

Cuyahoga Falls City Council

Minutes of the Public and Industrial Improvements Committee Meeting October 3, 2005

Chair: George Potts; Vice Chair: Mary Ellen Pyke; Member: Don Walters

Mr. Potts called the Public and Industrial Improvements Committee to order at 6:32 p.m. All members of Committee were present. The minutes of September 6, 2005 were approved as submitted.

Scheduled legislation:

B-127	An Ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the rehabilitation of the waterline in Broad Boulevard from Newberry Street to State Route 8 in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and declaring an emergency.
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The existing line on Broad Blvd./Newberry has experienced two significant breaks over the last year. It was installed in 1952 (cast iron) and we have shut the line down since we have been unable to detect the area of breakage. We will be lining the pipe, similar to what gas companies do, and we hope to complete this in November. It is over 600 feet, and limited excavations vs. an entire trench. Traffic will be maintained with little down time, if any at all. Americhem has incurred many problems due to this pipe leak and we wanted to address this prior to the spring thaw.

Mrs. Hummel asks about traffic flow. Mr. Demasi indicates it will be limited and we have given the option of night repairs to the contractors. Mrs. Pyke asks if this is the section of the revitalization area for the neighborhoods and Mrs. Truby indicates this is. Joe indicates bids on 10th Street came in way under projections so we will use this portion of funds to cover this. Mr. Potts asks what size line this will be? Tony indicates it will be a 12" line and the tie-in will be 16".

The committee recommends bringing out Temp. Ord. B-127

B-128	An Ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the purchase and installation of a security system for the Falls River Square District, and declaring an emergency.
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Mrs. Truby indicates there have been special police operations regarding graffiti and security throughout the Falls River Square. With this security system, there are 16 cameras that can be viewed in "live" mode. Several pertinent people have walked and put their input for camera placement: inside/outside the pavilion, the restroom area, Portage Trail, the elevators, the stairwells, the water area, and the stage area. With this purchase we are getting a control panel for 32 cameras, but only 16 cameras so it is expandable. Depending on where we have fiber connections, there will be a flat screen monitor system and these cameras can record up to 30-45 days. Larry Parker from the security system establishment has completed the security at the Nat also.

Mr. Walters asks how bad and what are the incidents at Falls River Square? Sue indicates fires, stolen letters, furniture is being moved, skateboarding, broken seats in the amphitheater, holes in the walls, clogging of the toilets, people remove the soap dispensers and crack the granite. Is this a deterrent system or for apprehension after the fact? Sue indicates a little of both. Virgil indicates the tapes will be public record. Don asks if we are liable if we observe someone overindulging in alcohol and there is an accident. Virgil indicates we would not be liable.

Mayor Robart indicates we are victims of our own success. As we bring more people, crime rates do increase. Graffiti drives us up a wall, but these are low-level crimes. The cost of technology is now more affordable and we can expand on this system into the future.

Tim Gorbach indicates these cameras are not covering the decks, which is a bit of a concern. The cost is \$80,000, but maybe we need to adjust the numbers or add some to include the decks. All the cameras are wired; there are no wireless aspects. Mr. Flinn asks if they are fixed? They are fixed without the ability to zoom in, turn, or adjust. Mrs. Truby indicates they are not hidden, but may not be readily visible to everyone. Mr. Flinn indicates he is concerned about the decks also and would like to include more cameras. Joe will look into the additional costs. Mr. Parker indicates the fibers are run underground in conduit with the electrical. Mary Ellen indicates she attends most of the Riverfront Association meetings and feels this is a beginning to repair damage to the city property. Mrs. Pyke wants to be sure we will follow through on prosecuting the minors, their parents, or the responsible party. The system will take 3-4 weeks for installation and Mr. Parker will meet with Sue this Thursday so we can get a price for the additional cameras (deck). Mr. James concurs with the request for additional cameras and that he concurs with the Mayor's assessment that these cameras will serve as a deterrent. Mrs. Hummel asks what percentage of incidents are happening during festivals vs. regular business? These cameras are more for the times that there aren't a lot of people down there. Mrs. Truby indicates there are two scheduled for the restroom area, the elevators, and on site. Mrs. Hummel would like to devote some of our resources to covering the deck. The cameras are Panasonic Day/Night cameras and record in color. At night, they switch to black and white. Mrs. Klinger indicates there has been a lot of good input and we look forward to hearing the numbers next week.

Nicole Shower, the Gallery on the North Side of the Mall, has had some safety concerns over the summer. The North side needs attention also and she hopes this side is not neglected. There are juveniles that use profanity and harass her customers. Most of the kids are very respectful and hopes many security measures are put into place.

Tom Sullivan, 447 Tallmadge, during the summer he was impressed with the police presence. This is a good step forward but can we move the cameras periodically? We may be just "moving" the problems around instead of deterring them. Mr. Parker indicates we can periodically move the cameras but that was not part of the original contract.

The committee recommends HOLDING Temp. Ord. B-128 for further information next week.

Held legislation:

The PUBLIC AND INDUSTRIAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.