

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 11, 1993

TO: Michael G. Herring, City Administrator

FROM: ^{Wch}William C. Hawn, Director of Public Works/City Engineer

RE: Minutes - Meeting (8/11/93) Public Works/Parks Committee

A meeting of the Public Works/Parks Committee began at 8:00 a.m. on August 11, 1993. Those in attendance included Councilmember Alan Politte, Chairperson, (Ward III), Councilmember Colleen Hilbert (Ward I), Councilmember Ed Levinson (Ward II), City Administrator Michael G. Herring, Director of Public Works/City Engineer William C. Hawn, and Assistant City Engineer Michael O. Geisel. Also in attendance were Director of Planning Jerry Duepner, Personnel Director\Assistant City Administrator Brenda Love Collins, Finance Director Jan Hawn, City Attorney Doug Beach, Mr. Ed Johnson and Mr. Richard Cammarata of Booker Associates, Mr. Omar Feeler, Mr. James Van Buren, and Mr. Roland McFarland of Sverdrup Corporation

The following is a listing of those items discussed by the Committee at this meeting:

1. Due to time constraints, Chairperson Politte requested that discussion be limited to those items which require action by the Committee, as well as a discussion with representatives from Booker Associates and Sverdrup who had been requested to attend.
2. Councilmember Levinson motioned to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Councilmember Hilbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 3 - 0.
3. City Administrator Herring explained that the committee needed to vote to extend the escrow for Conway Ridge. Staff has recommended that the escrow be extended for a period of three months to allow repairs to continue. Councilmember Hilbert made a motion to extend the escrow for Conway Ridge subdivision, for three. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Levinson and passed unanimously, 3 - 0.
4. Assistant City Engineer Geisel explained that the developers of Wellesley Place Addition had requested the final 10% release of funds held for street construction. Normal procedure requires that a plat be 85% - 90% complete, prior to the City conducting a final inspection and to authorize the subsequent release of escrows for the required improvements. However, this Committee had agreed to review early releases for

developments where the streets were to remain private on a case by case basis. Councilmember Levinson stated that since the residents would ultimately be responsible for the streets, it was very important that we make sure the streets are in good condition when construction was completed. Accordingly, he motioned that the City wait until the subdivision was substantially complete, 85% - 90%, prior to a final inspection and subsequent escrow release. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hilbert and passed unanimously, 3 - 0.

5. City Administrator Herring explained to the Committee that he had invited Booker Associates and Sverdrup Corporation to the meeting due to their prior experience with the Valley master drainage plan and area levee construction. Mr. Herring indicated that these firms have been very cooperative and have volunteered their expertise and experience to provide a technical overview. Councilmember Levinson stated that he had asked Mr. Herring to invite these firms to get their opinions on what the City should be doing, and what were the pertinent questions and issues that should be raised so as to avoid future delays. City Engineer Hawn explained the current situation and current plans for draining the Valley. Mr. Hawn explained that he has been working with St. Louis County regarding construction of a temporary rock levee or dike over Eatherton Road from the railroad tracks, southwardly to Howell Island, in order to provide temporary protection for the Valley until the Corps could repair the levee. Councilmember Levinson indicated that he had been asked if the City had considered constructing a cofferdam outside of the levee break to provide this protection. Mr. Hawn stated that this was considered, but due to access and cost, the temporary road dike appeared to be a more viable solution. Mr. Hawn has been working with the Levee District and responded that plans are to break the levee in a couple of locations to facilitate drainage of the Valley. More specifically, they intend to break the levee at Long Road and at the East end of the Valley. Mr. Hawn is still determining whether or not these breaks can be done simultaneously. It is important to sequence the breaks in such a way so as to prevent water draining out of the valley at Long Road and back into the valley at the downstream easternmost break. Councilmember Levinson asked if it was reasonable to install pumps at the east end of the valley to draw down water in the interim. Mr. Hawn stated that due to the acreage and depth of water, it would take entirely too long to pump out the area. Mr. Van Buren of Sverdrup questioned the necessity of obtaining Corps approval to break the Levee. Mr. Kirchoff indicated that the levee district was not willing to risk the 80% - 20% cost share if the Corps de-certified the levee. Further, Mr. Kirchoff explained that this approval should not hold up any work since they were to meet with the Corps this morning. Mr. Van Buren stated that some of the key issues are being worked on by City staff, such as development of a drainage plan in the Valley. He further stated that he had checked with Al Schultz from the Corps of Engineers in Kansas City and that Mr. Schultz had verified that the Chesterfield levee was still certified under public law #99. Accordingly, it would qualify for restoration by the Corps. Mr. Van Buren indicated that nearly two-thirds of the levees that had broken had been de-certified and would not qualify for funding from the Corps of Engineers. He suggested that the City consider publishing daily bulletins regarding interior flood elevations for the business owners. Sverdrup had found this very helpful when the Riverport area previously flooded. Mr. Feeler reiterated their experience with the Riverport levee and stated that pumping the area out is not a reasonable alternative. Riverport has three permanent pumps

installed to drain the complex and they proved ineffectual in dropping the water elevation. Mr. Ed Johnson of Booker Associates indicated that prior to the levee break, Booker had been working with Councilmember Hrabko regarding the airports proposal to construct portions of the Booker channels in conjunction with development of the Airport. The Corps had rejected the Airport's proposal and refused to deal with the interior drainage plan on a piecemeal basis. Mr. Johnson indicated that this would likely cause delays and result in an extensive environmental impact assessment. The Committee requested both Booker Associates and Sverdrup Corporation to work with Staff to prepare a written list of questions, issues, policies, or actions that the City should be considering at this time. The Committee directed Staff to include this information on the agenda for the next committee meeting. Both firms are invited to attend the next meeting.

5. Councilmember Levinson advised the committee that the Public Works Citizen Advisory Group had unanimously recommended to put the Kangaroo building under contract for a proposed City Center. Councilmember Politte indicated that this item would be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

6. The Committee members agreed that the next meeting of this Committee will be on Thursday, August 26, 1993, at 7:00 p.m.

7. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:55 a.m..