



The City of Lee's Summit

Action Letter

Public Works Committee

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

5:00 PM

City Council Chambers

City Hall

220 SE Green Street

Lee's Summit, MO 64063

CALL TO ORDER

The April 26, 2017 Public Works Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Mosby, at 5:01 p.m. at City Hall, 220 SE Green Street, in the City Council Chambers. Notice had been provided by posting the meeting notice with a tentative agenda, at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, at both entrances to City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Chairperson Dave Mosby
Vice Chair Rob Binney
Councilmember Craig Faith
Councilmember Phyllis Edson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There was a consensus of the committee to switch items A and B, under the Business section of the agenda, to accommodate the public that was in attendance for the 5th St. Terrace Project discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ken Sessa addressed the Committee with his concerns regarding the 5th Street Terrace Project. He disagreed with Staff that a bridge would improve emergency response times by 45 seconds to anyone in the area. He added that speed humps would slow emergency vehicle speeds and not everyone in the area goes to Lee's Summit Medical Center. He requested an ambulance be added to Fire District #6 instead. He agreed that residents want better access to the school and park but the increase in traffic out warrants those benefits. He expressed his disappointment in the process, a good process includes public vetting and not dismissal of concerns. He said he had lost some trust in the process.

Ms. Amy Driver told the Committee that Lee's Summit Medical Center is a level 3 trauma center but has a good stroke center. It is important that treatment for a stroke be delivered within the first 60 minutes so an

increase in access time by 45 seconds is not worth the danger of increased traffic.

APPROVAL OF ACTION LETTER

- A. [2017-1054](#) Approval of the February 23, 2017 Action Letter

A motion was made by Vice Chair Binney, seconded by Councilmember Faith, that these Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous 4-0 vote.

Aye: 4 - Chairperson Mosby
Vice Chair Binney
Councilmember Faith
Councilmember Edson

BUSINESS

- B. [2017-1147](#) Discussion of 5th St. Terrace Project

Chairman Mosby asked for clarification of the reason that City Council sent this issue back to Committee. Councilmember Edson responded that it was her understanding that Mayor Pro Tem Binney requested to send it back to Committee to figure out how to unwind the project. Mayor Pro Tem Binney explained that it was sent back to Committee for discussion, and if it was decided to remove it from the CIP list, then several ordinances would be involved including the approval of the CIP list, the budget and any contracts that have been approved for projects on the list. Chairman Mosby clarified further that the task is to discuss it and determine if they want to send it back to City Council, remove it or modify it and send it back to City Council. Councilmember Faith added another option, to delay a decision for further review.

Chairman Mosby stated that due to the amount of people in attendance for the discussion, it is apparent that the residents most effected by the project don't want it. The additional information submitted wasn't sufficient to change his opinion on the subject. He then shared his position; an ambulance was moved from Fire District #6 to near the Airport making ambulance arrival times longer, during an emergency not everyone in the area would be headed to Lee's Summit Medical Center and only 6 or 7 houses on each side of the proposed bridge would be affected. He added that an option for the committee to consider is to work on adding a pedestrian bridge or to suggest that the Parks Department work on adding a pedestrian bridge since it would connect to their trail.

Councilmember Faith stated he thought more information is needed in order to make a decision.

Councilmember Edson asked Councilmember Faith what additional information he would like to see and how long would he like to postpone the discussion. Councilmember Faith answered that he has not had a

Public Works Committee

Action Letter

April 26, 2017

chance to see fair assessments on emergency response, specifically 2nd and 3rd alarm fires and police patrols. He agreed that traffic would be diverted from 7th Street and speed humps would slow response time. He ended by saying that the project had some merit at some point so he would like to give it a full vetting before moving forward.

Mr. Steve Arbo, City Manager, suggested that the Committee revisit the list of Capital Improvement projects to see if there are other projects that would have a higher priority at this time.

Ms. Dena Mezger, Director of Public Works, reminded the Committee that the money can only be spent on roads and bridges. Stormwater projects or a pedestrian bridge would not be eligible expenses from this fund.

Mayor Pro Tem Binney asked Ms. Mezger what the contract that has been let so far entails. She responded that the survey is complete. The preliminary design and hydraulics have not been started yet. Mayor Pro Tem Binney verified that the staff estimate for the project is approximately \$900,000.00 and Ms. Mezger explained that is a worst case scenario assuming that a bridge structure would have to be installed instead of a box culvert. Mayor Pro Tem Binney then asked if the contract that has been let for the project only includes survey work. Ms. Mezger stated that the design contract is for the entire design work that includes surveying, hydraulic analysis, permitting and the design of the final structure and crossing, it also includes a re-study of the flood plain upstream from the Langsford Road culvert near Carolina Court and through that area, from a different funding source, because that study was not completed and there is a need to see what can be done for some streets that flood. Mayor Pro Tem Binney asked if any part of the contract is voidable and what the cost is to the City. Ms. Nancy Yendes, Chief Council of Infrastructure and Planning, replied that the entire contract or parts of it can be voided at any time and the City pays for work that has been completed. Mayor Pro Tem Binney then asked what the shelf life is for a hydrology study. Ms. Mezger explained that because the study is to be performed in an area that is already developed, it should have a fairly long shelf life. The discussion turned to how to unwind the 5th St. Terrace Project.

Councilmember Edson asked if the funding could be used for curb projects. Ms. Mezger explained that over three million dollars of that fund have already been spent on curbs.

Councilmember Faith stated that plans are already underway to improve communication regarding projects like this but he wants to make sure that updates to this project are communicated to the residents that are affected in a timely matter.

Chairman Mosby asked Mr. Arbo how he would suggest to move forward at this point. Mr. Arbo responded that it would be more efficient to unwind this project and reassign the funding to another project at the same time.

A motion was made by Chairman Mosby, seconded by Councilmember Edson, to direct staff to bring back a list of the full scope of projects to the Public Works Committee meeting, May 16, 2017, so the Committee can determine if this project continues to be a priority on the list. The motion carried by a unanimous 4-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Mosby reopened the Public Comments section of the agenda and Mr. Dale Coy asked to be put on the record as saying that for almost the last four years he has been asking this Committee to move the City forward on a winter storm operations map and not much progress has been made toward his request.

Mr. Roy Musset asked when Hamel Heights will be getting their streets and curbs fixed. He stated that new areas have had street and curb work recently and he believes Hammel Heights is in worse condition. He also mentioned that Douglas needs curb work also.

A. [2017-1051](#) Stormwater User Fees Information

Ms. Dena Mezger, Director of Public Works, gave a brief overview of the previous discussions regarding Stormwater User Fees and how comparable cities in the area handle their user fees. More detailed information would require a rate study which will cost several hundred thousand dollars. This is a large investment without a guarantee of approval by the voters.

Councilmember Faith mentioned the programs to replace equipment and suggested beginning a program to replace storm drains. Ms. Mezger said that funding it without taking it from the General Fund is the issue.

Regarding the rate study, Chairman Mosby mentioned that the Reserve Fund (Emergency Fund) has been used for similar projects in the past.

Councilmember Edson asked how long it would take to get a program put before the voters. Ms. Mezger's response was 18-24 months.

Mayor Pro Tem Binney suggested communicating with the EDC and the Chamber, before beginning a rate study, to explain the process and expected outcome and see how they feel about it. He then reminded everyone that only a handful of specific projects will be fixed with this

Public Works Committee

Action Letter

April 26, 2017

funding, the program is intended to maintain the current public system. There are state rules and laws that say the City can't use public money to fix private issues.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Binney, second by Councilmember Edson, to recommend to City Council approving the stormwater goals and a level 2 response for maintenance and to direct the City Manager to initiate community discussions regarding a potential user fee to fund stormwater maintenance at level 2 prior to making the decision to fund a rate study. The motion carried by a unanimous 4-0 vote.

ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Dena Mezger, Director of Public Works announced Scott Edgar's retirement. His last day will be June 2.

Ms. Christal Weber announced RecycleFest will take place from 9 a.m. to noon on April 29, between City Hall and the parking garage.

ADJOURNMENT

The April 26, 2017, Public Works Committee meeting was adjourned by Chairman Mosby at 6:31 p.m. at City Hall, 220 Green Street, City Council Chamber.

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