



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

4:15 PM November 13, 2019

City Hall 2nd Floor Large Conference Room

1. ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Jerry Kuiken, with notice

Staff Present: Public Works Director Steve Banham and Sr. Admin. Assistant Heather Sytsma

Public Present: Gary Vis, Megan Dickson, Kent Bouma, Mark Spaulding

2. ACTION ITEMS

A. **Approve Minutes from October 9, 2019**

This item was removed from the agenda as it was a Special City Council Meeting with minutes approved at the City Council meeting on October 21, 2019.

B. **Transportation Impact Fees Revision Chapter 3.46 – Discuss Proposed Deferrals and Credits**

Banham presented an update to Transportation Impact Fee Chapter 3.46 of the Lynden Municipal code that will be presented to City Council by the Planning Department.

The main change proposed allows developers to defer the payment of impact fees associated with the construction of a single-family home as required by RCW 82.02.050. Additionally, there would be the option to receive a refund when the developer does not proceed with the development activity for which the transportation impact fees were paid, and the developer shows that no impact has resulted. The City attorney is still reviewing the law and the appropriate application to the City since the City generally collects transportation impact fees at time of final plat, and only rarely at time of building permit.

The Committee discussed the adequacy of the current impact fee rate and requested that staff provide a comparison of Lynden's impact fees with other cities to the next Public Works Committee meeting for review.

Action

The Public Works Committee concurred to recommend to City Council approval of Transportation Impact Fees Revision Chapter 3.46 after legal review is complete.

C. Easement for Bogaard Plat Properties Abutting City ROW – Recommend Approval to City Council

Banham stated that staff met with some of the property owners in the Bogaard Plat with property abutting City right-of-way along the proposed Pepin Creek corridor. The property owners have built fences and landscaping into the corridor, but an easement is required for use of this currently undeveloped City Property. When the City is ready to construct Pepin Creek, any fences or vegetation may be required to be removed at the owners' expense. Banham stated the easement will be recorded against the property, so any future owners are aware of these restrictions.

Banham noted that the easements will provide for property owner improvements to be consistent so that the City-mowing of the remaining property can be done in a straight line. Property owners are responsible for maintenance of the areas covered by the easement, thus reducing the City cost of maintenance.

Action

The Public Works Committee concurred to recommend to City Council approval of the easement for Bogaard Plat Properties abutting City right-of-way.

3. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Outcome of Interviews for Professional Engineering Services – Design of Fairgrounds Stormwater Facility

Banham stated that staff interviewed Osborn Consulting and Herrera Environmental Consultants for the design of the Northwest Washington fairground's stormwater improvements. After reviewing qualifications and conducting an interview with both firms, which involved the Whatcom Conservation District and Northwest Washington Fair staff, Herrera was chosen as the best qualified for this project. Staff will soon begin negotiating a price for these engineering services. A Department of Ecology grant is funding this project. The Whatcom Conservation District is contributing matching funds with their work.

B. Final 2020 Budget – Projects Funding List and Rate Addendums

Banham presented the final 2020 project funding list and rate addendums to the Committee which are revised to reflect the actual budget for 2020 that is currently under review by the City Council.

C. Benson Road Speed Zone Study by School

See "Items Added – A" Below

D. Projects

1. Old Water Treatment Plant Demolition – Substantially Complete

Banham stated that some fence installation is needed, but the project is substantially complete.

2. Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall – Mitigation Planting Almost Complete

Banham stated that the mitigation planting is done.

3. Industrial Condensate – Riverview to Outfall – Aquatic Resource Permit Sent to Property Owner for Signature (JARPA)

Korthuis asked who is signing the JARPA. Banham stated that four property owners in the vicinity of the project will be signing these. They have been notified.

4. Industrial Condensate – Darigold Stormwater to Fishtrap Creek

Banham stated that this project is scheduled to start next week. Frontier Communications is scheduled to move their hardware this weekend and move things out of the construction area by Monday, November 18th.

5. Pepin Intercept Ditch

Banham stated this FHWA funded project is currently substantially complete. There was no groundwater, so work proceeded very quickly.

The Committee discussed future potential flooding and other weather-related events that could affect this area.

6. Line Road Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Banham stated that the project specifications were submitted for approval last Friday. Staff has identified up to nine contractors on the City's Small Works Roster who are eligible to bid on this project. They will be mailed bid packets soon.

7. 7th Street Revitalization

Bode asked what the schedule is for reconstructing the segments of 7th Street north and south of Front Street. Banham stated that DeKoster intends on paving the north side of the street and the parking lot before the lighted parade on December 7th. The section south of Front Street will be completed after Christmas.

The Committee discussed the current use of Judson Alley by large semi-trucks delivering to stores on Front Street. Bode stated that directing them to turn south on 6th Street from Judson Alley gives them enough of a turning radius that they can proceed to Riverview Road and then turn left to go back to Hannegan, or right if they need to go back into town. This would also keep them out of the construction area on 7th Street in the months ahead.

Banham stated that staff will post "Truck Route" signs at the intersection of Judson Alley to redirect trucks down 6th Street.

8. 17th Street Design

Banham stated that staff is continuing to work on project plans and specifications. The current plans include a larger stormwater pipe underneath 17th Street to help drain stormwater flooding in the Pepin area. Banham added that current plans call for re-paving all the way through the cul de sac to Village Drive.

Banham stated that, with respect to potential flooding in the basin to the north, these small maintenance items: upsizing stormwater pipes and ditch cleaning, should help improve drainage and reduce flooding impacts.

9. West Front Street – Whatcom County Economic Development Investment Program (EDI) Funding

Banham stated that this application has been submitted. Korthuis attended the meeting noting that the vote was 8 in favor and 2 against the project. This will now be presented at County Council for approval. The EDI funding program is \$1 million grant and \$2 million loan. Staff is working on completing the design so construction can start if funding is awarded.

10. Berthusen Restrooms Scope and Budget Being Finalized

Banham stated that this project is proceeding with restrooms scheduled to be installed in the spring. Banham stated that as soon as the permit is approved by Whatcom County, the prefab building can be ordered.

4. ITEMS ADDED:

A. Request for Traffic Control on Benson Road Between East Badger Road and the Airport

Mark Spaulding introduced himself as a newer Lynden resident who lives on Emerald Way. He stated he is concerned about the high volume of fast-moving traffic on Benson Road, and would like to see traffic calming measures on this road as many people use it for walking and bike riding.

Bode presented a traffic study done recently in this area at the request of Jim Frey, the Lynden School District superintendent. Bode noted that there are high volumes and speeds at times. However, there have been no accidents or injuries reported as a result of the vehicular or pedestrian traffic on this roadway.

Spaulding stated he is specifically concerned about the area between Badger Road and the airport, noting that the speed limit is 35 but he feels people are driving much faster.

The Committee discussed the speed limit on this road and agreed that moving the "25 MPH" sign north of Sunrise Drive would help slow traffic as the area becomes more residential. The Committee recommended that the Public Safety Committee discuss this at their next meeting to see if they concur with the Public Works Committee's recommendation to move the "Reduced Speed Ahead" and "25 MPH" speed zone signs north of Sunrise Drive.

The Committee also recommended staff research relocating the speed radar signs currently located near Fisher Elementary School to Benson Road near Fisher Elementary.

B. Interlocal Agreement - Pictometry

Banham stated that this annual agreement for imaging services will be forwarded to the next City Council meeting and the Committee supported that.

C. Riverview Road Speed Study

Korthuis stated that a resident questioned the need for the stop sign at the intersection of Riverview Road and South 7th Street. Korthuis requested a speed study in this area to investigate whether the stop sign is warranted. De Valois noted that there is a park nearby and many families live in the area. Banham indicated that a study would allow staff to establish a good baseline. Then if a decision is made to remove the signs another traffic count can be done in the same area to see how it affected speeds and volume change.

D. Roadway Repairs on Birch Bay Lynden Road

Banham noted that WRS recently repaired the wheel paths on Birch Bay Lynden Road in the east-bound lane near Safeway. However, the repairs are not good quality and the roadway is very bumpy. WRS has been contacted to make roadway repairs.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.