

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council**  
**Minutes of the Public & Industrial Improvements Committee**

**March 6, 2023**

**Members:** Meika Penta, Chair  
Frank Stams  
Adam Miller

Mrs. Penta called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. Mr. Miller was absent.

The minutes of the February 6, 2023 Public Improvements Committee meeting were approved as written.

**Legislation Discussed:**

Temp. Ord. B-13

Temp. Ord. B-14

**Discussion:**

**Temp. Ord. B-13**

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the Annual Resurfacing and/or repair of various streets as described in Exhibit 'A' attached hereto, in the City of Cuyahoga Falls and authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts for pavement preservation on various streets within the City, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Tony Demasi, City Engineer, presented Temporary Ordinance B-13 to Council. The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the resurfacing and/or repair of various streets as described in Exhibit 'A' attached to the original ordinance, in the City of Cuyahoga Falls. The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for pavement preservation on various streets within the City. The Director of Finance will be authorized to make payment for same from the Capital Projects Fund, Line Item Capital Outlay and CDBG Fund, Line Item Other Operations.

Mr. Demasi stated that this is the annual ordinance that allows the City to resurface various streets as needed. They plan to begin the bidding on March 19 and open the bids on April 4. The Oil Index is 12 percent higher than last year. The list shown in the exhibit is long, and they hope to get through the list. The streets are listed in the exhibit. The list was prepared by his office in accordance with the Street Department.

Mrs. Penta asked about the ADA curb ramps. Mr. Demasi stated that when they resurface a road, they replace the ramps up to current ADA standards.

Mr. Stams congratulated Mr. Demasi and the Engineering Department for doing a good job. The streets are at the top of everybody's wants or concerns throughout the city, Ward 8 not being the exception. He asked if the list that is provided to them by a third party final or subject to review.

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Mr. Demasi stated that they make the final decision. They submit a listing of the ratings of the street as a snapshot of the condition they are in when they rated the street last year. They take that list and decide from that list which roads are going to be paved over the next two years. In general, they go from worst to best. Northmoreland has been on the top of the list to resurface with respect to the ratings, but it was pushed back because of the Dominion work. Mr. Stams stated that when the budget comes around, he will be advocating for more money to do more streets.

Ms. Loza stated that there are several streets on the east side that are in rough condition as far as needing to be paved and resurfaced this year. She thanked Mr. Demasi for being open with her so she can be open with residents regarding the work that is going to be going on, so that they are not wasting those funds on resurfacing those streets right now just to have to redo them next year. Mr. Demasi stated that they have several roads, not only on the east side but everywhere, that they want to pave but there is upcoming work from other utilities, so it doesn't make sense to repave the road. They let the utility companies do the work and coordinate all the work on sewer lines so that they do not have to be done over.

Mr. Balthis stated that if a resident's street is not on the list this year, but they have potholes or repairs, the City Street Department, this summer, will be addressing potholes in different areas. Residents can contact their Council person or the Administration, and the Street Department will make repairs on the streets that maybe didn't make the list.

Ms. Teresa Hazlett, Deputy Service Director, stated that that is correct. The Street Department is always making repairs and filling in the holes. They can e-mail the Street Department directly, they can fill out a form online, or they can reach out to their Council person and let them know.

Mrs. Penta stated that it is easy to use the website, and they are addressed quickly.

Mr. James thanked Mr. Demasi and his department for a great job, and thanked Mr. Demasi specifically for handling one of his residents that sent an e-mail to him with a concern about her street. Even though the street is not on the list, Mr. Demasi did give her a satisfactory answer. While they are not going to repave the whole street right now, at least she knows there are going to be some repairs done. Mr. Demasi thanked Mr. James and gave all the credit to his staff who work really hard on this.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes thanked the Administration because they are spending \$2.835 million on resurfacing, and they have done more and increased that budget. It has gone from approximately \$1.5 million several years ago and, each year, it's gotten to be a higher number.

Mr. Stams moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-13 with a favorable recommendation, second by Ms. Penta. Motion passed (2-0).

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**Temp. Ord. B-14**

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts with GPD Group, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Rodney Troxell, Electric Superintendent, presented Temporary Ordinance B-14 to Council. The City followed the procedures set forth in Ohio Revised Code Sections 153.65 to 153.73 in selecting a professional construction management services firm for the new Electric Department office facility, to be located at 222 Cochran Road. After review of all the proposals submitted, the GPD Group was selected as the most qualified for the project. For the Project to proceed, the City desires to continue Professional Engineering services which will benefit the Project.

The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts with GPD Group in an amount not to exceed \$618,220. The Director of Finance will be authorized and directed to make payment for same from the Electric Fund, Line Item Capital Outlay.

Mr. Troxell stated that, through the process, they have chosen GPD. Their scope of work will include construction, material management and photographic documentation. They will be taking interior and exterior photographs using 360-degree technology. They will be able to see, through photographs, the progression of the project indoors and outdoors.

Mrs. Penta asked when the project would be completed. Mr. Troxell stated that it is slated to be finished by the end July of 2024.

Mr. Stams stated that Temporary Ordinance B-14 seemed a little vague to him. He asked if this ordinance is specific to the project that Mr. Demasi just mentioned, because he could see this being interpreted as any contract for any project during the course of the year. Ms. Janet Ciotola, Law Director, stated that it is specific to the electric building.

Mr. Brillhart stated that it has been a privilege to meet with some individuals from this company. They are very diligent, and it is an excellent choice.

Mr. Stams moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-14 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mrs. Penta. Motion passed (2-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.