

City of Washington
Public Work Committee
Monday, May 18, 2015 – **Minutes**

CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
301 WALNUT STREET

Present: Aldermen Mike Brownfield, Jim Gee, and Carol Moss

Also Present: Ed Andrews, Public Works Director; Jon Oliphant, Planning & Development Director; Kevin Schone, Public Works Manager Alderman Bob Brucks.

Alderman Jim Gee called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. Alderman Wishing to be Heard on Non-Agenda Item: Alderman Brucks asked whether dumping of clean landscape waste is still permitted at the Dieble Road site. Staff responded that it is not allowed by the general public.
2. Citizens Wishing to be Heard on Non-Agenda Item: Steve Hullcranz shared his concerns and observations of repair work to his neighbor's sanitary sewer lateral.

Also, a complaint of tall grass and weeds was registered for a lot near the intersection of S. Spruce and Eldridge.

3. Approval of Minutes – The committee unanimously voted to approve the April 27, 2015 meeting minutes.
4. Business Items:
 - A. Tottenham Cemetery Accessway Vacation – A cemetery was dedicated west of Tottenham Court as part of a past phase of the Devonshire Estates subdivision many years ago. After doing some research, staff learned that there was a 10' strip dedicated at the end of Tottenham to provide access to the cemetery. A resident adjacent to this strip asked about the possibility of vacating it. Access to the cemetery could be gained from a city detention basin from Coventry Drive. The committee did not foresee any problems with a vacation but asked staff to determine if there was anything historical that would require the 10' to remain reserved for access to the cemetery. Staff will report on this at the June meeting.
 - B. W. Jefferson Alley Update – A draft ordinance to vacate the alley connecting W. Jefferson Street and Eagle Avenue has been prepared. Additionally, an easement document has been drafted that would grant permanent access to the owner of the Market Place property for any future infrastructure maintenance. The owner of the Market Place property and the apartments to the north of the alley have been mailed a copy of the ordinance and easement. Staff will reach out to both owners to ensure both agree with the language ahead of a first reading ordinance, tentatively scheduled for June 1.
 - C. Freedom Parkway/Lake Shore Drive Funding Options – Staff presented options to extend both Freedom and Lake Shore. As funding sources have become more scarce in recent years, more cities have implemented business districts in order to raise revenue to complete infrastructure projects. State statute dictates that sales

taxes can be raised in 0.25% increments for this purpose. A very preliminary analysis of the conservative revenue generation was discussed. If implemented, this project would be intended to help the existing businesses in this area as well as improving the likelihood of development on the greenfield sites. The committee asked staff to research what other regional cities have for their sales tax rates. Staff will report on this at the June meeting.

- D. Tornado Roadway Recovery Update – Mr. Andrews gave the committee an update on the intended timeline for the pending bid opening on June 3rd. Councilman Gee had been attendance at the pre-bid meeting on that previous Friday.
- E. Tarvin/RC Flyers Culvert Replacement – A recent service request was made by the RC Flyers club to replace a culvert near the entrance to the City-owned Tarvin farm property. Dave Miller of the RC Flyers club has proposed that they will help to supply labor to place concrete to protect a new culvert(s) if the City would supply the culvert(s). Twin 57"x38" elliptical culverts of approximately 30' would provide conveyance of the Q(2) to Q(5) storm event in this upstream portion of Farm Creek. Quotes were sought from Metal Culverts' Havana office and Contech's Metamora office. Only Metal Culverts has responded thus far to the quote, although Contech is pending. A not-to-exceed budgetary amount of \$3,347 was requested for the two galvanized culverts and is placed on the consent agenda for the May 18 City Council meeting. The committee recommended this on a 2-1 vote.

5. Other Business:

- A. A question was asked about how temporary Certificates of Occupancy are issued. They are issued when all life/safety issues have been resolved and only minor checklist items have not been completed. This allows the owner to move into the house with the expectation that the building inspector will be granted access to complete the final inspection in a short period of time (typically within 30 days).
- B. Staff will send a monthly building permit update to the City Council via email.
- C. Residents will not be allowed to be reimbursed for sidewalk replacement done prior to the start of the IDOT-contracted work beginning this summer. The contract will not allow for any reimbursement, so owners are urged to wait for that work to be completed if they do not have insurance to cover that cost.
- D. Staff will explore what other regional cities allow for new residential street construction. Currently, Washington only allows asphalt for residential streets. This will help determine whether there is any desire to consider allowing concrete as an option.
- E. Alderman Brownfield indicated that the generator that had been possibly available through his employer has been purchased by a nearby community and is no longer available.

Motion to adjourn at approximately 6:00 p.m.