

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

April 15, 2024

Members: Meika Penta, Chair
Frank Stams, Vice Chair
Mr. DeRemer
Mr. James
Ms. Loza

Mrs. Penta called the meeting to order at 6:51 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. A-45

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-45

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a cooperative agreement with the City of Akron, Ohio to share the cost of engineering and construction of sidewalk on West Portage Trail, from North Portage Path to Waterford Court, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Tony Demasi, City Engineer, presented Temporary Ordinance A-45 to Council. It is necessary to have a cooperation agreement to share the cost of sidewalk on West Portage Trail, from North Portage Path to Waterford Court, between the City of Cuyahoga Falls and the City of Akron.

The Director of Public Service will be authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement with the City of Akron to share the cost of engineering and construction for new sidewalk on West Portage Trail, from North Portage Path to Waterford Court. The Director of Finance will be authorized to make payment for the same from the Capital Projects Fund, Line Item Capital Outlay.

Mr. Demasi stated that they have been discussing with the City of Akron ways to improve the walkability of West Portage Trail. He has attended some of the meetings of the Merriman Valley Master Plan. One theme presented was getting sidewalks down to the Valley. They are currently building sidewalks and shared-use paths as part of the project between Graham Road and Albertson Parkway. They will start to design and build a new sidewalk on the south side of West Portage Trail from Portage Path up to Waterford Court. The sidewalk will be just short of 2,000 feet long. Cuyahoga Falls' share of this project is only \$26,730, because it is a small piece that is down at corner by Portage Path. The rest is in the City of Akron. This cooperative type of agreement will allow them to move forward with the project and will allow them to build this section of sidewalk. Hopefully, this is the first of continued cooperative efforts with Akron. The goal is have this built this year.

Mrs. Penta stated that when attending those meetings of the Merriman Valley Master Plan, people very much wanted walkability, and this is a nice step. Hopefully, what is being done at Portage Trail by Valley Vista will eventually be continued down.

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Mr. Stams congratulated Mr. Demasi and the City on negotiations well done for a walkway that undoubtedly many Cuyahoga Falls residents will be using on the way to the Valley.

Mr. Stams moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-45 with a favorable recommendation, second by MR. James . Motion passed (5-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.