still has to do some restoration on the future water plant site. They'll have to come back to Raymond Road in the fall.

Mr. Reams noted they put the water line in along the slope. There is a hill and then the trail is at the bottom of the slope. In

the winter and early spring, water would run down that hill. The trail was a little higher than the ground on the one side, but in some places it was even. Water would freeze on the trail. When the restoration was done, the dirt has been piled higher on the hillside than the trail, so the water is now going to collect on the trail itself and freeze, and we're going to have about 800' of ice come winter time. He hopes the surface of the trail can be raised so that it can drain down off the other side as the water comes down the hill.

3. Actual reservoir. - Contractors about 30-40% complete. On schedule. Mr. Fogt said neighbors are satisfied with the dust control, however, they aren't happy with the way the road has been repaired. Mr. Palmer said that is part of Elite contract. It will be on their punch list. They are letting that settle then will come back and take care of it.

This is not a part of the project, but residents out there would like to see the road leveled off a little. Mr. Fogt has talked with Mr. Stolte about this.

4. Kirk Bros. – Pump Station – On schedule. Doing better on this project than wastewater side. Had some concrete problems/issues, but they fixed them.

➤ Paving Projects –

1. CDBG alley projects were completed last week.
2. Fifth Street/Charles Lane/Suntra Way pre-construction meeting held on Friday. Will be coming in late August before school starts to begin paving.
3. 2008 paving program. City looking for direction to put paving of Plum Street back on the program. City has looked at the culvert, and with what the hospital is looking at doing potentially within the next 3-10 years, it wouldn't pay to spend \$500,000 on it. City Staff met with hospital personnel. Their plans may make that culvert not necessary, so timeline was evaluated as to how long the existing culvert would last. The hospital committed that if City would go ahead and pave, that any pavement that was destroyed should we need to go back and do that culvert, they would

pick up that cost. There would no loss to the City if we would help them do the paving. The County will pave their area, the hospital and Heartland will pick up equal shares of the private area and City would go ahead with City portion that we can afford in the budget. No timetable on Collins yet.

- Traffic Study – Meeting this Friday to review project status. Draft Access Management Guidelines document was handed out for review.
- Stormwater Study – Meeting on Tuesday, July 29th to review status.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.