

# MINUTES

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

### JANUARY 4, 2021

#### **Attendees:**

Daron Stephens, Engineer  
Pat Clark, Public Works Director  
JoEllen Reed, City Commissioner  
Kitty Strode, City Commissioner  
Mike Flynn, Interim City Manager (via Zoom)  
Shanda Cecil, Planning Department  
Dianna Layne, Deputy City Clerk

**NEXT MEETING** - February's meeting will be Monday, **February 1, 9:30 AM, in the Commission Chambers.**

**MINUTES** – The minutes of the December 7, 2020 meeting were submitted. JoEllen made a motion to approve; Shanda seconded. Minutes were approved.

**MAIN STREET SIDEWALKS** – The upper walk will be poured this week. The retaining wall inside is done. Even though we have had many weather days, we are only two days behind schedule. The issue now relates to the conduit Adam Kidd is putting in. Jonathan with KU said the meters cannot be within 3' of glass. Daron has never heard of this regulation (nor has Bill Perry), and he has asked Jonathan to show him where this regulation is in the code. If a solution is not reached by Tuesday, then it will hold up pouring concrete. There have been no issues with the Child Support Office. There have been a couple issues with the other office not letting us know when they would be coming in, but we have worked around those. Southern Contracting has been pleased with the job and are interested in quoting on the next phase of the project.

**LINCOLN STREET DEVELOPMENT** – We did get our judgment on the final two properties, and Allen Company got the house on the ground. Everything has been seeded and strawed. We should have the deeds by the time work commences, but we don't necessarily need those in hand. All submittals have been approved through Integrated Engineering. We will end up with a \$17-18,000 credit for the underground utilities. The decision was made to do a final reconciliation change order for the Allen Company instead of putting each separate item on the Commission agenda.

**BELLS ALLEY CLOSURE** – Daron is working on consolidating the paperwork that will be on the January 19<sup>th</sup> agenda. We can expect Anna Bruce Kostelnik to come to the meeting, as well as the church representatives. All of the information will be presented to the City Commission and the decision will be up to them.

#### **STORM WATER ISSUES**

- Royal Oaks – Brian Ward from Palmer Engineering is on the agenda this week to present the findings. There are still some open questions about what we can do. The storm sewer is only about 12" below grade and the land is flat. We cannot fix the problem, but we can take some steps to mitigate the situation. George Stamper has presented a development plan that was turned down. The homeowners' association and George Stamper need to work together to allow future development to help them fix some of the traffic and storm water problems they

are currently experiencing. The City has already spent a lot of money out there for the paving of several streets. Daron shared that there are three questions to ask with projects of this type: 1) Do we have easements? 2) Are there funds? 3) Does it affect more than one person? Mike feels we should follow Palmer's recommendations and then work with Stamper on future design to see if we can improve some of the problems.

- 7 Poplar – Karen Fuller called JoEllen on December 30<sup>th</sup> and related the following information: 1) They had B-Dry do the basement (which only goes up 6” from the floor); 2) storm drain was broken in the front yard; 3) she wants the City to install a French drain around the house; 4) she also wants the City to fix the basement. She says the drywall is damp in the basement where two children sleep, and it is beginning to mold. Ms. Fuller's grandson climbed down in the 36” drain pipe and took pictures that we will be using; however, he did not get pictures of the vault. Pat said we need 3-4 days of good weather to make repairs. They will cover the storm box that has an outlet line (Snowden Drive) and an inlet line (Poplar). The insurance adjuster makes the decision as to how much of the damage was caused by the cracked pipe and how much is due to past problems. After we fix the storm water problems, if she feels she has a claim, she needs to contact our insurance. Mike said B-Dry and a French drain are basically the same thing, and if the property owner wants that, it is up to them to install it. It is not the City's responsibility.
- 202/204 Winn Avenue – This is the corner of Mutual and Winn Avenues, and it is owned by Robert Shearer. He wanted to build multistory apartments, but Randy Whisman said he could not build what he wants. Shanda suggested the City buy it from Mr. Shearer and call it a stormwater project and sow grass and plant a tree. The problem would be we would have to maintain the property. Mike suggested that this would be a good place for a Boxvana house. Tom Miles needs to get with Robert and see if they can work something out.
- Vaught Road – We were approved for a full application for the Vaught Road project, and we will put this before the Commission on January 19<sup>th</sup>. They want us not to start anything until January 2022. Funds do not expire for three years. It would be better to start an earthwork project in July. This would not interfere with the children being back in school.

**FRONTIER WAY** – The guardrail at this turn in between General Dynamics and Lowe's was fixed and has already been destroyed again in less than a month. Daron would like ask Palmer Engineering to get us an estimate so we can either use some money we have this year or budget for next year. The radius of the turn is too sharp for a truck if there is someone sitting in the lefthand turn lane. Trucks slip off the road due to the road failure and then they just push the gas to it and take out the guardrail.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Sidewalk Repairs – Shanda called the concrete people that Pat had recommended and is having no luck finding someone who is willing to do small sidewalk projects for individuals. Pat said he would see if any of the Public Works employees are interested in doing these jobs.
- 115 East Lexington Avenue – Will be in the paper on Friday for demolition.
- Dubuy Drive – Mayday-Hanna has been served a subpoena to be at the Administrative Hearing Board meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup>. This is the time to clean up this mess. The quote is for approximately \$8,900.

**ADJOURN** – JoEllen made a motion to adjourn; Kitty seconded. Meeting was adjourned.