

MEETING MINUTES  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE  
MEETING ROOM A  
FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
MAY 18, 2015

The Public Works Committee Meeting of Monday, May 18, 2015, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A of the Fairview Heights Municipal Complex. Those in attendance were Public Works Committee Chairman Dennis Baricevic, Aldermen Pat Baeske, Roger Lowry, and Harry Zimmerman (7:20 p.m.) of the Committee, Aldermen Bill Poletti and Brenda Wagner (7:12 p.m.), staff members City Administrator Jim Snider, Public Works Director John Harty, and Jill Huffman, and guests.

Chairman Baricevic announced internal staff changes in the Public Works Department, that is, John Harty named as the Public Works Director and Chris Volkman as the City Engineer, and introduced aldermen and staff present at the meeting.

ITEMS REPORTED:

- 1) APPROVE MINUTES: Minutes were approved as submitted.
- 2) CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None
- 3) FOX CREEK DRAINAGE STUDY: A condensed version of the engineer's study was distributed and will be posted on the City's website on Tuesday. An informational open-type meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, in the Recreation Center, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Questions may be submitted on the website, asked at the informational meeting, or forwarded to Alderman Poletti.

The condensed version of the study was discussed with blue ink representing staff's understanding of the consultant's observations and recommendations. Page 8 shows project cost from \$350,000 to \$500,000. Approximately \$700,000 has been budgeted by the City in the Storm Water Program for the current fiscal year of which \$500,000 has been earmarked for Fox Creek. Construction will begin next year. The design engineering will most likely take until mid-fall of this year and it will be bid for construction in 2016 for construction to occur during appropriate weather conditions. Discussion ensued regarding the scheduling of the design and construction, and the budgeting of \$700,000 for the project.

The Director of Public Works reviewed the study with the following explanations bulleted:

- The 42-inch pipe which runs underneath and parallel to Northwestern to the north and northeast is undersized. Add approximately 700 feet of 48-inch pipe, which has more capacity, parallel to the existing pipe underneath Northwestern and run south and east to Old Collinsville Road. The existing 42-inch pipe and road elevation will function and remain as is. Staff will review directional boring which will result in minimizing construction in residents' yards.
- The southern channel and detention basin at DePaul and Clemson will be reviewed and modified to alleviate some of the flow through the channel in backyards.

Resident stated that, initially, there was a detention basin between DePaul and Northwestern with a couple of pipes through the basin. The properties to the west of that area, according to the developer's map, were listed as a detention basin. Resident questioned if that changed. Staff replied that they would need to review the plat. Resident stated that before the south side (new section) was developed, there was quite a bit of drainage coming through that area. On the downstream side the flow was restricted. Resident believes the developer removed the restrictors from the two pipes and prevented the detention basin from being used as its original purpose which would have prevented the amount of water flow downstream. The plats of the properties to the west showed where the detention area was to be. This area currently has vegetation that is not maintained. Resident stated that this is not addressed in the engineer's study. Staff will review this matter with the engineer and will provide an answer at the May 28 public informational meeting.

- At the northern channel behind Stanford and Tulane, there is some overgrowth which needs to be cleared so as not to restrict the free flow of water through the area.

Resident stated water flows to reach the northern channel and as the stream takes turns it is eroding the area on opposite banks. This area is located behind Northwestern and Stanford. A storm sewer comes off Northwestern, is paved, with highway cores along the bed of the stream upstream. The highway cores are being thrown into the creek. Staff will also review this matter with the engineer and have an answer for the May 28 public informational meeting.

Discussed drainage and utility easements in the backyards of the residents of Fox Creek and that property owners are responsible for maintenance of these easements. Easement information will be identified before the project proceeds.

- Further discussed that the solution to the Northwestern sag flooding is made up of two elements: installation of the Major Relief Storm Sewer, and modification of the southern detention basin between DePaul and the church.
- Discussed that the practical alternative is installing the new 48-inch pipe as the existing pipe remains in place to handle rains events during construction, minimizing damage to existing infrastructure including residents' yards/driveways, and resulting in less utility conflicts.
- Top priority will be the consideration of flooding adjacent neighbors to the southern detention basin during engineering. Review may include regrading, more volume, restriction, discussion with adjoining church, future development, and discussion with St. Clair County for a possible detention basin to slow flow from the south.
- Discussed construction of a concrete structure in front of the outfall pipe from the DePaul detention basin. This structure will allow low impact rain events to flow through and enter the pipe and then as more significant rainfall events occur, the water will rise on the side of the wall spreading out in the detention basin utilizing more of its existing volume to a point that it will spill into the fully opened pipe. Grading will be required in the basin to achieve a more positive slope and volume in the area. This will help with the flooding in the northern channel.

- Discussed defining a swale in the southern and northern channels. Basically, the water would flow in a predictable channel, except in a significant rainfall event when water would flow out of the defined area.
- Staff intends to submit the engineering proposal to the Public Works Committee at its June 3 meeting and forward a resolution to the City Council on June 16 to hire the engineering consultant to start approximately July 1. The consultant will begin with utility coordination and survey work. They will need to do a parcel search on each piece of property affected. Concurrent with the parcel search will be engineering the design. The final step will be the review of the plans and specifications by the City, County, and Village of Swansea. Anticipate completion of plans and specifications early November, 2015 and request permission by City Council to bid. Tentative construction completion is Labor Day, 2016.

Resident commented she hopes the City is sincere in this project and that the residents have been patient for a number of years.

Chairman Baricevic stressed that the City is at the mercy of the utility companies. Also, the City may require some permanent easements. Until the City obtains everything it needs for the project, construction will not begin.

Chairman Baricevic discussed that the May 28 informational meeting will be set up with four identical stations and that three of the stations will be manned by the City's engineers and consultant.

4) SURPLUS VEHICLES: Two bids were received for the three Ford Crown Victoria vehicles. Alderman Lowry made a motion to accept the bids for the three vehicles from Michael Harter and forward to City Council for approval; seconded by Alderman Baeske. Discussion: This process rids the City of fleet no longer useful to the City. Motion carried, 3 – 0.

5) PROJECT UPDATES:

A) IL 159 / I-64 Enhancement Project – The contractor is currently regrading slopes, adding topsoil and reseeding, and assessing and replanting perennials and shrubs as necessary. The contractor has started mowing and weeding which remains under his contract.

B) Richmond Drive – The bridge structure is 95 percent complete, lacking the installation of the bridge railing. Ameren is in the third week of relocation of utilities. When back on site, the contractor will have approximately a month's worth of work with storm sewer, curb, gutter, and pavement.

C) Greenridge Heights Road – Staff conducted a final inspection and will consult with the contractor regarding the schedule to complete punch list items.

Discussed the problem of contractors for commercial properties, as well as residents, putting grass clippings into the street and leaves and gum balls into the ditches, and that perhaps the City should initiate an ordinance prohibiting this practice.

D) Perrin Road – Storm sewer installation began May 13. Because of utility conflicts, installation may take three weeks to complete. Thereafter, excavation, installation of curb, gutter, and pavement will occur. Residents were contacted of the progress of the project.

- E) City Hall Front Entrance – The project will not start until a delivery date is determined for the project's handrail.
- F) South Road – This is a difficult storm sewer job on the west side of the City with installation of storm sewer at a 3:1 slope. Most of the work has been done by the City's street crew, however, the remainder of the work is out of the City's scope to install, therefore, staff has recently solicited bids from three contractors who have the means to perform the work. This work should begin in a month.
- G) Lincoln Trail Sidewalks – Plans and specifications have been received and reviewed by the City. The project will be bid in early June.

Chairman Baricevic adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

  
Dennis Baricevic, Chairman  
Public Works Committee

DB/jmh