



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

4:15 PM March 4, 2020
City Hall 2nd Floor Large Conference Room

1. ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Mike Martin; Public Works Director Steve Banham; Programs Manager Mark Sandal; Administrative Office Manager Heather Sytsma; and Sr. Admin. Assistant Miriam Kentner

Public Present: Gary Vis

2. ACTION ITEMS

A. **Approve Minutes from February 13, 2020**

Bode motioned to approve the minutes, and De Valois seconded the motion.

Action

The minutes from February 13, 2020 were approved.

B. **Amend Truck Routes in Lynden**

Banham presented the current truck routes Ordinance 10.16.040 and reviewed possible amendments based on comments received. The Committee discussed how designating specific truck routes is intended to minimize truck use on roads that are not be designed for heavy truck use (i.e. insufficient road base or turning radius needed for trucks). The Committee was generally satisfied with the current limited route placement. Banham suggested reviewing and possibly adding additional signage to increase visibility of the truck routes and suggested including this signage in the wayfinding.

The Committee agreed that they would like to revisit adding Front Street (west of the Guide Meridian) to the truck routes once it is complete.

Action

The Public Works Committee concurred to not adopt any changes to the current ordinance at this time and was in support of using the wayfinding signage to increase public awareness of the established truck routes.

C. Vactor Waste Renewal Option with City of Bellingham- Authorization to Award Through 2021

Banham presented the annual renewal memorandum with the City of Bellingham for the use of the Vactor Waste Facility. This Interlocal Agreement would commence January 1, 2020 and terminate on December 31, 2020.

Action

The Public Works Committee concurred to recommend approval of the City of Bellingham Interlocal Agreement (#2016-0221) effective January 1, 2020, for vactor waste facility use, to the City Council. They also agreed to include with this year's approval a provision that allows the mayor to renew the agreement next year (2021) if there is no change to the rates or other substantial changes to the terms.

3. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Introduce Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan (2021-2026)

Banham introduced the Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) (2021-2026). The Committee discussed the individual projects with Banham, noting the possible addition of Foxtail Street, South Park Street, and Dickinson Park to the STIP. De Valois and the mayor asked about including a partial reimbursement agreement from the properties abutting the Foxtail Street improvements. Martin stated these would need to be in place before the project is awarded. The Committee also discussed what part of the construction should be reimbursable and specifically identified utility extensions to serve future abutting lots. Sandal explained that he will review the subdivision plat requirements for Foxtail Street and will bring information to a future Public Works Committee meeting for review.

This STIP plan will come back to the committee in April recommending that it be forwarded to City Council to set a Public Hearing in May.

B. Flood Damage January 31 – February 3, 2020 And WWTP Outfall Mitigation Plantings

Banham stated that Public works staff has prepared a preliminary damage assessment which has been submitted to Whatcom County Emergency Management reflecting the damage from the Flood Event. The costliest damage occurred to the mitigation plantings required as part of the newly completed Wastewater Treatment Plant outfall. Most of the plantings washed away in the flood. Total cost of replacement, including construction management, is estimated at over \$100,000. The new outfall itself did well and sustained no damage.

C. Downtown Business Association “Hanging Basket Trees”

Banham stated that the Downtown Business Association (DBA) is considering acquiring “Hanging Basket Trees” to be placed downtown at various locations, out of the pedestrian walkways. The Committee discussed cost and location of the basket trees. Banham noted that Van Wingerden Greenhouse has offered to donate the fabricated frames that would hold up the flower baskets to look like trees. They will be watered using a timer and should require limited labor by Public Works – removing an existing tree and preparing the ground to support the new structures. The Public Works Committee concurred to support the addition of these to the “Hanging Basket Trees”.

D. Projects:

1. Industrial Condensate- Riverview to Outfall

Sandal explained the SEPA application was submitted to City Planning for review as the County has allowed Lynden to act as the lead. Sandal explained the project is progressing slowly due to the required and extensive County permitting process.

2. Industrial Condensate - Darigold Stormwater to Fishtrap Creek

Sandal stated that the project currently being constructed by Faber Construction is near completion and project completion is expected to happen in March.

3. 7th Street Revitalization

Sandal explained that this project was delayed due to weather and has a scheduled restart date of March 16.

4. 17th Street Design

Banham presented an updated map of the 17th Street Extension project which show the addition of a pedestrian sidewalk on the west side, the new water main which connects at the south end near Fishtrap Creek, and street crossing that lines up with a the future trail extension into Dickenson Park. Sandal has worked with Planning to submit the Critical Areas permits associated with the project. The potential start date is scheduled for this summer. The map will be added to the City's website for the neighborhood and other member of the public to view.

5. Judson Street Low Impact Development

Sandal stated that the project scope and budget were received today from Reichhardt and Ebe Engineering. Sandal noted that this project is DOE grant-funded, but that the utility improvements will be done using matching sewer utility funding. Staff is planning to submit a construction grant for construction of some portion of the design in late 2020 for construction likely not beginning until 2022.

6. Lynden Fire Station Remodel – RFQ's received today

Banham stated that two submittals were received today. Staff will review the submittals in more detail with Fire Department staff to select the design firm for the full bid package. The goal is to have good construction estimates to use for budgeting for construction in 2021.

7. Pepin Creek Project – Pepin Lite Update

Banham stated that the Community Development Committee meeting on March 26th will discuss the estimated cost range of proposed Pepin Lite project. The Public Works Committee is invited to attend.

8. Trail – 17th Street to Dickinson Park

Sandal stated that Reichardt & Ebe completed a preliminary survey of the Dickinson Park site. As a result of the survey notice, the Creekview Crest condominium association's attorney has contacted the City regarding use of the proposed trail easement asserting that the easement has expired. This is being reviewed by the City Attorney.

9. Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) Project information

Banham stated that Public Works is preparing an application for Department of Ecology Streamflow Restoration Act funding for a Managed Aquifer Recharge

project. The application is due at the end of March. Banham and Sandal reviewed the concept of the project which will take high flows out of the river during the winter and infiltrate them into a groundwater aquifer that returns water into the river during the summer low flow periods. This water would be used as mitigation for a new water right for the City. Staff and consultant hydrogeological consultants have met with a number of stakeholders including local tribes who appear to support the proposal, many providing letters of support for the City receiving the grant.

10. Old Water Treatment Plant Site- DBA Parking

Sandal stated that the Downtown Business Association (DBA) has asked about the potential for parking on the old water treatment plant site. The Committee discussed the possibility of using the area for more parking.

11. Berthusen Park Restroom

Banham stated the building permit for the Berthusen Park Restroom structure has been submitted to Whatcom County. The City has made arrangements to have the bridge load rated. Sandal noted that the City is seeking a shorelines variance because the existing restroom is closer to the shoreline than currently allowed for new construction. The Park would like to use the same site with its current approved septic drain field. This variance is causing a delay in the permitting process. Once the permit is received, the new restroom will be ordered, and construction will continue.

12. West Front Street

Banham will be meeting with the Port of Bellingham to discuss the funding application for Whatcom County's Economic Development Investment Program (EDI) program. Staff intends to present to County Council again in March. Banham stated some changes have been made to the application, including a slightly reduced funding requested. Staff has also received letters of support from local businesses.

13. Line Road Pedestrian Improvements

Sandal stated construction is on hold due to weather.

4. ITEMS ADDED:

A. Leak Adjustment Request - 924 East Grover Street

Banham presented a request for a leak adjustment at 924 East Grover Street. He noted that this is a somewhat unique request as the resident was moved to a care facility and has since passed away. Her account was set up for autopay and although no one was living in the house funds continued to be withdrawn from the account while the service line continued to leak. Upon investigation by the family following her death, a leak adjustment request was submitted. The Committee concurred to support the request for the 7- month, under \$500, refund.

B. Riverview Road Property Development – Blake Starkenburg

Bode stated that Blake Starkenburg has inquired about correctly identifying the flood line boundary on his property. Banham stated that Starkenburg should talk with Jerry Blankers or his engineers, as they were just involved in the LOMR (Letter of Map Revision) process with FEMA. Sandal stated he would contact Blake Starkenburg to discuss this.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.