

MANAGERS REPORT



DATE March 10, 2023
TO: Mayor Benage and City Council
FROM: Ty Lasher, City Manager
RE: March 14, 2023, Workshop Agenda

Capital Projects:

The 2023 budget contains capital improvement project funds for streets, water, sewer and storm water. The City Engineer and Public Works Director have been working on a list of needs for this year. Anne and Marty will be at the meeting to give their recommendations on what projects should be completed in 2023 based on budgeted funding available.

Staffing:

City Attorney - With Jaci leaving, the position of City Attorney is vacant. Council has discussed options that include a full-time attorney, part-time attorney and contracting with a firm. Ten firms were sent RFP's for city attorney services. These firms were selected based on experience with local government law and other cities. Three companies returned proposals and I will have copies for you at the meeting. To date, we have four applications for full-time and two for part-time. I will share those at the workshop as well. Discussion will occur around the needs of the city for legal services.

Staff Needs - As Bel Aire continues to grow at substantial rate, staff continues to be buried with work and not adequately meeting the needs of our citizens. With the possibility of Integra coming to Bel Aire and the suppliers they may bring, there is no question additional staff will be needed. Ted will be preparing two budgets for 2024, one if Integra comes and the other if they do not. I wanted to lay out the needs for you to be thinking about as the budget discussion will begin in a couple months.

Miscellaneous:

Painting Addresses on Curbs - Mayor Benage asked painting addresses on curbs be added as a topic. I conducted some research relating to codes and asked for staff opinions. City codes state:

PREMISES IDENTIFICATION

505.1 Address identification. New and existing buildings shall be provided with *approved* address identification. The address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. Address identification characters shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall not be spelled out. Each character shall be not less than 4 inches (102 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch (12.7 mm). Where required by the *fire code official*, address identification shall be provided in additional *approved* locations to facilitate emergency response. Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the *public way*, a monument, pole or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure. Address identification shall be maintained.

Here are some issues to consider:

Pros:

- Home addresses are easier to see on the curb.
- All should look the same and be uniform.

Cons:

- Due to weather and other conditions, they will need repainted every few years. Will last 3 – 5 years with proper paint.
- If not repainted, they will begin to peel and fade which will look bad.
- Will be an ongoing issue as curb numbers will need painted each year for new homes.
- Public safety doesn't see a huge benefit. They look at numbers on the homes. City codes require address to be mounted on the home and visible from the street.
- How do we handle homeowners that may not want this?
- Street sweeper will cause added wear.
- How do we handle complaints of fading?
- Can people put sports teams, religious symbols, etc. on their address?
What if they agree to pay for that?

Trash Along Streets: Council Member Hamburg mentioned how trash along the ditches was becoming an issue. She asked this topic be included on the workshop for discussion. I asked staff for input and the following are considerations:

Volunteers:

- Need volunteers each week.
- Sunrise picks up trash one day per year.
- What other organizations can volunteer?
- Who will coordinate and work with volunteers?

Community Service:

- Judge will need to sentence for community service.
- Could lose revenues from fines for community service.
- How often will these people work?
- Who will coordinate and work with the community service people?
- Liability – What if they are injured?

Bel Aire PW:

- Will need to hire a part-time person. Increase budget and staff.
- Will need a vehicle.
- Contract out the service?
- Who will coordinate and work with the contractor?
- How much will the contractor charge?

Enforcement:

- Littering is against our codes.
- As with any illegal activity, the perpetrator must be caught.
- Will require officers to monitoring the roads more for littering.
- Officers will spend time enforcing, through fines and court.
- What is your preference for time being spent by police officers?
- Code should remain for blatant and large problems. Difficult to enforce the wrapper or bottle.

Adopt a Road:

- Will need to create a policy.
- Who will coordinate?
- How often do they need to pick up?
- Who will solicit groups?
- Bel Aire staff will need to provide bags and pick up trash after the cleanup day.

Utilities - We know with the potential industrial growth that will be occurring, water and sewer demands will need addressed. I have been talking with PEC about expanding their study of water /sewer to include future demands from Integra, other industry and identifying all our options as well as costs. They are preparing an addendum to our current study to address these options.

With public infrastructure being considered, Council Member Dehn wanted to discuss the option of electric, gas and broadband.