



CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 5:00 PM

1 Benjamin Franklin Way Franklin, Ohio 45005

www.FranklinOhio.org

CLERK'S JOURNAL

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wilcher called the meeting to order at approximately 5:01 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Mr. Westendorf called roll which showed:

PRESENT

Chairman Matt Wilcher

Denny Centers

Paul Ruppert

Mr. Westendorf, Mr. Inman and Mr. Conway were also in attendance.

3. APPROVE THE CLERK'S JOURNAL AND ACCEPT THE TAPES AS THE OFFICIAL MINUTES

A. October 21, 2021

Motion made by Ruppert, Seconded by Centers.

Voting Yea: Chairman Wilcher, Centers, Ruppert

Motion passed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lateral Sewer Repair Insurance Program

Staff proposed a program that involves the City partnering with the National League of Cities to market voluntary insurance protection for interested residents who would like to protect their homes from costly repairs that often fall outside private homeowner's policies. External sewer line coverage is \$7.75 per month, while external water line coverage is \$5.75/month. The main purpose primarily is to offer a verified solution for residents of older homes to replace the lateral sewer lines (often clay tile) when they fail. Repairs can be quite costly as there is often a need to cut into the

public roadway. The NLC program works with the city to identify contracts whom we have vetted and are familiar with our system. Payment is made directly to the vendor when a claim is filed. At no time is the city directly involved with any of these activities. NLC will market directly to our residents twice a year over a three-year period. The city will add this information to our website and promote the service on our social media.

Motion of support made by Centers Seconded by Ruppert.

Voting Yea: Chairman Wilcher, Centers, Ruppert

Motion passed.

B. Proposed Water Softening Study

Warren County recently began offering softened water to their water customers. Springboro is also exploring this possibility and approached city staff to seek our interest in joining a cooperative effort. Overall, the committee felt the City's focus needs to remain on downtown development efforts, beautification effort with Springboro, the Clear Creek Bike Trail, expansion of William C. Good, bridge repairs, water service upgrades, and other capital improvement projects that are already underway. There was discussion regarding the upward price pressures on all existing projects as well. The City has limited staff that are facing a great deal of pressure as they work through the current projects, so the committee didn't feel the time is right for another major project like this.

D. Storm Water Management

Staff updated the Committee on two pressing stormwater issues facing the community:

The first on Gorsuch Road will require some clearing and reconstruction that will likely require the closure & repair of Gorsuch Road itself. Additionally, some improvements will be needed along the roadway to properly address the situation, which will impact several residents along Gorsuch Road to varying degrees. It is fair to say there are several additional steps needed before the project can begin. Staff are already working to initiate an areawide civil engineering study to determine the scope of the problem and then evaluate the best alternatives to address the issue. Once a solution is determined, staff will work to communicate those plans to area residents.

There is also an issue with a retention pond located at A&S Payzone on Conover Drive. That retention pond is servicing all business properties north of that facility, as well as those along Commerce Center Drive north of SR 73. Erosion has impacted the headwall at A&S Playzone, but another retention pond adjoining Commerce Center Drive needs to be cleaned out and maintained. A civil engineer will need to recalculate the needs at the pond on Conover before repairs can be made. Further, the retention facility on Commerce needs to be repaired so that it is functioning properly before those calculations are determined.

E. Construction Bid Update

On May 11, 2022, the City opened bids for the William C. Good Roadway extension project. Most bids came in under the Engineer's estimated cost for this Project, which was \$1,250,000.

The SR 73 & I-75 Interchange Safety project costs are rising. The State may be paying for some of the increases. Staff will continue to give updates as the are available as the situation is still evolving. It is likely that the project will extend into 2024 due to supply issues.

F. Dial Park Update

The rough grading at Dial Park was completed last year, but a site assessment the previous week shows that the winter weather and lack of established ground cover indicates additional work will be needed to remove roots, rocks and other imperfections before a safe playable surface can be realized. Additionally, a topographical assessment is to be performed so make sure fields are level, draining properly, and so that space is maximized giving us the greatest versatility and use of the site moving forward. Staff is moving forward with that assessment with the intention of making necessary changes to allow a finish grade to occur this fall- where we will hydroseed the fields. An overseed in the spring should allow field utilization to begin by the fall sports season in 2023.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Centers, Seconded by Ruppert.
Voting Yea: Chairman Wilcher, Centers, Ruppert

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM

Matt Wilcher, Chair