

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

**July 3, 2023**

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

Mrs. Penta called the meeting to order at 7:42 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of the June 19, 2023 Public Improvements Committee meeting were approved as written.

**Legislation Discussed:**

Temp. Ord. B-71

Temp. Ord. B-72

**Discussion:**

**Temp. Ord. B-71**

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, with Environmental Design Group, for professional engineering services for the Boardwalk Transformation Project, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Tony Demasi, City Engineer, presented Temporary Ordinance B-71 to Council. The City followed the procedures set forth in Ohio Revised Code Sections 153.65 to 153.73 in selecting a professional design services firm to assist with the improvement to South Front Street, from Broad Boulevard to Grant Avenue. After of all the proposals submitted to the City, Environmental Design Group was selected as the most qualified for the project.

The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, with Environmental Design Group, for professional engineering services for the Boardwalk Transformation Project. The Director of Finance will be authorized and directed to make payment for same from the Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, Line Item, Capital Outlay.

Mr. Demasi stated that the total cost of this project is \$309,644, so it is less than the \$350,000 shown in the budget. Design will be complete by late this year and the majority of construction will be completed in 2024 with finishing landscaping and things of that nature completed in 2025.

Mrs. Penta stated that this project will provide a wonderful sightseeing future for Cuyahoga Falls. A lot of work and energy has gone into this so that it is done correctly. It was not safe anymore, so they are going to make it what it needs to be.

Mr. Balthis stated that, as someone who lives on Riverfront Parkway, his neighbors bring it up often. It is something that he has always enjoyed walking, and he looks forward to it being improved and maintained.

**Public & Industrial Improvements**  
**July 3, 2023 – Page 2**

Mr. Miller moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-71 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Stams . Motion passed (3-0).

**Temp. Ord. B-72**

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to purchase certain interests in real property from Grace Cathedral Inc. for the improvement of West Portage Trail between State Road and Northampton Road, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Tony Demasi, City Engineer, presented Temporary Ordinance B-72 to Council. The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a contract or contracts with Grace Cathedral, Inc. for the purchase of interests in real property located on Parcels 02-00587, 35-00417 and 35-06956 for the improvement of West Portage Trail between State Road and Northampton Boulevard.

Mr. Demasi stated that this is part of the Portage Trail project. All of these locations are owned by Grace Cathedral. Because the amount is over \$50,000, legislation was needed. The negotiated amount for these three parcels is \$106,663. Two types of property acquisition are needed for the project, permanent warranty deeds and temporary easements. There are 33 property owners total on the project and, as of today, they have now settled with all of them. Project work has begun with the relocation of utilities. In a few weeks, the road widening will begin. All work is scheduled to be completed in late 2024 and, again, finished in 2025 with landscaping and final restoration.

Mrs. Penta stated that this project is going to require patience from fellow residents and constituents until it is completed. It is a project that needs to be done, and when it is done correctly, it will be a great addition.

Mr. Stams moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-72 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Miller . Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.