

# **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2009**

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mark Reams, Debbie Groat, Dan Fogt

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ryan Horns (Journal Tribune), John Mitchell, Valerie Klingman, Clarence Snodgrass

### **AGENDA:**

#### 1) Sidewalk/Path Planning

Ms. Klingman reported that they're waiting on completion of plans, Comp Plan and Parks Plan. The Thoroughfare Plan has not officially been adopted. Ms. Klingman will work on putting a schedule together for things to be done and the timeframe for doing those things.

Mr. Mitchell noted one item in the Development Review process regarding sidewalks. Being proposed is when a subdivision is approved and starts building, City will give them two or three years to develop the sidewalks, and if they don't, it will be part of the bond. Typically they're allowed to get two, one-year extensions in tough economic times. Staff will put that together within the next two or three months.

Mr. Reams asked if paths were going to be a part of the Thoroughfare Plan. Ms. Klingman said there is a portion of the Thoroughfare Plan that speaks to that, but she wants sidewalks to be a stand-alone sidewalk/path plan that follows the thought process of a thoroughfare plan, where it looks at the whole City. It will say where we have them and what we're missing and where to plan for paths and sidewalks in the future.

Mr. Mitchell noted subdivisions are required to have sidewalks now. Need to incorporate possibly a sidewalk on one side and bike/walking path on the other side. Need to be creative.

Mr. Reams asked the status of the Thoroughfare Plan. Ms. Klingman said the final draft is setting on her desk waiting for her to review it.

Ms. Klingman said we need to plan where to put bike paths and sidewalks. Mr. Fogt said we need them everywhere. City has messed up in the past. Mr. Fogt said he wouldn't mind going with all bike paths for all new developments.

## 2) Cherry Street Waterline Project

Mr. Reams asked to discuss setting up a method to recoup the cost of future development so that growth pays for itself.

Mr. Snodgrass is a resident who had some questions on this topic. Mr. Reams invited Mr. Snodgrass to join in the discussion. He would like to know where the line is going to go, what size line it's going to be and if it's going to end right there. He doesn't want to tap into a water line that's laying stagnant. There are probably only two houses drawing from that line.

Mr. Mitchell said it's a 12" main. He invited Mr. Snodgrass to come to Engineering to view the plans. Typically on a dead-end line, they put in automatic hydrant flushers so they flush on their own to prevent stagnant water. He's not sure if this one has it, but is aware that it ends just short of 33.

Mr. Snodgrass asked if it would come under the creek. Will it be backhoed, dug in? Mr. Mitchell said underneath the creek, it will be bored, and underneath the railroad tracks it will be bored. On this side of the creek, it will be open excavation. The project will go out to bid on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>; will be advertised again October 5. Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> will hold a pre-bid meeting and bid opening on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>. Construction will take place within 4-6 weeks after that, depending on everyone's schedule.

Mr. Snodgrass asked how far off the roadway is it going to be? Is it going to be in his yard? Mr. Mitchell said City will stay in the existing right-of-way. Mr. Snodgrass noted there is quite a hill there. He expressed concern for coverage in his yard. Mr. Mitchell will check the plans. 4-1/2' coverage is required.

Ms. Groat asked Mr. Snodgrass if he could come in before Monday to view the plans in order to get his concerns answered prior to it going out to bid.

At one time Mr. Snodgrass was told by a surveyor that there would be no cover for the sewer line unless they went up into his yard. Was told City may have to get an easement from Mr. Snodgrass.

Mr. Fogt paraphrased what he was told by Mr. Snodgrass prior to the meeting. In 1996, Mr. Snodgrass and his neighbor were forced into the City against their wishes. When Fleetwood and Scott Farms properties were annexed into the City, he was included against his wishes. He was promised free tap-in of sewer and water shortly after the annexation and here we are 13 years later, no sewer or water. Mr. Snodgrass said that's fine with him; he's got a well and a septic system; he doesn't want City sewer or water; he doesn't want the extra bill.

Mr. Reams asked in terms of future development in this area, what are options as far as recouping this investment. Mr. Mitchell said you could have a water and sewer district where you could tack on additional tap fees to cover those. Must be careful and check with OPWC, but typically they don't allow you to assess when they give you grant money for improvements. This is 100% loan at 0% interest.

Mr. Fogt asked how much it's going to cost to go under Mill Creek and to do this extension in case we want to stop it before going under the creek. Mr. Mitchell has a cost estimate, but didn't have it available at this moment. Ms. Klingman said to stop the project might jeopardize the funding. Mr. Fogt said the next time City applies for a grant, it should be run by some other people. Mr. Reams said it is a loan and not a grant. This has been in the works for 2-3 years.

Mr. Mitchell said the second part to this project is Ninth Street from Maple to Grove.

Mr. Reams asked staff to get back to the committee on what the loan agreement says in terms of options.

### 3) Sewer Line to Job-Ready Site

Ms. Klingman said the southwest trunk is moving right along. There's been a couple of minor change orders for under the railroad and beyond. Substantial completion slated for mid November. They are going across the Job-Ready site and not any further than that.

### 4) Community Markets Intersection

Ms. Klingman said this Milford and Maple intersection is part of one of the latest studies. There is OPWC funding for this project. Plan is to go out with RFQ for design of the intersection around the first of December. There are no funds in the budget until 2010. Plan is to get a consultant on board around the first of the year so design and possibly construction can take place next year, depending on timing for the design. Will look at alternatives before moving forward. Will have public discussion, at least with affected property owners, to let them know the plans. Ms. Groat requested she be notified of this meeting. Mr. Fogt would like to be notified as well and feels it should be a full-blown public meeting. Mr. Fogt asked if the project would require a change in the Community Markets parking lot. He said right now you can drive off the street anywhere you want to enter the parking lot. Ms. Klingman said access will be changed. Curb and gutter is part of the project. Ms. Groat said if a public meeting is held, she asked that the property owners and businesses be specifically targeted.

Mr. Fogt said as a part of this plan, we need to know how we're going to connect Collins to the hospital stop light. That has to be done. Mr. Reams said discussion must take place before an alternative is selected for this intersection design. Ms. Klingman said that has a huge impact on which one of the two alternatives is chosen. Mr. Fogt said there is no question that Collins has to go to the stoplight and that Milford Avenue comes straight in and has to stop or yield to Collins. Ms. Klingman said that depends on what is done with the intersection. Mr. Mitchell said, "We don't want to create another Five Points." Mr. Reams said he agreed with Mr. Fogt and would prefer Collins to go straight, but let's look at the alternatives and how they work together.

#### 5) Project Updates

- Sanitary Projects - Mr. Mitchell said the Water Reclamation Facility is 99.99% complete. There are a few change orders being taken care of. Projects should be finished by the end of the year. He noted a few other projects to follow. Two have been completed, removing lift stations at the VFW and the bowling alley. Preparing to bid out elimination of two other lift stations, K-mart/North Main pump station and the Main Street pump station. Both should be bid out this year. Currently finalizing the easements.
  
- Water Projects --

Reservoir is basically complete. Still trying to finalize the operations and run-throughs. Having difficulty getting enough water through the creek to do all the tests. Did have three or four days last week for testing and it operated fairly well. Water level was raised about 1-1/2'. Ms. Groat asked if there was going to be absolutely no sledding in the winter. Mr. Mitchell said it's posted for no sledding. Ms. Groat asked if there would ever be a portable restroom facility at the parking lot. Ms. Groat feels it should be considered. People are using the top of the reservoir as a passive walking path. Mr. Reams questions people using it as a passive walking path due to the path being in full sun. It will never be a shaded path. He suggests waiting a year to see what happens. Ms. Groat asked since certain activities are prohibited, who will be responsible for patrolling the reservoir area. Mr. Mitchell said the Sheriff's office, since it is in the township. City has been in discussion with the Sheriff, and City can go out if necessary. Ms. Groat expressed concern over liability, in the event something happens. Mr. Mitchell said the County is accountable; it's in their jurisdiction. City would go out as the property owner to protect their interest. Mr. Fogt had a resident ask about walking dogs at the reservoir. Mr. Mitchell said it's posted no animals, because the water is drinking water. If people don't clean up after their pet, it runs into the water.

7<sup>th</sup> Street water line is complete. Bids were opened last Wednesday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> for paving 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets yet this year. Bid to be awarded soon.

Water Plant – Currently under contract with Burgess and Niple to design the new water plant. Will be a two to two and a half year process. Will continue to update.

#### - Paving Projects

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Street paving contract will be awarded this week.

Collins Avenue – Still in discussions with contractors. Holding off until spring to reassess and see what City wants to do to get a better understanding of what failed and why. Doing some testing of materials. Something will be done next year. Contractor will extend the warranty to make sure City is comfortable with results.

- Traffic Study - Ms. Klingman said all traffic studies are completed. Safety study for the 33/31/4 interchange was completed and submitted to ODOT a week or two ago to see if funding can be obtained through the safety program.
- Storm Water - Design firm, Pomeroy and Associates, has been hired and they have been working on the three Stimulus projects for nearly a month. Looking at the design of Town Run. Have met with design firm, as well as property owners, to discuss potential detention areas away from the airport. Discussions will continue. Will keep the committee updated. Project must be awarded by February, so bidding should take place in December/January timeframe. Mr. Fogt said at one point, the City had permission to put a detention basin in Vollrath Park. Ms. Klingman said that's one of the locations City is looking at. Have had preliminary discussions with the school.

Storm water on Woodline Dr. Mr. Mitchell said it's been added to the Developer's ordinance that with new homes/new subdivisions, they have to have a storm water lateral to tie into the downspouts and the sump pumps underground to the stormwater main so you don't have water being pumped out in the backyard or downspouts shooting at the neighbors. Currently looking at older neighborhoods where they have freezing issues, where downspouts and sump pumps come out into curb and gutter. Some work has been done on Hickory. Mr. Fogt suggested notifying the neighbors when the street is going to torn up. Ms. Groat suggested notifying the Ward Council person so they know what's going on in case they get a call.

Mr. Mitchell said there will be an Open House at the Reservoir on October 8<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m