



MINUTES

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Village Green Municipal
Building Council Chambers
47 Hall Street
September 6, 2016
6:30 p.m.

The meeting began at 6:30 pm. Those present included:

Committee Members and Council: Jim Hrivnak, Chairman; Frank Bertone, Council; Jon Bennehoof, Council; Daniel Swartwout, Council; Tom Counts, Council; Brendon Newcomb, Council; Brian Lorenz, Mayor; Steve Lutz, City Manager; Dave Betz, Development Director; Chris Shear, Citizen Representative. Dick Fusch (Planning & Zoning Representative) was absent.

Staff: Karen J. Mitchell, City Clerk; Megan Canavan, Communications Director; Chris Huber, City Engineer; and other interested parties.

Approval of Minutes – [August 2, 2016](#) – Mr. Fusch's title was corrected to P&Z Representative and the minutes were approved as amended.

Today's Business

- **Capital Improvements Projects Signage** – Megan Canavan presented three signs to be posted at various capital improvement sites to thank residents for their support of the bond levy which fund the projects. The signs would stay up for 3-6 months after project completion. The first site for the signs would be the Murphy's Parkway extension. **ACTION PLAN: The committee approved going forward with purchasing and posting the signs.**
- **Murphy Parkway - Construction Update** - Chris Huber reported that contractors will be working on finishing up landscaping and traffic sign installation this week. Way-finding signage is not included yet. A traffic study will be done six months after opening to see how traffic patterns have been affected and way-finding signs may follow after that. The opening is still on schedule for September 30th and he hopes to time it with AEP turning on the streetlights. There is continued work on the wetland area. There has been some delay getting it planted due to drought conditions, but this delay will not delay the opening of the roadway.

Megan Canavan mentioned that the ribbon cutting ceremony date hasn't been set but she felt that the celebration should be kept simple with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, photo-op, and press. If the committee was in agreement with this approach, the celebration could be put together on short notice. **ACTION PLAN: The committee agreed to keep the celebration simple and modest, and to proceed with planning it.**

- **Murphy Parkway – Additional Landscaping Request** – Dave Betz reported that additional funds were needed to add buffering and screening trees, some of which were to be planted on residents' property and to replace those trees that were removed during construction. Chris Huber said that there is enough funding in the contingency to cover the cost of the additional landscaping so no additional appropriations are needed. **ACTION PLAN: The committee**

agreed to move forward with the additional landscaping to add buffering and screening for the residents.

- Murphy Parkway – Lechler Parking Lot Change – Chris Huber stated that aggregate ground asphalt has been ground up, milled out and applied. A few inches of the milled surface still needs to be applied over the surface and should be completed in the next week.
- Murphy Parkway – Pedestrian Rail Crossing - Status Update – Dave Betz attached the latest communication with CSX who said if the City closed three at-grade crossings, we could get one. Mr. Betz responded that the northern driveway has already been removed and the two southern driveways will be removed this year. There has been no response to this from CSX. Detailed engineering has not yet been completed. **ACTION PLAN: Jon Bennehoof agreed to contact Pat Tiberi's office to ask for assistance on moving this matter forward.**

Old Business

- Bike Path Engineering – Status Update – Chris Huber states that the City's attorney prepared a joint agreement for the City and township to bid and forwarded it to the township for review. The township submitted responses with a different contract and counsel is currently reviewing it. In terms of engineering, Columbia Gas has a different location for their gas line on Rutherford Road and the City will meet with them on this issue. Chris said that he hopes to bid it this year for construction next year.

The path at Liberty and Seldom Seen was moved out 20 feet so that in the event a signal is placed at that intersection, the bike path should not be affected. The City has all five easements needed. The only remaining utility issue is Columbia Gas on Rutherford Road and who pays for the relocation. Steve Lutz added that this is the reason that many of the bike path areas that are not currently linked together haven't been linked yet - various additional complications that will be more costly to overcome.

- Grace Drive Signals Engineering Update – On the 750-Grace Drive side, Chris Huber reported that the City bid last month and tonight Council will be presented with a resolution to reject those bids because they were too high. It will be re-bid later this year in hopes of getting lower bids. Cost estimate for this side is \$220,000.

On the Liberty-Grace Drive side, the City is in the preliminary state with the engineer and tomorrow he will tell us what utility companies the City needs to get with, starting with AEP, for right-of-way. There is some minor widening of Liberty Road and the road will shift to the left. The City is trying to get a right-of-way from the property to the west of the intersection. A final engineering submission is expected in 3-4 weeks. No cost estimate for this side yet, but expects it to be around \$500,000.

Chris would like to try to bid both sides together, but to do so would be a very aggressive timeline.

New Business – Mayor Lorenz asked for a discussion on way-finding signs for the bike paths.

Adjournment - Having no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.