

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING HELD AT GREENFIELD CITY HALL, COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 100, ON TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2014 AT 6:30 P.M.

1. Ald. Lubotsky called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Meeting called to order

Roll Call: Ald. Pam Akers Present
Ald. Bruce Bailey Present
Mr. Richard Kasza Present
Ald. Linda Lubotsky Present
Mr. Richard Mrochinski Present
Atty Roger Pyzyk Excused

Also Present: Mr. Richard Sokol, Director of Neighborhood Services
Mr. Dan Ewert, Superintendent Public Works
Mr. Jeff Katz, City Engineer

2. Approval of the June 24, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the 6/24/14 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Kasza, seconded by Ald. Akers to approve the June 24, 2014 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously

3. Citizen Commentary

Citizen Commentary

Joyline Hornburg of 5240 South Honey Creek Drive commented that she polled all 37 residents between West Grange Avenue and West Edgerton Avenue on South Honey Creek Drive and 31 people were against sidewalks, 2 for sidewalks and 4 no contacts. Ms. Hornburg wants to be sure she is presenting the residents' concerns to the correct forum. Mr. Sokol stated that the staff is planning to bring the matter up to this Board of Public Works one month from now.

Greg Kurzynski of 3732 West Howard Avenue asked to reregister his concerns about the calming circle on West Howard Avenue. Mr. Kurzynski wonders why there is such a concern for this small stretch of road when there is an apartment complex on the other side of Zablocki park with a 40 mph zone where people cross consistently with no traffic calming device in place.

4. Director of Neighborhood Services Report

Director of Neighborhood Services Report

Mr. Sokol noted that his work has been dominated by Economic Development issues. There are new economic development opportunities coming to Greenfield and staff is spending a good deal of effort trying to make the most of those opportunities. Hopefully we will be able to announce some of those in the months ahead. The Community Development Authority is meeting on July 29th to review some of these opportunities. Other work has involved street construction issues and the 2015 budget.

5. Superintendent of Public Works Report

Superintendent of Public Works Report

Mr. Ewert stated Public Works has been busy the last month on several projects. Two big asphalt patching projects one at South 46th Street and West Morgan Avenue, the other near South 43rd Street on West Edgerton Avenue.

Public Works has added a dumpster pad and enclosure to the Community Center to bring the building up to our current city codes as well as rebuilding the enclosure for City Hall.

At City Hall a new concrete service walk was installed and the stairway mud jacked to make it level again. New lights for the parking lot are underway; four new bases were poured today. When the new parking lot light poles and fixtures come in, we will be ready to put them up when the resurfacing is complete. There will also be three new lights going in around the City Hall complex at each entrance.

There is a street light project starting soon at South 51st Street north of West Edgerton Avenue. In the next week or two a few ditching and culvert pipe projects will be starting. Crews have rebuilt 28 catch basins along with curb and gutter repair and some sidewalk repair as well as continuing asphalt patching around the city to try to alleviate some of the pot hole problems created this past winter.

6. City Engineer Report

City Engineer Report

Mr. Katz advised that the city is right in the middle of the construction season and staff is doing their best to keep the projects moving. Roads in front of both high schools and near Maple Grove School on West Bottsford Avenue are also under construction. The work at South 67th Street and West Holmes Avenue is wrapping up. At South 122nd Street and West Carpenter Avenue curb and gutter will be installed next week.

Last week Engineering had a Public Information Meeting for the installation of sidewalks at various locations throughout the city. The public meeting was very well attended and we received a lot of comments from residents.

7. Discussion and decision regarding the traffic circle on West Howard Avenue and its effects on the homes in the area. (Lubotsky) (BPW 5/17/14, TSWG 5/6/14, BPW 4/22/14)

Traffic Circle on West Howard Avenue. COMMON COUNCIL

Mr. Katz mentioned that at past Board of Public Works meetings the Board has discussed the traffic calming on West Howard Avenue near Zablocki park and also talked about the condition of the road and how much worse it has become over the past winter. Staff is looking to do some reconstruction on that section of West Howard Avenue. Typically what is done for a road like this is a rubbleize and overlay including the parking lanes and that is what we are calling our medium cost option. As part of the project the temporary traffic calming circle would be removed. Alternatives to the calming circle could be a permanent solar LED radar speed sign, a permanent traffic circle, a speed table, curb bump outs or a raised intersection.

Mr. Sokol commented that the traffic circle that was installed on West Howard Avenue last year was an inexpensive model and was not very sophisticated. If it were to be maintained at that location or some other location in the city it should be engineered a bit more effectively and be hopefully less of a burden on the adjoining properties. Right now the goal is to have a project budgeted for 2015 to fix West Howard Avenue and incorporate a traffic calming technique into that design for next year.

A neighbor submitted a suggestion for angle parking along the south side of Howard Avenue. Mr. Katz noted that while angle parking could be used to add parking in the area, angle parking is considered unsafe; in fact if we had a project with state funding they would absolutely not fund it. If you angle park, especially on a busy road like West Howard Avenue, when you leave you would back out into traffic. Another issue is if people are going to have a picnic at the park they are probably going to keep chairs and coolers in their trunk which means they will

be standing in or near the traffic lane when they unload and load. An additional concern would be the cost of additional curb and gutter and drainage and utility issues.

Mr. Sokol stated that staff is looking for two suggestions or recommendations from the Board of Public Works; what should be done with the traffic circle and then what to do with the road next year with regard to West Howard Avenue.

It was moved by Mr. Kasza, seconded by Ald. Akers to remove the temporary traffic calming device on West Howard Avenue in 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Ald. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve the medium cost construction of resurfacing including parking lanes of West Howard Avenue in 2015 and to pick a traffic calming alternative to be presented at a subsequent meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Discussion and decision regarding ground water investigation in the 10800 block of West Cold Spring Road. (Katz)

**Ground Water
Investigation 10800
West Cold Spring Road
NEXT AGENDA**

Mr. Katz stated that in order to respond to the concerns of residents on West Cold Spring Road who have expressed issues with their sump pumps running and other water related issues, the city hired Kapur and Associates to do a brief review of the development of the Greenfield Highlands.

Aaron Groh of Kapur and Associates advised the Board that he was asked to look at the Greenfield Highlands design constraints and make sure that everything was performed correctly from a design standpoint and also visit the site itself to see if there were any issues going on post construction. The design has met standards to code in 2007 when it was originally developed. There were no issues with design.

When the site was walked it was found that the water levels of the ponds are exhibiting low water surface elevations and in addition there is quite a bit of additional vegetation, weed growth and algae growth that is not typical. Some additional maintenance should occur. Also noted is a lack of water surface elevation and a lack of depth which means there is some additional sedimentation in the bottom of the ponds that is making the ponds shallow. Currently the ponds are not performing to DNR standards.

Mr. Groh stated that a few additional reports have been requested from the developer which would include geo-technical investigations, yearly inspection reports and any site reviews which should have been done when there are major storms. These additional records might indicate some issues that could potentially be going on with the pond.

Alicia Hurst representing Greenfield Highlands LLC and working for Ener-Con Companies noted that Lakeland Biologists (the new pond company working on the site) has applied with the DNR for a permit to come out and treat nuisance aquatic plants. The company will be doing additional soil borings this season to find out what might be beneath the 5' of clay and if anything did shift.

Paul Imig with the Sigma group, the design engineers for the project, stated that prior to construction a geo technical investigation was done to determine soils and a geo technical engineer was present during construction to verify that the clay liner to be installed with the pond was installed to the proper thickness and compaction. As Alicia mentioned in addition to the clay liner the existing material that underlays that pond is also clay so it's not just the 1' clay liner that was designed it's actually additional clay beyond that depth.

Mr. Sokol reiterated a conversation from last month with the City Attorney that we have a Developer's Agreement with Greenfield Highlands and that agreement says that the developer will maintain the ponds. Based upon that clause it is appropriate for the city to continue its dialogue with the Greenfield Highlands who have been cooperative over the last month to help reach a conclusion as to what might be going on and find an appropriate resolution.

Tom Pietrowski of 4801 South 94th Street stated he was happy to see this item getting some traction after many years of bringing this up to staff. At the December 3, 2014 Common Council meeting the Council approved an amendment of the PUD subject to Plan Commission and staff comments and comments contained in the public hearing concerning the groundwater issues and the ponds on the north end of the property. Mr. Pietrowski said that the developer received their approval and they are building these buildings and hopes that the city holds them to the conditions of that approval.

James Lach of 10830 West Cold Spring Road noted that he has been battling this situation for eight years and the water problem is under ground. Mr. Lach is concerned that after all these years of his sump pump constantly going on and off and the water going underneath the foundation of the house, who will be responsible when the 70 year old house falls or caves in.

Gary Weishar of 10907 West Cold Spring Road asked if the people who buy these units are going to be told they are liable for the ponds and that they are going to have to take care of them?

Mr. Katz stated that he believes the responsibilities are transferred from the developer to the association.

Kent Bieganski of 10906 West Cold Spring Road commented that the report notes two sightings of DNR regulations that are not being maintained therefore, who is inevitably responsible for making sure that they are being maintained to those standards? Is it the city, is it the DNR or is it the developer?

Mr. Sokol stated that is a legal question. As stated earlier tonight, the City of Greenfield has a contract, a Developer's Agreement, with the developer to make sure that the ponds are maintained. Based on that contract, the city did what it did over the last month.

As more information is obtained staff will report back to the Board.

9. **Discussion and decision regarding a request to construct a slab/shed up to 5 feet into a 10 foot Permanent Storm Sewer and Drainage Easement in rear yard of Neal and Shannon Verdegan, 4242 South 95th Street, Tax Key No. 568-8957-002. (Engineering)**

**Construct a Slab/Shed
in Permanent Storm
Sewer Easement at
4242 S 92nd Street.
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Sokol stated that frequently staff receives requests from residents who would like to make improvements to their property but the city owns an easement. This is another situation where there is a city easement in the way of a concrete slab that the property owner would like to build and we have drafted our standard agreement which again says that if the city needs to use its easement rights to remove the slab then it will not replace it. Staff recommends approval.

It was moved by Ald. Lubotsky, seconded by Ald. Akers to approve the said agreement with Neal and Shannon Verdegan, 4242 South 95th Street, Tax Key No. 568-8957-002 to permit a private concrete slab/shed to be installed up to 5' into a Permanent 10' city storm sewer drainage easement subject to normal building inspection permit requirements. Motion carried unanimously

10. Discussion and decision regarding a request to construct a fence in Permanent Storm Sewer and Drainage Easements in rear yard of Mohammad Kharbat and Lina Bahhur, 3940 West Kimberly Avenue, Tax Key No. 692-1239. (Engineering)

**Construct a Fence in a Permanent Storm Sewer Easement at 3940 W Kimberly Ave.
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Sokol noted that this is a similar situation except the concrete pad is now replaced by a fence. Staff also recommends that the same standard agreement apply in this case and the fence be allowed and if the city ever has to use its easements rights the fence would be removed and replaced at the homeowners expense.

It was moved by Ald. Akers, seconded by Ald. Bailey to approve the said agreement with Mohammad Kharbat and Lina Bahhur, 3940 West Kimberly Avenue, Tax Key No. 692-1239 to permit construction of a fence in a Permanent Storm Sewer Drainage Easement subject to normal building inspection permit requirements. Motion carried unanimously

11. Discussion and decision regarding snow removal policy. (Engineering) (BPW 6/24/14)

**Snow Removal Policy
COMMON COUNCIL**

Mr. Sokol stated that last month the Board talked about the idea of creating a snow removal map that would be reviewed and updated annually. A color coded map was provided showing sidewalks adjacent to public areas and areas over highway bridges that the City of Greenfield is responsible for. For the 2014/2015 snow season staff is suggesting that this map be adopted. This is exactly the same map that DPW used last year so there would be nothing added for the next season. However in the future, we can make adjustments and update the map as our snow removal policy changes from year to year

It was moved by Ald. Akers, seconded by Mr. Kasza to approve the snow removal map as presented for the 2014/2015 snow season. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Other topics for future agendas

Other Topics for Future Agendas

The 7-year CIP

Parking signs on South 43rd Street, north of West Loomis Road (on the south side).

13. Adjournment

Meeting Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Kasza, seconded by Ald. Bailey to adjourn the Board of Public Works meeting at 7:48 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Young
Administrative Assistant
Department of Neighborhood Services

Date distributed: August 11, 2014