

Meeting Minutes
Department of Public Works Committee Meeting
December 6, 2017 at 8:15am

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 am.

The following members were present

Mark Ratterman, Bob Watt, Clint Williams, Tim Kaufmann, Randy Parham and Ed Boyce.

Staff present

Anne Lamitola, Director of Public Works and Scot Bollinger, Public Works Superintendent.

Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Ratterman asked for a motion to approve the agenda; Mr. Williams made a motion to approve, Mr. Kaufmann seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

Approval of meeting minutes

Mr. Ratterman asked for a motion to approve the October 4, 2017 meeting minutes; Mr. Boyce made a motion to approve to minutes, Mr. Parham seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

Public Forum

Ellis Barnes- 6 Pebble Creek: Mr. Barnes addressed the Committee regarding creek erosion concerns at his residence. He stated that MSD was requiring a HEC2 study. He felt that his project was being held up by plan review. Ms. Lamitola stated that the review was not a Public Works review, it was a Building Department review that could only take place once MSD had approved the plan. Mr. Barnes stated that he would require 197 tons of rock for the project and he would be seeking reimbursement. Ms. Lamitola shared that there were some small project grant funding opportunities available through the City and that the project may be eligible. The applications were available to residents through the City's website.

Project Updates

Ms. Lamitola gave project updates on the following:

Lay Road Improvements

All required easements had been obtained from residents. The final plans were submitted to MoDOT for approval and were pending their review. Construction should begin in early 2018. An inter-governmental agreement would be executed with Richmond Heights because some of the improvements along Lay Rd. would be in the Richmond Heights right-of-way.

Storm Water Needs Program

There were three public meetings held regarding the Storm Water Master Plan. The top 8 projects were presented at the meetings. Of those 8 projects the City was working on obtaining "Letters of Intent" from impacted residents. They would need 100% participation to move forward into project design. The meetings had a good turn out and many of the trustees were very organized and motivated to help drum up interest from other neighbors. The next storm water committee meeting would take place January 12th at 8:00am in the Police Department conference room.

ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan

There was no new information from Oates and Associates. The City was still waiting on the cost estimates to bring non-compliant sidewalks and facilities into compliance. City staff also met with Paraquad to share the study's preliminary findings and to obtain feedback.

Emerald Ash Borer

Scot Bollinger addressed the invasive beetle, the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), that was killing trees in the St. Louis area. Other cities were developing plans to address the problem. One in three trees with Emerald Ash Borer will be dead within 3 years. It makes the tree very brittle which causes safety concerns. The options are to remove the trees or treat them for the remaining life of the tree, which is very expensive. A removal costs approximately \$800/tree. There are 95 impacted trees in public right-of-way or on public property, most of which are at the Edie's Mulch Site. The most concerning of the trees are those that overhang roads and City property. The Public Works Department budgets approximately \$20,000/year for tree removal which leaves some surplus of funds. That surplus could begin pay for tree removal as the budget allowed.

A discussion followed about impacted trees in a resident's yard. If a resident desired to keep the tree, they would incur the cost for the treatment. Information about Emerald Ash Borer was on the City website and would be in the upcoming newsletters. The impacted trees could be identified in spring and summer by the bark and leaves.

Mr. Ratterman made a motion to approve Mr. Bollinger's recommendation to move forward with tree removals as budget allowed. Mr. Boyce seconded the motion. All present voted "aye". This recommendation would be forwarded to the City Council.

Other Matters Deemed Appropriate

Mr. Ratterman asked for an update on MSD's sanitary improvement project entitled DC-02/DC03. Ms. Lamitola stated that the Phase II of the project was bid and that MSD is in the

process of contracting with the successful bidder. Some portions of the improvements were in Rock Hill, Brentwood, and Ladue. Phase III/IV will be entirely within Ladue and is still in the design process. Ms. Lamitola and Pete Merten attended a meeting regarding the projects and were discussing tree preservation. Tree preservation is not a high priority for MSD but the Deer Creek Watershed is looking into grant funding for tree protection. City staff were invited to view blasting at a location in Brentwood. MSD would like to do blasting in Ladue which would require the City to issue a Zoning approval letter as authorized by City Council.

Ms. Lamitola stated that leaf collection would wrap up in the new year. There was feedback received that the collection started too early and there was a late fall. Next year the Public Works Department would consider starting collection the third week of October and extending the collection schedule into January. The volume of the pickup in December was 75% of the overall pick up. The crews collect 17-18,000 cubic yards. The leaf crews will attempt to conduct a final sweep of the City, as weather allows. They must collect from approximately 3,000 homes. All Public Works members, excluding the mechanic, are on leaf duty and the City hires temporary workers for leaf season.

Ms. Lamitola addressed the outsourcing of Christmas light installation in the business district. This was the first year that the City outsourced the project. Adjustment will be made next year. Mr. Bollinger added that outsourcing the work was an effort to save funds. The Public Works Department had a retirement and were not planning to replace that position. City staff installing the lights utilized a significant number of man hours and required the rental of special equipment.

Beautify Ladue- Mr. Bommarito addressed the Committee. He stated that they have been invited by the Public Works Department to attend a planning meeting in January. They were fundraising for several new projects and were going to consider irrigation.

Mr. Parham asked about member reappointments with Mr. Watt no longer serving on the Committee. Ms. Lamitola stated that appointments were made by the Mayor, anyone with recommendations should send them to Mayor Spewak.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 7, 2018 at 8:15am.

Mr. Boyce made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Ratterman seconded the motion. All present voted "aye" and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00am.

Sincerely,



Mark Ratterman
Department of Public Works Committee