

MINUTES

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

MARCH 1, 2021

Attendees:

Daron Stephens, Engineer
Kitty Strode, City Commissioner
Mike Flynn, City Manager
Dianna Layne, Deputy City Clerk

Pat Clark, Public Works Director
JoEllen Reed, City Commissioner
Shanda Cecil, Planning Department

NEXT MEETING - April's meeting will be Monday, **April 5, 9:30 AM, in the Commission Chambers.**

MINUTES – The minutes of the February 1, 2021 meeting were submitted. Shanda made a motion to approve; Kitty seconded. Minutes were approved.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING MARCH 8, 2021 – The Mayor added Mike and Daron to this meeting, which is for Districts 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. They discuss upcoming projects. The current agenda includes 7th Street and the Bypass extension. It did not include the Fulton Road extension, where we have just completed the right-of-way acquisitions and are currently working on permitting requirements.

MAIN STREET SIDEWALKS – There is an issue with the East Lexington Avenue ramp where the crosswalk is located. Water comes down the curb and gathers in the corner. It is a problem with design. Daron and Brian talked about cutting in a channel drain. Dianna will submit a work order for Public Works and Daron to come up with a fix. Daron will present the 2021 Sidewalk Program at the next commission meeting for approval. After that, Daron can tweak the sidewalk program bid specs and get it out to bid prior to the budget process.

LINCOLN STREET DEVELOPMENT – All except one set of the underground conduits are in. They ran into complications where the two storm boxes are located. Integrated came up with a plan and Allen Company is working on any pricing changes. The existing box culvert will be removed. They attempted to put the sanitary sewer in on Flanagan but the water line is lower than what WMU was showing so they had to stop and recast the manholes. After the manholes are finished, they can dig Flanagan back up and install the sewer. We have approximately \$29,000 left after changes, which includes \$9,000 for temporary sidewalk and driveway connections on the east side. Allen Company has been granted 8 weather days so far, and an additional 8 days as part of field order #1. They hope to finish the underground electric, cable and phone conduits today. Then they will be gone for 1-2 weeks while they wait for the manholes to arrive. The overall project schedule shows them being done July 6th. Allen Company's current schedule puts them being done June 4th.

STORM WATER ISSUES

- **Royal Oaks** – Once the materials arrive, Public Works will schedule the work. Daron has been working with the Fire Department to get the debris removed under Royal Oaks Drive. Mike asked Daron to include him on the next email to see if we can't get this expedited.

- **Vaught Road** – We are just waiting for approval to see if we will receive the grant. Everything has been submitted.

PLANTATIONS DRIVE COBBLESTONE – The cobblestone at the front entrance has settled, and Ramsey on behalf of the HOA has requested the City to look at removing the cobblestone and laying down asphalt. Pat will look at it and determine if it is in disrepair and what, if anything, we need to do.

CROSSWALK AT CHURCH ALLEY – JoEllen received a request from Robert Pritchett to install a crosswalk from Wildcat Willie’s to Bargains on Broadway. In view of the State’s position on mid-block crosswalks, the committee decided to hold off until we see exactly what the State does this spring/summer regarding removal of some of the Main Street crosswalks. They may require a bump out to be installed, which would eliminate parking places. Mike volunteered to call Robert and let him know the plan.

CHILD AT PLAY SIGN REQUEST – Harriet King has twice requested a “Child at Play” sign on Ashland Avenue. She is raising a handicapped child. The issue is that MUTCD prohibits this type of sign. It becomes a liability issue if the City installs it. It was suggested that Ms. King call SAF-TI-CO and have a sign made. Possibly the Work Camp youth could install the sign in Ms. King’s yard. Daron is going to look at possible sign solutions for this issue.

BRIDGES (MLK & Jackson Street) – We were working on the MLK bridge when COVID hit and we stopped the project. These bridges need to be sandblasted, painted and they need some decking repair. Pat suggested doing away with the Jackson Street bridge since the railroad is no longer active. We will focus on getting MLK done and develop a plan for Jackson Street. We need to determine who actually owns the Jackson Street bridge. If the repairs exceed \$30,000, then we must bid engineering services for the project.

ENGINEERING SERVICES – Mike said we should have an engineering services agreement with all of the engineers that we want to work with and then we would just have to issue work orders under the engineering agreements. First you have to do a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), and the approved companies go on work orders. We will move forward with this idea later in the month.

CURB REPLACEMENTS – Mike has Pat and Daron working on a list of State roads that need curb replacements. We are hoping the State will kick in some money to help. Next step is to submit the list to the State. Pat mentioned that the money for curb replacements used to come from LGEA funds, which is the same place for the transit system funds. In recent years, the funds have just not been there for curb replacements.

FINANCIAL PLANNING – Mike said we need to have monies set aside to work on several issues -- replacement programs, vehicle purchases, etc. If a purchase is less than \$500,000, we should be paying cash and quit putting purchases on credit. Beginning this budget cycle, we need to set aside some accounts to make purchases by cash. It is painful for the first few years but pays off in long-term benefits.

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