

## **Public Services Committee Meeting Minutes**

November 14, 2019

Called to Order: 6:00pm by Kim Chamberland

**Present:** *Kim Chamberland, Ted Haskins, Amy Vilardo*

**Staff:** *City Manager, Michael Doss, Nate Clayton, Public Works Director, Administrative Assistant, Jackie Bain*

**Visitors:** *T. Oliver, J. Haungs, J. Wulfech, L. Howland, T. Howland, D. Liles, C. Sampson, N. Louiso, D. Michaels, T. Will, N. Newton, Conover, R. Rapp, L. Karnes, K. Langdon, T. Levord, B. Bird, D. McLouth, B. Price, F. Wulfeck, and S. Freeze.*

**Approval of Proceedings:** *The committee approved the proceedings from the October 10, 2019 Public Services Committee meeting. Mr. Haskins made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Ms. Vilardo. All approved.*

### Discuss the Storm Water Planning and Potential Street Projects for South Milford

Public Works Director Nate Clayton addressed the committee and residents from South Milford who were invited to attend the meeting and to discuss with the committee and Mr. Clayton how to remedy the flooding that occurs on their property and around their neighborhood when there is a heavy amount of rain. Topics included in the discussion:

- Additional Drywells at Oak-2019/2020
- Potentially making Laurel One Way In at Mill, and reversing Gatch to One Way Out – in 2020
- Removing pavement on Laurel in between trees – 2020
- Curbing from 612 Garfield to Gatch – 2020
- 2021 OPWC Project Mill, Cleveland, and South Milford Paving
- Adding Mill St Storm Line from Mound to Garfield – 2021
- Curbing from 610 Garfield to Mill 2021

### Public Comments:

**L. Howland** Drywell Cleveland and Laurel were not dug deep enough. Can they be dug deeper? Two feet more? N.C Would have to do a soil sample  
Laurel/Mill asphalt pile up solution? Solution to take back down.  
N.C. Would have to mill a lot but also control the storm water in the area. This will be something that will be looked at with the 2021 Street Improvement Project  
L.H. Green Storm water management/any environmental Grants available to help?

N.C. There is an Ohio 319 Grant Federal Grant. We would have to spend a lot of money on a study to see if we are eligible.

**T. Levord** plan to do anything around Gatch Street which gets overflowed with heavy rain. And who is responsible for drywell maintenance. N.C. Possibly a larger drywell at the end of Oak if other solutions do not work. Or placing a ditch and a curb in the parking area along Gatch. Possibly to be a project next year. Drywells are cleaned out once a year and some of the debris is from parking gravel. Intention is to do more intensive drywell inspections so that we keep on top of those more. How much rain can those curbs withstand before water flows over that curb? N.C. a type 6 curb is approximately 6 inches tall. It will catch the flow and divert it to a catch basin. It would have been able to catch the water flow from the June flow of water.

**N. Louiso** by curbing Mill from Garfield to Cleveland in 2021, on the curb, northside, the curb will be on the other side eliminating the gravel parking spaces? N.C. possibly. To be curbed. It is a low spot in the neighborhood. Another catch basin to catch the water drains into the storm sewer project that is proposed for 2021.

**T. Will** Dry Well at the dead end of Oak Street to be deepened or proposing another dry well at that location? Speeding and parking on the sidewalks have been a consistent issue on Gatch and should be addressed. N.C. Yes.

**B. Bird** Do not plant Bradford Pear trees anywhere because they are invasive. Also, Part of the proposal to close Laurel? N.C. yes and then can do to keep more storm water out of the lower levels.

**T. Howland** Thank you for this meeting. The 2012 Storm Water project that did not happen and was then a neighborhood issue. 2021 project funding from the paving project but curb is going to do at Garfield and Mill in 2021. How large will this curb be? N.C. the curb type 6 on Garfield to be proposed to catch water and keeping from going into yards on the downhill side of Garfield with a catch basin at the end of that street. If Laurel cannot be closed then and where it cannot be curbed at the sharp intersection, where the curb would end then a pipe would be placed under the road. This would catch the water that is coming across Garfield at that location. The other catch basin on that plan will help divert at the ADA ramp location will catch any additional overflow in that area and take it down into a pipe along Mill Street. More water can be kept out of the area if Laurel is closed. And not having cars driving between Garfield, Mill and Laurel allows to change the grade of the topography to divert the water to where we would want it to go. Two Drywells on Laurel. One that hits the gravel field at 24"- 30" and the second one that begins to hit sand at 14' and it does not work. They are only 60' apart. If the soil is not permeable enough, then there needs to be a back up plan. If the drywell options do not work due to the soil not being permeable enough, what is another option to deal with the storm water? N.C. the drywells that we have work fine most of the time. However, we have had large rain events. So, with an additional drywell on Laurel, between Mill and Oak, to help catch the excess flow. N.C. wants to improve the blind corner profile and if Laurel can be closed, we can put a stop sign at the top of Mill. If Laurel cannot be closed, and a stop sign is placed further down it is harder to see. The intent of the meeting was to get a consensus and opinions of the residents and to possibly identify some other items. There are a lot of options out there.

**K. Sampson** Trench drain option? N.C. yes. It is another option

**D. McCloud** Closing off Laurel – taken into consideration of the increase in population? With closing Laurel, how do I get to my front yard from my backyard? This will be a challenge.

**F. Wulfeck** Clarify – At Garfield, closing off the entrance and the traffic to go back and forth? N.C. yes

**T. Oliver** Question regarding in between Laurel and Cleveland, on Oak. Is that a drywell that is at the end of the alley way? It doesn't take a lot of rain for the drywells to back up. Is it not drilled down enough to get to the right soil or is it filled up? N.C. yes it could be. Next year the plan is to have employees from the Service Department be educated to inspect them when they are going around town cleaning out the debris and checking to see if they are in need of being cleaned out of rock debris that may have entered into the pipes and keep the debris cleaned out. This is the intent for next year since we would like to keep them.

**S. Freeze** are the current drywells big enough in South Milford? Is it cost effective to go in a place bigger pipes in them and go down deeper? N. C. the piping is not viable at this time. Drywells to be maintenance and to see if they need to go a bit deeper

**J. Haungs** all for fixing the drains that are currently in place. And then take out the asphalt that is on Laurel, it would help a lot. Potentially make the drains bigger and to include the new places (Milford South School property and potentially the property by SEM Villa) with a traffic study. Not to close Laurel to mean a one-way street vs fixing what we already have.

Amy Vilardo thanked everyone for coming out. These projects effect you. No formal proposal is in front of the committee currently. This type of meeting benefits the residents since there are council members available in the form of a committee meeting.

### Trimming of Tree Branches and Tree Placement

Mr. Clayton addressed the committee that a lot of the trees are not being maintained in the neighborhoods. The city doesn't own trees in Right of Way, they are the property owners and their responsibility to maintain. The intent of a letter that was sent out was to inform property owners to trim and remove all tree branches lower than 8' above sidewalks and 12' above streets to the curb by November 30, 2019. After December 1<sup>st</sup>, we will go neighborhood by neighborhood, trimming branches only over the roadway, so our trucks and equipment can service the neighborhoods. Stoneridge HOA for example has hired a company to trim the street trees to above 12' over the roadway. Some of the issues with trees between the road and sidewalk: interfering with service trucks (emergency, leaf, garbage, utility), they don't allow the roads to dry out (moisture is #1 cause of pavement failure), and the roots and canopy are too close to public utilities in most places. Tree roots are also getting into the sanitary sewer and clogging the lines which causes us to go in and do sewer linings. We may have to start thinking of using tree wells for the upcoming Downtown Milford project which would work as a concrete box that could control the roots and possibly be used as a catch basin for storm water.

## Public Comments:

**D. Michaels** – concerned with the initiative with specific neighborhoods within Milford. This would be nice to see enforced in all parts of Milford. N.C. 1200 letters were mailed out to all Milford subdivisions to inform the residents of the upcoming tree trimming.

**C. Sampson** – On Laurel Avenue some residents have already planted Ornamental Trees which will not grow to be very big. If there were to be trimmed 12ft from the roadside they will virtually be eliminated. Any allowance for them? N.C. The intent is for some of the larger branches that cause damage to be taken care of.

## Land and Water Conservation Agreement RE: Riverside Park Master Plan Walking Path

Michael Doss informed the committee that there were two projects approved by council. One was the shelter and the other was the walking path at Riverside park. Clermont County was the funding agency. There were issues with the contract and issues with the bids. All the while this Land and Water Conservation Grant, which was tied into this, was getting close to expiring. This agreement is an extension of that grant for the walking path. There is no cost to the city for this grant because of the funds that are being used to leverage for the shelter can also be used as an in-kind match for this project. As we complete the shelter portion, we can leverage those funds for the project that were appropriated for that project to match in kind for the land and water conservation in hopes that we can do the walking path later next year. They now need legislation from Council to authorize the continuance of the agreement for another year. The shelter should be built by Memorial Day.

***The Committee Agreed to Make A Motion Authorizing the Law Director to Draft an Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into An Agreement with Land and Water Conservation Fund Program State/Local Grant Project Number 39-01439, Riverside Park New Multi-Use Shelter & Perimeter Walking Trail.***

Mr. Doss also brought to the committee's attention that Mr. Clayton did give copies to each committee member of Engineering firms that submitted Preliminary Engineering Report Analysis of the Water Tower and our Water Distribution System. The committee will consist of staff: Mr. Doss, Ms. Holbrook, Mr. Clayton and Mr. Casteel. This will be a big undertaking and a long process. Much of the information that comes from this committee will be brought before the Public Services Committee. Mr. Clayton would like to select the highest three and then invite them to interview which will be scheduled for after Thanksgiving. This process is needed to secure funding. Once they have determined their findings to then report back to the Public Services Committee with their final two choices from the RFP's submitted.

There being no additional business, Ms. Vilardo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm  
Seconded by Mr. Haskins All yes.

Respectfully Submitted, Jackie Bain

***"These minutes have been approved and adopted by Ms. Chamberland November 18, 2019, Ms. Vilardo November 18, 2019 and Mr. Haskins November 18, 2019 via email."***