



## PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

4:00 PM February 9, 2022

City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Large Conference Room

### 1. 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; and Sr. Admin. Assistant Jessica King

Public Present: Gary Vis

### 2. ACTION ITEMS

#### A. **Approve Minutes from January 12, 2022**

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

#### **Action**

***The minutes from January 12, 2022, were approved.***

#### B. **Pine Street Bridge and 75-Foot Channel North of Main Street**

Staff is requesting to proceed with preliminary design and environmental permitting for the Pine Street bridge and 75-foot-wide City-owned corridor north of Main Street to Westview Place. Preliminary design is required to provide enough data to be eligible to apply for federal funding for this project. The Committee discussed potential federal funding as water from Canada is flowing across the border and causing flooding, thus the federal government may have more resources to deal with this issue. Korthuis has mentioned this when talking with Washington state and federal legislators about the recent flooding.

The Committee is in support of continuing design and environmental permitting for the Pine Street bridge and 75-foot-wide City-owned corridor north of Main Street for a future federal funding application.

The Committee briefly discussed November 2021 flooding and proposed WSDOT culvert replacements on Badger Road with larger culverts. Staff and the Committee feel the culvert upsizing by WSDOT is likely to exacerbate the problem. A letter was written in 2021 to WSDOT expressing the City's concerns.

**Action**

***The Public Works Committee concurred to support proceeding with preliminary design and environmental permitting for the Pine Street bridge and 75-foot-wide City-owned corridor north of Main Street.***

**3. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A. Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan (2023-2028)**

Last year's Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) was distributed for information only. The draft 2023-2028 STIP will be distributed for discussion at the next Public Works Committee meeting.

De Valois asked about sidewalks on Garden Drive and about the alley on Judson Street Alley. Staff discussed the need to acquire additional right-of-way on Judson Street Alley.

The Committee recommended removing "Wayfinding Signs" from the STIP.

Vis asked about adding trails to the STIP to improve opportunities for funding. Staff will research this and will also be participating in a Recreation Conservation Office webinar later this month with the Parks Department.

**B. KOA Stormwater Pond Update**

Banham stated that staff continues to explore the issues around the KOA stormwater pond flooding. Banham stated he will contact Eddie Martin regarding this.

**C. Sale of West Lynden Pond Capacity by Scholten's Equipment**

Banham stated that the City was contacted by Scholten's Equipment in 2017 regarding selling their stormwater capacity in the West Lynden Pond; however, at that time there were no benefitting parties interested. Scholten's is now interested in selling their excess capacity to incoming industrial development. Banham stated this is a private sale, but the City is responsible for confirming that the capacity being sold is the same as the capacity available.

**D. Wastewater Treatment Plant – Future Upgrades**

Banham distributed a summary of the most cost-effective actions for adding wastewater treatment plant capacity due to expanding industrial use and residential growth. Banham noted that this needs to be acted on soon because the proposed wastewater improvements timeline for construction is 2025 to 2026.

Banham added that there will eventually need to be a secondary clarifier, which isn't required as soon, but still will require extensive permitting because of the floodway. He added that staff will be pursuing potential grant and loan funding for this expansion. The sewer fund has been collecting connection fees for capital improvements and has a healthy balance.

The first step in this process is to obtain Ecology's approval of the engineering report before soliciting engineers to perform this project.

## **E. Whatcom County ARPA Funding Requests**

Banham stated that the following funding requests were submitted to Whatcom County for review:

- South Park Water, Street, and Sidewalk Improvements
- Main Street Bridge at Pepin Creek

## **F. Department of Ecology Grants**

Banham stated that the annual draft list of Department of Ecology recommended projects for approval by the Washington State Legislature includes funding for 9<sup>th</sup> Street and a Street Sweeper. The 9<sup>th</sup> Street funding wouldn't be available until July 2022. Staff is planning to combine the 8<sup>th</sup> Street (awarded in 2021) and 9<sup>th</sup> Street projects into a single 2023 construction project.

## **G. Projects:**

### WSDOT Culverts

Banham stated WSDOT has the culvert replacement on Badger Road scheduled for 2022 construction (at Duffner and Pepin). The culvert replacement on Guide Meridian at Duffner Creek is scheduled for 2023.

### Bradley Road

Staff is coordinating with the Lynden School District/Lynden High School and is meeting with them next week to discuss plans for a roundabout and high school parking revisions.

### Pepin Creek Main Street Bridge

Staff is working on obtaining private property easements for this project and reviewing the 90% design submittal.

### Pepin Creek Relocation

Staff is preparing the SEPA application for Planning Department review and determination. This will give tribes and WDFW the opportunity to respond with any concerns.

### Main Street Roundabout

This project requires obtaining right-of-way from Whatcom County at the unique Main Street – Berthusen Road intersection. Construction is scheduled for 2023.

### Cedar Drive

Staff is developing a cost estimate for 2023 or later construction. This project will include stormwater and sewer improvements, including a sewer pump station.

### South Park Street/Waterline

This project is scheduled for 2022 construction using City Transportation Benefit District (TBD) and water funds.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer CIPP

The pipe has been cleaned. Bid advertisement scheduled for April with construction in May or June.

### Grover Street Overlay

Work will occur on Grover Street between 3<sup>rd</sup> and Lawrence Streets. Staff is working to schedule surveyors, and construction could possibly be delayed until after the Fair. This project uses Washington State Transportation Improvement Board and TBD funds.

### East Front Street Stabilization

Sandal stated staff is waiting for a revised scope from GeoEngineers.

### West Front Street

Staff is working with Lynden Door to finalize a latecomer assessment for the property on the north side of West Front Street. Staff is also working on finalizing stormwater design and confirming pipe capacity into the West Lynden Detention Facility during high flows.

Industrial Condensate Outfall

Strider Construction's materials staging will occur below the reservoir this month.

Lynden Recreation Center

The siding project is being completed.

**4. ITEMS ADDED:**

**A. Traffic Issue on Pine Street**

The Police Department was contacted by concerned parents regarding traffic volume and activity on Pine Street south of Isom Elementary School. People are dropping students off on Pine Street, instead of on Benson Road, and then doing U-Turns in the street and at the intersection south of the school. The City may be able to expand the school zone and add 20 MPH signs. Staff will contact the school district to discuss this issue.

**B. Request for Traffic Light on Grover Street at Nooksack Avenue**

De Valois stated he was approached by a concerned citizen who requested a traffic light at the intersection of Nooksack Avenue and Grover Street. Banham stated that he will request that staff collect traffic counts in this area. If warranted, staff will consider adding this to the Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan.

**C. Pepin Parkway – Opposition to a Road Directly through Park**

De Valois stated the last Parks Committee meeting met with opposition to Pepin Parkway going through the park. Banham stated that he and Parks Director DeRuyter met with Chris Overdorf who is helping to developing the Parks Master Plan. There will be an open house opportunity for Benson Park.

**D. Lynden Fire Department Plaque**

The dedication plaque is now installed on the renovated Fire Department building.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.