

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public Improvements Committee Meeting
February 22, 2011

Members: Don Walters, Chair
Mark Ihasz
Terry Mader

Mr. Walters called the meeting to order at 10:25 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes from the February 7, 2011 Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

Legislation Discussed

Temp. Ord. B-14
Temp. Ord. B-15
Temp. Ord. B-16
Temp. Ord. B-18

Discussion

Temp. Res. B-14

A resolution consenting to the repair and upgrade of the bin walls at the State Route 8/Howe Avenue interchange within the City of Cuyahoga Falls, by the State of Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated that ODOT has proposed to repair the existing wall on the western side of the northbound ramp from Howe. It will have concrete facing. The ramp will be closed for 45 days. It is being replaced at no cost to the City. Sale date is December 15. Mr. Walters stated this was originally done when the highway was put in. He asked whether traffic would be diverted to Broad Blvd. Mr. Demasi stated that trucks will go to Main Street to Newberry to Broad to Route 8. The project will start around this time next year. Mrs. Pyke thought it was unusual to have a resolution this far in advance. Mr. Demasi stated that ODOT did not want to commit to the project until they saw a resolution. It is usually required around this time. Mr. Rubino asked what the benefit was to having it replaced and would the improvement be visible. Mr. Demasi stated it is the City's responsibility to maintain the expressway, however, ODOT supports local entities with maintenance. He has looked at the wall over the past few years. It is in dire need of replacing. It is currently a metal structure with corrosion, but there is no danger of it falling away right now. The finished product will look completely different. It will have a concrete facing.

Mr. Mader moved to bring out B-14 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Ihasz. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Res. B-15

A resolution creating for the year 2011 a Sidewalk and Drive Approach Repair or Replacement District containing such streets, alleys, or public roadways as are within the corporate limits of the City of Cuyahoga Falls, declaring the necessity of repairing or replacing the sidewalks and drive approaches abutting on such streets, alleys or public roadways within said corporate limits and providing the method for levying special assessments, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated this is the annual resolution creating a sidewalk district for 2011. Bids will be opened on March 15.

Mr. Ihasz moved to bring out B-15 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Mader. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. B-16

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a modification of Contract No. 6622 with Spano Brothers Construction Co., Inc., and declaring an emergency.

John Christopher stated they have a section of sanitary sewer on Front Street that needs to be replaced. Spano Construction is installing a new water main for the Prospect Street Project. While they are doing that, Mr. Christopher would like to replace the sewer. The sewer was televised and they found some cracks. It will be replaced with as little disturbance to the public as possible. Mr. Demasi felt it was a very fair price whether it was done now or later. Mr. Walters asked if the sanitary on the other side would need to be replaced in the near future. Mr. Christopher stated this is an anomaly. It is just one bad section. Mrs. Pyke asked if the 280' is where the street is being built. Mr. Christopher stated it is between Falls Avenue and Sacket on Front Street.

Mr. Mader moved to bring out B-16 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Ihasz. Motion passed (3-0).

Temp. Ord. B-18

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for improvements to the Portage Trail and Northampton Road intersection, and declaring an emergency.

This intersection utilizes an older mechanical controller that is based on the time of day. Also, the lane configuration does not line up. They average 23,000 vehicles through the intersection and there have been a lot of accidents. They began reviewing the intersection in 2008 to look at possibilities. A study recommended replacing the controller and realigning the intersection. In 2010, they completed the design according to the study. They went to bid on June 29 and the lowest bid was 20% higher than the approved estimate so they rebid the project on February 8. This time, they received 10 bids and the low bid was 5% lower than the estimate. If this ordinance is approved tonight, they will award the project next week. They still need to sit with the contractor to work on a schedule. It could begin in April with 60 days of construction. All traffic will be maintained. Cardinal Asphalt is who they will be awarding this to. Mr. Mader stated he is glad to see this project happening. Mrs. Pyke asked if there will be curbs. Mr. Demasi stated there will be some curbing work but it will generally look the way it does now.

Mr. Mader moved to bring out B-18 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Ihasz. Motion passed (3-0).

Mrs. Pyke asked what was meant by the language "unforeseen electric utility work" in Temp. Ord. B-16. Mrs. Carr was surprised by the language because they knew about the pole. Jeff McHugh stated when the new street was proposed connecting Second Street to Front Street, there was a pole that would have been in the middle of the road. They decided to use Spano Brothers to put the duct work in so it would be under the road. That will save the City some money. The bid came in at \$27,000. Mr. Janis stated that it was "unforeseen" because it was not considered under the scope of Spano's project originally. It was originally going to be done by the Electric Department.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.