

Minutes
PW Committee
January 7, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Members present were Acting Chairman Terry Merritt, Committee members Carol King and Michael Reynolds. Matthew Fleahman, Public Works Director and City Administrator Brandon Madden were also present.

1. Call to Order- Chairman Merritt

2. Public Comment- None

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

a. Public Works Committee Meeting: December 2, 2019

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

4. Reports or Communications from City Officers

a. Budget Review- The department is under budget. Matthew Fleahman said two pickup trucks have come in and a side arm loading trash truck recommendation will be forthcoming. Councilwoman King asked if the sidearm trash truck would have to be approved by council since it is a budgeted item. Brandon answered if it comes in under budget, it does not.

Councilman Reynolds asked how long before the pickup trucks are up and running after delivery. Matt said insurance and tags would need to be put on them, so it would probably be a week to a month. The lettering is done in-house. Brandon said there will be some recommendations on the roll-out of the side arm truck since it is different from what we use now. We have some older neighborhoods with older carts that may not work with the new truck. There will also need to be some education done for the citizens.

b. Department Reports

1. 2020 City of Mauldin Litter Pickup- The question was brought up at a earlier meeting regarding on using inmate labor for litter pickup. Public Works met with the police department to facilitate a plan. When inmates are used, a police presence would be required because of contraband that would be picked up.

Wednesdays are the lightest sanitation days, so a PW staff member, Police Officer, and inmate would be required for the litter pickup. Currently we have not been getting enough inmates to run the sanitation routes, so we could not spare one for litter pickup.

This program may start in the early Spring. Councilman Reynolds said we are picking up SCDOT's slack. Are we going to approach them to let them know we are helping them? Brandon said there are a number of state roads that are being neglected by SCDOT. The City is being more proactive in performing maintenance duties even though they are not our roads. We can approach DOT for compensation whether it is for manpower or equipment. Councilman Reynolds said he likes the proactive approach to keeping the streets clean.

Chairman Merritt said the stretch of road on Ashmore Bridge to Fowler Circle is very littered.

2. 2020 City of Mauldin Paving- Each year money is allocated by City Council to pave City of Mauldin roads as part of the Greenville Paving Program (Municipal Match Resurfacing Program). For FY2020, the Council appropriated \$191,954.41 for participating in the paving program via the Greenville Legislative Delegation Transportation Committee (GLDTC). GLDTC will match the \$191,954.41 for a total of \$383,908.82 that is available for paving roads. Mauldin Public Works generated a ranking of its roadways and presents the lowest ranked streets to the County Paving Program annually – see the attached 2020 Road Paving List of the "F" rated roads. Staff ranked the roads based on their conditions from "A" to "F", with the roads receiving an "A" being in excellent condition and the roads receiving a "F" being in poor condition.

Per the GLDTC, based on their cost estimates, only five roads were selected to be paved. These roads are Mary Knob Ct., Bel Arbor Ln., Sonoma Dr., Korbelt Ct., and Brookfield Blvd. After a final review of the estimates for the paving were completed, it was determined that additional money was available for more roads. Jonagold Ct. and Grassy Ct. were then added to the list of roads to be paved. Chairman Merritt asked how many miles this would be. Brandon said a little over a mile. Brandon said a City road program will be implemented for the 34 roads rated F and ones soon to be F roads. This will be a piecemeal approach to a large issue we have. We are discussing with neighboring municipalities on their approach as well.

Councilwoman King asked if Hyde Circle is the example of the way roads will be fixed in the future. She was answered yes. Councilman Reynolds said Greer would be a good City to contact. They used several million dollars and attacked their bad roads all at one time. Councilman Reynolds asked when a plan should be presented to Council. Brandon said during the budget process.

5. Unfinished Business- None

6. New Business

- a. Muirwood Drive update- Russell Maio of 110 Muirwood has come in front of council with his concerns on a sink hole in his yard. From our assessment, a lot of his problems are outside of the City's right of way. We have a policy for off right of way work. The City can provide equipment and labor as long as the property owner provides materials. The total for materials is \$6,700. Mr. Maio has declined the offer. He has asked the City to provide everything for his driveway repair. At this time, staff needs direction from Council on how to proceed. One option is to make the repair to the stormwater infrastructure, not repairing his driveway. The second option is to repair all, the third option is to leave it as it is. The staff does not have a problem with absorbing the \$6700 materials cost, but it needs Council approval because it is outside the City's ordinance.

Councilwoman King said she is familiar with the problem and knows this goes back a couple of years. The City has received legal advice and staff has given the homeowner direction several times. She is open to forward this to council for input but thinks the offer the City made was correct. The City is willing to use the equipment and our employees to fix the problem and the issue is not something the City caused. She thinks the offer was the right thing to do.

Councilman Reynolds said he is sympathetic to the fact this is an aging neighborhood, but he is worried about the precedent this would set for going off of city property. This is \$6700, but the next sinkhole could be \$67,000. He does understand the homeowner's frustration. What does Mr. Duggan say to do? Brandon said counsel provided correspondence to Mr. Maio explaining the City does not own the stormwater infrastructure in Knollwood. Off of that position, the City is not required to make improvements. The City does not provide stormwater permits- those are handled by Greenville County. Our ordinance is clear on what we can and can't do off right of way. Brandon said the position has not changed from a couple of years ago.

Mauldin is a co-permittee with Greenville County. We do not handle stormwater. Councilman Reynolds asked if that is something we need to look at. Brandon said he has talked with Matt on this and Matt has done an assessment and will bring some recommendations soon.

Chairman Merritt said we set the precedent with Gilder Creek in Forrester Woods. We paid to bring the drainage system off private property to put it in the right of way. This helped something that was done by the developer. We have also gone to Montclair where there were catch basins in yards. We went off property with the homeowner signing off and fixed it. Greenville County said they would give us money out of the stormwater fee if we would fix Libby Lane, so they do use the money for maintenance. Now they say the stormwater fee is used to pay for the manpower to do the permitting studies. He has heard two different stories from Greenville, so we are confused as to what the stormwater fee is for.

On Muirwood, if you look at the southeast portion across the street from Mr. Maio's property, there is a 36" pipe that goes under the road. The runoff comes down the hill, into a catch basin, and into a 36" pipe. Instead of coming between the two houses at the grassy strip, they went under his driveway to catch the 18" pipe. There is 36" pipe feeding an 18" pipe. The 18" pipe dumps into a creek. Mr. Maio has fixed his driveway twice. The first time, they bought a load of gravel and the neighbors shoveled it and poured a new driveway. Councilwoman King asked how long ago that was. Chairman Merritt said he didn't know, and Mr. Maio is in South America at the moment. He thinks Mr. Maio said he has been in the house for twelve years.

Chairman Merritt asked if the numbers included taking 36" pipe all the way down to the 18". Matthew said yes, the 36" will be taken down to the 18". You will have to put in a concrete collar and the concrete for the driveway is included in the \$6,700. The \$6,700 is for all materials to fix the problem, put the dirt back, and fix the driveway. It would solve the stormwater problem, fix the sinkhole and the driveway.

Councilwoman King said where the 36" changes into the 18" we don't know who did that or when it was done. Chairman Merritt said no, that was a question for Mr. Maio. Matt Fleahman said we have video of the two pipes and the sinkhole is located where the 18" pipe is.

Councilman Reynolds asked staff to back out the cost to fix the driveway and provide a revised number. He is concerned the homeowner is not providing any money and the city is taking full liability for everything.

Councilwoman King said there is another property in this same neighborhood that is also having these same issues. The homeowner has agreed to pay for the cost of the material. Same issue. She said she is concerned about the precedent as well.

Chairman Merritt asked if this item should be held in committee while a new number is developed leaving out the repair of the driveway. Staff could negotiate with Mr. Maio again once he is back in the States. Councilwoman King said she would like to leave this item in committee to allow staff to talk to Mr. Maio. Councilwoman King said if the cost comes in at less than \$5,000 and the homeowner agrees to pay for the cost of fixing his driveway, then staff could proceed without council action. Chairman Merritt said based on the legal issues and staff having to go on private property, council should still give direction to staff.

This item will be held in committee.

- b. Authorization to Proceed on the Sale of Old/ Damaged Equipment- We have old equipment that was not disposed of when replaced. Some items earlier were listed on Gov Deals. This is another round of vehicles. There are some sanitation trucks, some equipment from the Recreation Department, and other miscellaneous items. Staff is asking permission to list this additional equipment on Gov Deals. The revenues will go into the general fund. Based on the return, PW will come back at a later date with a suggestion on how to use the funds received.

This equipment is depreciated. A lot of the equipment is from the sewer and will be scrap value.

Councilwoman King made a motion to send this item to Council with a recommendation of approval of the sale of these items. Councilman Reynolds seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (3-0).

- c. City Park Playground Agreement with Cunningham Recreation- Recreation put out an RFP for a new playground. Joe Lanahan said 7 companies sent out 9 bids. The plans were reviewed and rated. Cunningham Recreation is the recommendation of staff. The company is currently working on the playground and shelter at the Cultural Center.

Cunningham submitted two options; staff recommends option 1 with the color of option 2. The bid includes installation and will be turnkey.

Councilwoman King asked how option 1 became the choice over option 2. Joe said option 2 is similar to what we are doing at the cultural center. Option 1 is different, and we want to offer more options to our citizens through different equipment. There is a saucer slide included in the City Park option, which is something new. It offers different experiences at different parks.

Councilman Reynolds made a motion to send this to council with a recommendation of option 1 in the color scheme of option 2.

Councilwoman King seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

Brandon said the budget for the project is \$250,000. The bid is lower than that amount. If something unexpected happens and the number changes significantly, the item will come back to council.

7. Public Comment

Councilman Black: I think using inmates for litter is a great idea. Is there anything that says we have to furnish any type of sanitary stations? A lot of times you will see a litter crew with a trailer that has a Jiffy Johnny on it. I don't know if it is required on this or not.

Matt said he would talk to Livesay. The inmates go to Public Works when they have to go to the restroom.

8. Committee Concerns

Councilwoman King said we have come a long way with Public Works. She would like to not lose sight of the small details. When we have wind and trash blows into the road, let's not leave it there. The City is better than that and our employees are better than that.

9. Adjourn- Acting Chairman Terry Merritt adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller

Municipal Clerk