

**STREETS AND SANITATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

*October 11, 2010
6:30 p.m.*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Soeldner
Jason Sladky
Allan Schema
Jim Brey

STAFF PRESENT

Valerie Mellon
Greg Minikel
Sonja Birr
Randy Junk

OTHERS

Shirley Taylor
Tony Hoffman
Claire Olson
Michael Check

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

Approval of the Minutes from 9/13/10

A. Schema made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2010 meeting. J. Sladky seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, no further discussion.

Beaupre Court

Mr. Tony Hoffman was present to discuss his property on Beaupre Court. His tenant is having a difficult time backing out of the driveway and he is requesting the City widen the area to allow more area for his tenant to back out of the driveway.

G. Minikel said that we could simply remove the fence, brush and extend curb line by approximately 25 feet. An estimate for the work which includes about 2 days of labor and equipment cost is approximately \$3,000.

R. Junk said they could possibly squeeze the work in this year after leaves and prior to snow or wait until next Spring.

J. Sladky made a motion to allow the City to cover labor of this project and Tony Hoffman to pay the cost of the material (gravel). J. Brey seconded the motion.

J. Brey requested an agreement be drafted by the City Attorney to have Mr. Tony Hoffman sign.

The Committee recommended for Greg to meet with Mr. Hoffman to determine the area. They recommend only an area to allow the tenant enough room to back out.

All in favor, D. Soeldner explained that as long as City and Mr. Hoffman are in agreement no further discussion needs to take place with the Streets Committee.

Request from Roorbachs for Angle Parking on S. 29th Street

D. Soeldner reported the strong hesitation coming from the Engineering Dept. to put back angle parking at Roorbachs. Photos were distributed to the Committee that showed what parking would look like and how the sidewalk would become parking area for these couple of months.

J. Brey has reservations about what is proposed.

A. Schema suggested installing a series of temporary posts and chain in order to keep vehicles from parking on an angle after the busy months.

V. Mellon recommended that if the Committee believes the business was harmed, that instead of reconstructing the street that we just give Claire Olson a payout to upgrade her building to make better use of her existing parking lot and even a better flow around the back of the building. J. Brey didn't like that idea.

D. Soeldner thought that we were making too big of an issue for what it really is. He doesn't want to over complicate this and doesn't see a real danger with the angle parking and doesn't have a problem with leaving it all year.

J. Sladky doesn't like the angle parking. He doesn't believe temporary parking will work in this area.

Claire Olson doesn't want a new solution. She wants back what was taken from her - angle parking. She stated many times it is the "perception" of the shoppers to be able to park and see the entrance to the store.

A. Schema asked about a temporary drive-thru. Claire thought this might work for some customers but would also result in a loss of 2 parking spots and a display area.

J. Brey questioned if DPW did the work how much would Claire Olson be willing to pay? Claire asked if it could be put on the 5-year plan. She will not be able to immediately come up with lump sum, but could pay some amount off over a period of time.

Claire said she would determine what amount she would be willing to pay by the next meeting. The Committee decided to wait to hear from Claire.

Randy Junk explained the layout to Claire Olson as she was confused to the design that is being proposed. She was unaware of losing the sidewalk for these couple months. J. Sladky recommended that Randy meet with Claire at Roorbach's to lay this out for a better understanding.

Future Proposed Special Events Request for the Turkey Trot Sponsored by Festival Foods to Discuss Route

Two drawings were submitted for the upcoming Festival Foods Annual Turkey Trot. One route is for the 2 mile race and a separate route is for the 5 mile race. The cost estimate for traffic control for this race is \$1500 which Festival has agreed to pay and Festival has already rented the JFK at Lincoln for staging areas prior to and after the race.

V. Mellon explained that the problem we are having is with the 5 mile route. Festival is requesting to close down S. 10th Street (Grand - Silver Creek Rd) during the race. The northernly piece of S. 10th Street is State Highway. A State Highway can only be closed for a high volume of spectators, such as a parade. South of Viebahn is County Jurisdiction.

The Committee is not comfortable with closing S. 10th Street or blocking off homes (neighborhoods) on Thanksgiving morning.

D. Soeldner recommended giving them a list of streets that they cannot use and a list of conditions and let them come up with an alternative route. He said he feels comfortable to allow R. Junk the authority to determine the route and conditions with Festival Foods.

Refilling DPW Laborer Positions

R. Junk is bringing back this issue before the Committee from a June meeting. He also informed the Committee that there is a 2nd employee that will be retiring at the end of October.

If these positions are not filled it will affect snow plow operations. City parking lots will need to be plowed the second day after the storm. Currently, they are plowed by 7:00 a.m. Trampled snow is harder to clean up, but this is the only area that can be cut because State Statutes require roads to be plowed. Also, next spring and summer operations will be affected, but he hasn't started to think about specific details about how crews will be reassigned. In general though, the concrete and asphalt patch crews will be cut first.

R. Junk said that Lulloff's sold their trucks that hauled the snow from downtown. This will hurt us as Vinton's trucks went up in cost and other companies are less dependable.

The bottom line is men are needed for the winter months.

V. Mellon said that over 50% of the crew has a lot of seniority and therefore a lot of vacation time. Vacations are denied in the winter and this causes problems in the summer months when so many union workers are off at one time.

J. Sladky recommended establishing a better system for granting vacations by not allowing so many off at once. He asked if the Parks Dept can help DPW clean the City lots. He would like to see cooperation throughout the City. We also need to prioritize the lots.

A. Schema agreed with J. Sladky.

J. Brey questioned that since the first vacancy in June, what work was not accomplished? R. Junk said it was mostly concrete slab patching and curbing and there has been a lot of shuffling and resulting inefficiency of crews.

D. Soeldner recommended setting up a vacation policy. Allowing the Parks and DPW to work together should also be explored. He would like to see this work.

R. Junk explained that this avenue can be looked into, however, everything comes at a cost. If the Parks were to help DPW plow parking lots, the parks wouldn't be plowed. Due to labor policy and prior AFSCME/Teamster Agreements, Parks and DPW can't use each other's equipment. He explained that he is down to crunch time for making assignments for winter plowing operations as the operators get to pick their equipment for the winter. This is critical for preparing the snow books.

J. Brey would like to know what the Mayor's budget will be, even to approve one position.

D. Soeldner suggested after the budget is approved and a Parks Director is hired, we could re-visit this issue.

The Committee understands that R. Junk is running into crunch time; however, there was not a motion made to fill the position. J. Brey would like discussions to take place right away to determine how Parks and DPW can work together to plow the City lots.

Val will set up meeting with Randy, Jeremy and the Mayor to discuss these options and report back to the Committee with results.

R. Junk reiterated that the crews do take snow plowing seriously. All vacations are cancelled out when plowing has to take place and there has never been a problem with this.

Discussion and Update on Stormwater Pond Maintenance Fees

J. Sladky explained that a meeting was held 2 weeks ago with G. Minikel, Michael Check, Attorney Fox, and Dan Wergin to discuss the fee for the City to take over the ownership of Stormwater ponds. The fee that was discussed was \$1/sf of the pond's permanent pool area. It was also suggested that this amount would not be required until the lot sells, or that if required immediately then the payments be spread out for a long period of time.

G. Minikel explained that the \$1 was determined as a starting point. Legal documents will need to be attached to the lot so we would be aware when a lot does sell. G. Minikel also stated that Ordinances would need to be revised accordingly.

Michael Check will get together with developers and have another meeting. By the end of the month he would like to get together with the 3 on 3 sub-committee to continue the discussions. He would like to get a cost breakdown how we came up with this amount.

D. Soeldner said that the 3 on 3 sub-committee was formed to determine these issues and come up with an agreement. G. Minikel repeated the various factors that were identified and variables involved in determining how much maintenance cost might be involved over the next 20 year life of the ponds. D. Soeldner summarized that a lot of avenues were explored and the Committee is generally in favor of the City taking over the ponds, but at some point an agreement of the fee needs to be determined.

Michael Check will set up meeting date of either October 21st or October 26th at 6:00 p.m. and inform Sonja Birr to send out e-mail.

Discussion regarding Drainage Concerns off of S. 10th & Viebahn Street

V. Mellon updated Committee from last meeting. The street water is not jumping over the curb. There is plenty of vertical drop along the curb line to insure the drainage is getting to the inlet at the corner. Alderman Schema also looked and didn't see a problem.

Calvary Cemetery Driveway at 10th & Viebahn Street

G. Minikel explained that the Calvary would like the City to tear out the pavement that was put in and topsoil and seed. G. Minikel explained the City also prefers this since we do not want a 5-legged intersection.

J. Sladky is not in favor of tearing out pavement. G. Minikel believed the Cemetery also wants this in order to sell more lots.

V. Mellon explained that we didn't know that this was an access road. We thought it was just used occasionally by Cemetery maintenance operations. In any case, we want it blocked off or at least relocated away from the intersection for safety reasons.

J. Brey questioned how much it would cost to put back the driveway as it was. G. Minikel explained that reconstructing the intersection concrete would cost about the same as removing the driveway. J. Brey suggested paying the Calvary Cemetery since it was our mistake. D. Soeldner recommending restoring to the way it was and doesn't have a problem with the 5-legged intersection. After further discussion, D. Soeldner suggested offering the payout or putting driveway back in and if there were any problems, we can bring them back to the next meeting but left the negotiating with the Engineers and the Calvary.

*J. Sladky made the Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.
N. Levendusky seconded the motion.*



Valerie Mellon, P.E.
Director of Public Works
and City Engineer