

DATE: August 23, 2006

TO: Michael G. Herring, CA

FROM: Brian McGownd, DDPW\ACE

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes, PW\Parks 9/26/01

A meeting of the Public Works/Parks Committee began at 5:37 p.m. on Wednesday, September 26, 2001. Councilmembers in attendance were Chairperson Barry Streeter (Ward 2), Mike Casey (Ward 3) and Barry Flachsbart (Ward 4). Also in attendance were Mayor John Nations, Councilmember Dan Hurt (Ward 3), Mike Herring – City Administrator, Mike Geisel - Director of Public Works\City Engineer, Brian McGownd - Deputy Director of Public Works\Assistant City Engineer and Darren Dunkle - Superintendent of Parks, Recreation and Arts. Several other people were in attendance. A copy of the attendance list is attached to these minutes.

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m.

Agenda Item #1: Councilmember Casey motioned to accept the meeting minutes of the PW\Parks Committee from August 8, 2001, as submitted. Councilmember Flachsbart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 3 - 0.

Agenda Item #2: Mr. Geisel summarized his report regarding the evaluation of Conway Road dated September 17, 2001. He concluded that Conway Road did not meet current, accepted design standards. Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Beach's legal opinion and the potential liability that the City would face if they took over Conway Road from St. Louis County. Mr. Geisel reminded the Committee that existing City policy states that a street must be brought up to City standards before the City would accept it. Discussion ensued regarding whether or not a precedent would be set if the City accepted a street that did not meet City standards, and how that might affect future requests. Councilmember Casey asked Mr. Geisel what was his recommendation. Mr. Geisel said that Conway Road did not meet City standards, and did not meet the City's policy requirements, therefore, he would recommend against accepting the road. After further discussion, Chairperson Streeter stated that the goal of the residents in the area appeared to be one of local control and not related to maintenance or design issues. They want the City to take over Conway Road so that decisions regarding the road, such as improvements, zoning, connecting to other roads, would be decided at a local level rather than by St. Louis County. Councilmember Flachsbart asked if the City took over the road, could the County gain back control in the future in order to allow connections to be made. Mr. Herring stated that the County could indeed gain back control of the road in the future if they so desired. Mayor Nations stated that he would like for the City to have control of Conway Road, but would also like for the City to develop a plan to address other roads in the City that are residential in nature but that are controlled by either the County or the State, such as, Ladue, White, Schoettler, Wildhorse Creek and Kehrs Mill. Chairperson Streeter invited members of the audience to share their thoughts with the Committee on this issue. Laura Lueking, Lynne Johnson, and a gentleman, who did not identify himself, all spoke in favor of the City taking over control of the road. They discussed the liability issue, informed the Committee that other municipalities in the area controlled portions of Conway Road that ran through their respective communities. Chairperson Streeter stated that there are basically three options: Do nothing, take over the road and do nothing to improve the road, and take over the road and bring it up to standards. Councilmember Casey stated that in his opinion, there is enough overwhelming evidence to convince him that the City should not take over Conway Road. After additional discussion, **Chairperson Streeter motioned to hold this item until the next meeting to allow viewing of**

the report by the interested public, to direct Staff to post the report on the City's web site and to make it available for viewing at City Hall. Councilmember Flachsbart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 3 – 0. Mr. Herring said that copies of Mr. Geisel's report would be made available at the front desk.

Agenda Item #7: Mr. Geisel stated that St. Louis County has proposed an improvement to White Road, north of Dungate, and had requested a letter of support from the City. He explained that the County was proposing a three-lane section that would be 38 feet wide. Mr. Geisel has met with the residents adjacent to the project, as well as, the Ward 2 Councilmembers. Residents appear to agree that an improvement to this portion of White Road is desirable, but would like to see the improvement minimized to the greatest extent possible. After some discussion, **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to direct the City Administrator to send a letter to St. Louis County, stating that the City supports a two lane configuration for White Road, between Dungate and White Birch Valley Lane. Chairperson Streeter seconded the motion.** Councilmember Casey asked if the improvement included sidewalks, and would the improvement make the road safer. Mr. Geisel said that sidewalks already existed along that portion of White Road, and that yes, the improvement would indeed make the road safer. **The motion passed unanimously, 3 – 0.**

Agenda Item #6: Councilmember Hurt provided a brief history of the alleged street creep within the Meadowbrook Farm Subdivision. He made a presentation on the marker board, which showed the location of the house on Long Castle Forest Court that has sustained damage, and it's relationship to the street. Mr. Geisel explained that street creep is more than likely caused by the thermal expansion of the concrete street. The street expands and pushes against the concrete driveway, which in turn pushes on the foundation. Mr. Geisel stated that the street was built first, and the driveways are then connected to the street. He explained that if the driveway is constructed with the proper expansion joints between the apron and the curb, between the sidewalk and the driveway, and between the driveway and the garage floor, there should be no problem. He stated that the City would replace the concrete apron with asphalt, at the resident's request, if they feel that the street is migrating and pushing against their driveway. The asphalt acts as a cushion between the street and driveway. Councilmember Casey asked Mr. Geisel to give his opinion on whether or not the street is moving, as alleged, at Long Castle Forest Court. Mr. Geisel stated that there was no way that we could validate whether or not the street had moved, without setting precise survey marks, and monitoring the marks on a routine basis. After some discussion, **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to keep the City's current policy on street creep as is, and to direct the Public Works Citizens Advisory Group to research the street creep issue, and to make a recommendation back to the Committee, regarding the City's current policy. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 3 – 0.**

Agenda Item #3: Mr. Geisel informed the Committee that the Bridle Creek project was ready to go out to bid, and that all of the easements had been secured. He discussed the City's policy regarding maintenance of open channels. He told the Committee that this project was unique to any stormwater project that we had ever done in the past and sought concurrence from the Committee to proceed with the project, as a pilot project, without any impact or alteration of existing City Policy regarding stormwater maintenance responsibilities. Councilmember Casey asked how the Bridle Creek Project was selected. Mr. Geisel said

that in order to maximize the impact of City expenditures, the City is constantly looking for grant opportunities to leverage the limited funds used for stormwater purposes. In 1999, the City was notified by the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) that the State of Missouri stormwater grants were available. We were made aware that the purpose of said grants were to fund projects that incorporated a limited structural approach (bio-engineering). Therefore, we knew that in order to obtain this grant; an open channel/creek project would have to be identified. Taking into consideration that the amount MSD would allocate to each City would be seriously limited, and in recognition that the City's annual budget for Capital Stormwater projects is very limited (since MSD is actually responsible for this activity), and that a portion of these funds are used to effect repairs to those sewers that are beyond the repair capabilities of City Staff and equipment, the scope of any potential grant project would be very limited in size and in scope. The City was aware of problems associated with the reach of Bridal Creek from Highcroft Drive to Schoettler Valley Drive, due to known work order requests. These problems include the major deterioration of the existing concrete channel, the safety hazards associated with the exposed reinforcing steel and undermined sections of the channel, and the severe bank erosion that in one instance is threatening an existing MSD sanitary sewer system. The projected cost of repairs for this reach of Bridal Creek was consistent with the amount of grant funds available. Total cost is estimated to be \$230,000, with \$60,000 coming from a stormwater grant. After some discussion, **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to authorize Staff to proceed with the Bridle Creek Project, as a pilot project, per Committee's prior direction, and to report the results of the project back to the Committee after the project has been completed. Chairperson Streeter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 3 – 0.**

Agenda Item #4: Mr. McGownd stated that the current video investigation contract and repair contract, associated with the Sewer Lateral Repair Program, would expire at the end of the year. He informed the Committee that both contractors had done a commendable job, were easy to work with, and were very responsive. He said that City Attorney, Doug Beach, had been consulted, and Mr. Beach indicated that the City could extend the contracts under the current terms and pricing, with the mutual consent of the contractors. Both contractors have agreed to the extension at the current contract terms and pricing. **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to accept Staff's recommendation and to authorize the extension of the current video investigation contract and the repair contract for one more year, at the current contract price. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 3 – 0.**

Agenda Item #5: Mr. Geisel informed the Committee that the Historical Commission had requested to be allowed to store some of their historical items in the new Government Center. Discussion ensued on the matter. Several Committee members indicated that they did not want the new Government Center to be used as a storage facility, and that if one group was allowed to store items a precedent would be set, thus implying to other groups that they could also store items in the Government Center. **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to direct Staff to investigate ways that the Historical Commission can store their items, long term, whether it be at the new Government Center or in an independent storage facility, and to report their findings back to the Committee. Chairperson Streeter seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 3 – 0.**

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Agenda Item #8 (Other): Mayor Nations inquired about the status of the art acceptance policy that Staff was working on. Mr. Geisel stated that a draft had been prepared and that it will be fine-tuned and will be placed on the November agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

The next meeting of the PW\Parks Committee is scheduled for November 28, 2001, in the Council Conference Room located at the Government Center.

cc: Mayor John Nations
Department Heads/Executive Staff