

Public Works and Buildings Committee
September 18, 2014
Council Chambers
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor Torr, Chairman
Councilor Ray Varney, Vice-Chairman
Councilor David Walker
Councilor Donald Hamann
Councilor Sandy Keans

OTHERS PRESENT

Councilor James Gray
Peter Nourse, Director DPW
Leo Yelle, 30 Vernon Avenue
Jennifer Hale, PE - Tighe & Bond Engineers
Jason Plourde, PE - Tighe & Bond Engineers

Minutes

Chairman Torr called the Public Works and Buildings Committee meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Approve Minutes from August 21, 2014 Meeting

Chairman Torr requested a recommendation on last month's minutes.

Councilor Walker motioned to accept minutes as presented for the meeting of August 21, 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hamann. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Input

Mr. Leo Yelle of 30 Vernon Avenue came to discuss an issue at the City parking lot adjacent to the Knights of Columbus property located at 250 Columbus Avenue. Mr. Yelle stated that there is a large area of pavement that needs to be repaired. Mr. Nourse took Mr. Yelle's telephone number and stated he would contact him and meet with him tomorrow.

3. Milton Road Corridor Study

Mr. Nourse introduced Tighe & Bond Engineers, Jennifer Hale and Jason Plourde. Mrs. Hale stated that they were coming to the committee tonight to determine the Committee's goals regarding this corridor study. Mrs. Hale stated that she would be using the information gathered tonight and additional information gathered from meeting with the Planning Board to determine the scope of the project. She distributed topographical pictures of the project area and then allowed Mr. Plourde to explain the notations on those pictures. Mr. Plourde discussed each troubled intersection along

the corridor and noted the traffic count data and the accident data that had already been collected and documented. He stated there are many options to consider. Some options discussed were center turning lanes, and right turning off lanes. Councilor Keans noted that it was interesting that the most difficult intersections did not have any documented accidents. She referenced the intersection of Milton Road and Salmon Fall Road. Councilor Varney noted that there is a zoning change in the works for the properties nearest to the intersection of Amarosa Drive. Those properties are currently zoned commercial and will be zone industrial. Mrs. Hale stated that this is good information. She stated that her understanding is to put a plan into place that will give the staff and developers a guide for improvements to be made as the corridor is developed. Councilor Keans stated a right turn lane at Jarvis Ave should be considered for North bound traffic. There was discussion regarding additional traffic counts. The Committee stated that data should be collected in both directions that would count commuters that come onto Milton Road via Cross Road, and exit quickly onto the Salmon Falls Road. Chairman Torr asked about the timing of the lights. Mr. Plourde stated that the timing of lights are important and that they would look at that issue as well. Mrs. Hale and Mr. Plourde thanked the Committee and stated that they had gained some direction.

4. Granite State Business Park Water Main Loop

Mr. Nourse stated that he had discussed the project's impact to the rate payer with the finance department. He stated that if the project was completed in addition to regularly planned CIP projects the increase would be about 12 cents per unit at the beginning of the payback period and would decline over 20 years. Council Varney stated that he would like to see that all other revenue sources be exhausted prior to any considerations to funding this project. Councilor Walker stated that it would be nice to have the connection but it is not necessary at this time.

5. Oak Street Sidewalks

Mr. Nourse stated that several meetings ago the Oak Street sidewalks were discussed for repairs /replacement. He stated that this year the sidewalk replacement funds will be spent on Charles Street, as will a significant part of next year's funding. Mr. Nourse stated that he wanted input from the Committee regarding the next area to proceed to. He suggested Oak Street, Walnut Street, or Portland Street. Councilor Keans asked if he was considering concrete for Oak Street. Mr. Nourse stated that they are currently granite curbed asphalt sidewalks. He stated that they would be replaced asphalt with asphalt. He further stated that we would use the paving contractor to do asphalt sidewalk instead of the concrete sidewalk contractor. The Consensus was Oak Street then Walnut as it will have new sidewalks at the intersection with the new round a bout.

6. Crack Sealing

Mr. Nourse distributed a list of streets that have been crack sealed in the

last few years and streets to be completed this year. He stated that the department will continue to annual crack sealing and will be budgeting the same amount for FY2016.

7. Opera House Request

Mr. Nourse stated that he had received a letter from Anthony Ejarque requesting that the City approve upgrades that they would like to make to the space. The proposed upgrade will be drawn up by an architect and will be professionally built. The letter states that it will be second floor office space built behind the stage area and that it was planned but not built when the City Hall addition was completed. The Committee discussed and did not have any concerns as long as it was done professionally.

8. City Hall Annex Update

Mr. Nourse stated that Oak Point Associates will be making a presentation at the October 21st City Council Workshop. He stated that all of the structural and life safety evaluations are completed and they are ready to present a conceptual design. Councilor Walker asked about funding. Mr. Nourse stated that he believed that they were in the 3.5 million dollar range. Mr. Nourse also stated that he had been approached by the Fire Department regarding an antique fire vehicle. He stated that they thought it might be used for an ornamental lobby fixture. Councilor Keans stated that it is just sitting in the old unused East Rochester Station.

9. Other

Ryan Circle Drainage – Councilor Varney asked if the drainage had been completed. Mr. Nourse stated he believed the contractor had just finished the work this day.

Chamberlain Street – Councilor Varney asked if the drainage and paving was going to be completed soon. Mr. Nourse stated that we are waiting on a NHDES permit. The contractor is ready to move as soon as permit is issued. He stated that the plan is to complete the drainage work and to pave in October.

Strafford Square – Councilor Walker asked if the engineers have any different plan for the Walnut Street entrance into the round a bout. Mr. Nourse stated that the engineers are working on scope and fee as there were the typical delays getting approvals from NHDOT. The actual work on design should start soon.

HSIP – Mr. Nourse stated that the NHDOT had previously stated this projects construction would have to wait for the next state fiscal year. He stated that NHDOT has now informed us the funds are available and the project is going to go out to bid over the winter and the plan is to construct next construction season.

Paving – Councilor Walker asked about the status of paving projects. Mr. Nourse stated that Crocker Court, Brickyard Drive, Railroad Avenue and Chamberlain are left to be completed. He stated that should all be completed this fall.

Blackwater Road Driveway Access – Mr. Nourse explained that the City

had received a request to use an old driveway or class six road for access to a property. He stated as there were no objections and the City attorney has drawn up a resolution that will give the property owner that access. Councilor Walker asked if they were looking for the City to plow and maintain. Mr. Nourse stated they were not and there is language in the resolution that states that.

Councilor Walker made a motion to have the full Council review and approve the resolution as drafted by the City's attorney. Councilor Varney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Construction Engineer Vacant Position – Councilor Varney asked if the department had a candidate for the position yet. Mr. Nourse stated that he is working with the Human Resource Coordinator on a position upgrade and once that has gone through the Personnel Advisory Board and been approved by Council, he would then be filling that position.

Torr Park Memorial Plaque – Chairman Torr asked the status for the stone and plaque. Mr. Nourse stated that it will be replaced shortly. The motor vehicle accident insurance is paying for the replacement of the stone.

Councilor Walker made a motion for adjournment at 8:28pm. Councilor Hamann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa J. Clark, Rochester DPW