



Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes

City Hall - 300 4th Street
4:10 PM December 08, 2021

Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Scott Korthuis, Councilors Gary Bode, Ron De Valois, and Jerry Kuiken

Staff Present: City Administrator John Williams, Public Works Director Steve Banham,
Programs Manager Mark Sandal, Office Manager Heather Sytsma

Public Present: Linda Bovenkamp, Mary Lou Childs, Dean Francis, Vicki Lockhart, Kathy
Stanford, Gary Vis, Nathan Zylstra

Action Items

1. Approve Minutes from November 3, 2021

De Valois motioned to approve the minutes and Kuiken seconded the motion.

Action:

The minutes from November 3, 2021, were approved.

2. Award Annual Bids for 2022

- 1) Rocks, Gravel, Materials
- 2) Chemicals
- 3) Lab Analysis
- 4) Grease Trap Cleaning

Action:

Staff will send letters to notify low bidders of the City's acceptance of their bids.

3. Award Bid for Industrial Condensate Pipeline - Riverview Road to Outfall

Strider Construction is the apparent low bidder at \$2,659,654.08 including WSST. Banham explained this is the final phase of this project and some of the in-water work will occur during the fish window. The budget provides for award plus construction contingencies up to ten percent.

Action:

The Public Works Committee concurred to recommend that City Council award the bid for the Industrial Condensate Pipeline – Riverview Road to Outfall to Strider Construction in the amount of \$2,659,654.08.

4. Pre-Procurement of Girders for Main Street Bridge at Pepin Creek

Korthuis stated that the light rail construction project in Seattle has procured most bridge beams in the area over the next 12 months. Staff would like authorization to secure girders in advance of the scheduled 2022 construction for the Main Street Bridge at Pepin Creek. Nathan Zylstra, of Reichhardt and Ebe Engineering, Inc. stated this is not without risk because the schedule is

tentative, and the City will be fronting funds for the construction project. However, pre-ordering may allow construction to occur sooner than anticipated. Bode asked what the construction window will be. Zylstra stated the schedule is currently six months of construction, from start to finish. He added that this project will be similar to the bridge on Main Street at Fishtrap Creek: a conventional girder bridge with cast-in-place deck.

Banham stated that staff is requesting authorization to order bridge girders, so they are delivered in time for summer bridge construction. The project is scheduled to go out to bid in April.

Action:

The Public Works Committee concurred to recommend that staff proceed with the purchase of bridge girders for the Main Street Bridge project scheduled in 2022.

Information Items

5. Agreement with Whatcom County for Jail Work Crew

Staff is entering into a one-year agreement with Whatcom County for the jail work crew to perform general yard maintenance at various City locations including detention ponds in need of cleaning. The agreement will be provided to the Mayor for signature and returned to the County for execution.

6. TIB Funding Awarded

The Grover Street Overlay – 3rd to Lawrence project received \$400,000 for construction in 2022. This project will be similar to the Grover Street Overlay project done in 2020: structural overlay, replacing signal loops, constructing pedestrian ramps, sidewalks, driveways, striping and restoration.

Banham added that in the future he would like to apply for TIB funding to overlay Main Street between 1st and 4th Streets.

The Liberty and 16th Streets Sidewalk Gap Elimination project did not receive funding.

7. Pepin Parkway Updated Map

Banham presented an updated map of the Pepin Subarea, which showed the plan location for the new Pepin Parkway and the relocated Pepin Creek. Banham introduced guests in attendance who own property or are interested in buying property along Benson Road within the subarea. He explained that the location of Pepin Parkway was intended to allow developers to construct sections of the Parkway on their property in lieu of paying the subarea traffic impact fees adopted in conjunction with removing the moratorium.

The property owners expressed strong concern about the location of Pepin Parkway and were upset at the perceived lack of communication by the City related to infrastructure improvements within the Pepin Creek Development area. Staff will continue to meet with property owners to discuss their concerns.

8. Traffic Counts - Double Ditch and Pine

As requested at the October 6, 2021, Public Works Committee Meeting, Banham presented

traffic counts on Double Ditch Road and Pine Street. Previously, the Committee received a request for a crosswalk on Double Ditch at Pine. The Committee reviewed the traffic counts, noting that there is not an unusually high traffic volume. At this time the Public Works Committee did not recommend the installation of a crosswalk on Double Ditch at Pine Street. Zylstra noted that it is a legal crossing per state law although it is not marked with a crosswalk. RCW 46.61.235 (1) states “The operator of an approaching vehicle shall stop and remain stopped to allow a pedestrian, bicycle, or personal delivery device to cross the roadway within an *unmarked or marked* crosswalk ...” where an unmarked crosswalk is usually defined as the continuation of an existing sidewalk across a road. Sandal noted there is a streetlight at this intersection.

9. WSDOT Culvert Replacement Project Update

The culverts on Badger Road at Double Ditch Road and Guide Meridian at Duffner Drive are scheduled to be replaced in summer, 2022. Banham explained this is earlier than previously scheduled. WSDOT is replacing the two 36” culverts with one 20-foot-wide by five-foot-tall culvert on Guide Meridian. This larger culvert will help prevent some of the flooding seen east of Guide Meridian during the November, 2021 rainfall events.

10. Transportation Comprehensive Plan Update

Banham stated this is scheduled for the first quarter of 2022. Transpo Group will assist the City in establishing the detailed mechanics to establish credits for construction performed in lieu of traffic impact fees which is particularly critical within the Pepin subarea. These were not able to be updated before the moratorium was lifted but will be critical to have in place before projects develop within the subarea.

11. 6th Street Sewer Cleaning and Preparation for CIPP

Banham stated that Reichhardt and Ebe Engineering is working with Berry Acres Inc. (BAI) using their high-pressure cleaning equipment to prepare for re-lining the sewer line at 6th Street. BAI has achieved success and is continuing to work on this in anticipation of the City soliciting bids for the slip line project in 2022.

Korthuis asked how the CIPP will be done following this work. Banham stated that staff is working with engineers to figure out how much capacity is in this pipe. The smoother surface will improve flow. As a side note, sewer will need to be pumped around the pipe while sections are being relined.

12. Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and New Industrial Customer

Banham stated that Darigold is increasing flow to the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Alliance Freeze Dry (planning to build at the intersection of Berthusen Road and West Main Street in the West Lynden Business Park) will also be an NPDES-permitted industrial user. Additionally, other wet industries are anticipated.

As a side note, Korthuis commended the Wastewater Treatment Plant for their 12th year receiving an Outstanding Wastewater Treatment Plant Award from the Department of Ecology.

13. November Flood Impacts to City Property

During the November flooding, the Wastewater Treatment Plant process was not compromised. However, there were significant debris deposits at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and damage to the fencing and lagoons.

At the intersection of Main and Dahlia streets, a large pump was used to move water from the Pepin Creek Intercept Ditch across the street to Fishtrap Creek, which required the closure of Main Street. In the second event the pump was discharged to Pepin Creek to the west, avoiding a road closure.

Banham noted that the Decant Facility worked well as a sandbag filling location, and it was good to have two sandbag filling locations within the City.

A Preliminary Damage Assessment was submitted to Whatcom County Division of Emergency Management for inclusion in the Countywide totals. The County will submit totals to the State with hopes of FEMA disaster assistance. FEMA will be evaluating damages beginning on December 13th. The largest damage was to the West Front Street culvert.

A list of impacted Federally classified streets was provided to WSDOT, which includes West Front Street and the underlying culvert.

14. Public Works Personnel Vacancies

Vacant positions – Systems (1), Administration (1 – Sr. Admin. Assistant)
New positions in 2022 – Operations (1), Administration (1 – Utilities Tech.)

New Business

15. KOA Stormwater Issues

Vicki Lockhart, sister of Eddy Martin and representing the KOA, addressed the Committee seeking guidance regarding the quantity of stormwater that flows through the fishing ponds and assistance from the City to alleviate the erosion of the pond banks. She explained that the November floods brought water almost to the cabins, the KOA fishing ponds were flooded, and there is visible erosion around the culvert connecting the ponds. Lockart and Martin have contacted the KOA franchise corporation for guidance and have also made preliminary contact with an attorney.

The Committee discussed the City's upstream storm detention facility between Vinup Road and Eastwood Way and plans to dredge it in 2022. Bode explained that the area where the ponds are located are in a historic stream path, noting that this is the natural flow of the water.

Banham indicated that he had previously requested an estimate from Eddy Martin of the cost to re-establish the pond shorelines. Additionally, he has requested photos of the pond conditions for this past flood event both during and after, to help substantiate what damage is associated with the November flooding. Gary Vis reiterated the importance of obtaining an estimate for repairing the damages. Bode also emphasized that there needs to be engineering to identify the cause of the damage.

16. Complete Streets Ordinance

Banham distributed a draft Complete Streets Ordinance for the Committee to review. He explained that this Ordinance is required for certain funding applications. This will be reviewed at the January Public Works Committee meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:34 PM

Next Meeting: January 5, 2022

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