

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public Improvements Committee Meeting
January 7, 2008

Members: Debbie Ritzinger, Chair
Mark Ihasz
Terry Mader

Mrs. Ritzinger called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Considered

Temp. Ord. B-176

Temp. Ord. B-177

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-176

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for services to design, engineer and construct the High Bridge Glens Bridge and Park, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Truby stated this concerned the area that is south of Broad Blvd. to just past the American Legion. The City has received \$3.5 million over the past few years in grants and \$1.8 million of that is earmarked for this project. The \$640,000 grant must be completed by June 30 of this year. With Council's approval, they will enter into the contract for demolition.

Mrs. Ritzinger asked if there were a lot of items being stored in the Prospect building. Mrs. Truby indicated they have been storing the ice rink there so they need to find a new spot to store it along with some other items. One possibility may be to construct a new building to house them.

Mr. Walters asked how the cliffs would be buffered. Mrs. Truby stated they will be guarded with handrails. The park will basically be urban green space with some benches.

Mrs. Pyke asked if the street would be closed. Mrs. Truby indicated it would not. She also added that even though the City does not own the Morgoch property, they will still be taking that building down.

Mrs. Hummel asked if the scope of the project, then, was to design, implement and construct as well as demolish the four buildings. Mrs. Truby stated it was just to demolish the Prospect building.

Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. No. B-176.

Temp. Ord. B-177

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract and/or contracts, according to law, to facilitate the environmental clean up and redevelopment of South Front Street, and declaring an emergency.

Jennifer Syx stated this was with regard to a grant from the State. It was for remediation, acquisition and demolition. It will be a two to three year process. The entire area will be cleaned up for redevelopment. They will also be taking down the other three buildings.

Mrs. Hummel asked what the amount of the grant was and how much would be spent this year. Ms. Syx indicated it was for \$2,381,440, but not all of that amount will be spent in 2008. Mr. Brodzinski stated an option he is looking at is where the work is performed, the City says o.k. and the State writes a check. If that is the case, he said they will come back to Council to bump up appropriations so it will be a pass-through. Mrs. Hummel asked how many of the buildings were being taken down that the City does not own. Ms. Syx indicated they were Industrial Tool Machine and Morgoch. She added that expending public funds on private property was allowable for the grant as long as it was for redevelopment into a development use.

Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. No. B-177.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.