

Public Services Committee Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2020

Called to Order: 4:30pm by Kim Chamberland

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

***Staff:** City Manager, Michael Doss and Administrative Assistant, Jackie Bain*

***Visitors:** Kleingers, Tim Casto and Rozzi Fireworks, Joe Rozzi*

***Approval of Proceedings:** The committee approved the proceedings from the February 26, 2020 Public Services Committee meeting. Ms. Vilardo made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Haskins. All yes*

Sparks in the Park Discussion

Mr. Joe Rozzi from Rozzi Fireworks discussed with the committee options that many municipalities are taking at this time for the public to view fireworks displays safely. Cities are asking people to view from their homes or from parking lots. Rozzi's is wanting to be flexible as possible. They are going to hold our deposit until next year. If needed, we can re-schedule or move to another location this year. Options are available. The committee discussed the locations available in Milford. Visibility, traffic, future city event dates, turn-around time, dual locations and Government orders were considered. The cities of Loveland, Fairfield, Lebanon and Mason are still having a fireworks event. The Committee concluded that as much as they would like to hold this event it wouldn't be prudent to have the fireworks event on July 3rd and to look into possibly having the fireworks later in the year and we can observe what worked and what did not work for other community firework events.

OKI Grant Street Application – Downtown Milford Corridor Phase III

City Manager Michael Doss informed the committee that he has been working with Tim Casto/Kleingers Group on producing a grant application for a Downtown Street Scape /Downtown Milford Corridor/Phase III. Phase I was SR28. Phase II involved the sidewalk improvements on 50 Main Lila all the way up to SR 131, which will occur this summer. Phase III is the final piece of the downtown Milford Corridor/downtown streetscape in Old Milford. This will tie the entire project together. This is a grant that is through the state, but we have to apply for through OKI to get funding. This grant we would apply for this year, become eligible and then start the grant in 2024.

Mr. Casto presented information for the OKI Grant Street Application Downtown Street Scape. There is a max cap dollar amount on the project. Mr. Casto explained that these are Federal dollars that we are applying for through OKI. It is a competitive process for projects. For the Transportation Alternative Projects, which is similar to our Street Scape type projects, \$750,000.00 is the maximum amount of grant dollars. As an approach of maximizing points to qualify for project funding, this project would have a 52% grant and 48% City match.

The intent of the project is to take the Street Scape main core of the area in downtown area and bring up through Kirgan on SR 28. This phase is not as intense as what we have downtown. This phase will have more targeted opportunities where we have pedestrian crossings and to bring in some elements where we have trees, street lighting, and rapid flashing beacons. Committee members asked why SR 28 was chosen and not Lila Avenue? Mr. Doss explained that there is conduit on SR 28 and also conduit on Lila Avenue, but the max out of the grant and getting some other things like sidewalk replacement adds to the total look. Lila Avenue has the system in place just between now and 2024, we could go back and put items on Lila Avenue, or we can do after. But it would have to be a separate wave. The infrastructure is there, but in order to make this grant work, to maximize the dollars that were available, we focused on SR 28. The project could be moved to Lila Avenue since both intersect at Kirgan. Both SR28 and Lila Avenue could be done but we would have to find additional funds to complete both. We will have one done by 2024 for this particular project. We would have to take from city funds, or we would look for another grant to help fund the additional area. Lighting would not be covered. The committee discussed weather to add or switch SR28 section to 50/Lila Avenue. Mr. Casto mentioned that if we add the Lila Avenue section then we would have max out the federal funds that we would get. Mr. Doss mentioned that we could apply for this grant this year and hopefully get it and then apply next year for a phase version 3.1 of this project to fund the additional section and have it completed by 2025. The infrastructure will be there and i may also be an option to deliver both within one year apart.

Mr. Casto also discussed the intent for the downtown corridor area regarding benches, public parking, pedestrian crosswalks and wayfinding elements. The existing sidewalk program was discussed as well as replacement opportunities for sidewalks. Also reviewed were the safety aspects of this project. The committee had a discussion regarding shifting a crosswalk from the SR28 current plan to now place on Lila Avenue for the sake of this grant application. The committee agreed that they would like the plan to move from the downtown area to concentrate more on SR 28 section and Main Street/Lila Avenue up to the intersection in front of the MAC Fitness Center. This would make huge difference esthetically. Tree location in the downtown area was discussed and what elements could be brought in to address storm water. This project would have a scope and then these elements may need to grow, and a traffic study will need to be done to support a traffic light on Main Street/Lila Avenue. In conclusion, we will maximize what we can get, we will maximize the federal dollars that we can get and beyond that it will be 100% Milford cost.

The Committee agreed to make a motion authorizing the Law Director to prepare an ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to prepare and submit an application for Transportation Alternative Funds through the Ohio Kentucky Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments for the Downtown Milford Corridor Phase III Project in an amount not to exceed \$750,000 and with matching City of Milford funds of \$690,250 and to executed all contracts as required

Milford Miami Township Chamber Street Closure Request – Virtual Frontier Days

Ms. Chamberland recused herself from the discussion.

Mr. Doss informed the committee of two recent requests from the MMTCC. Closing Main Street June 6th Saturday and June 7th Sunday from Garfield to Locust from 11am to 9pm with additional seating options. We do have businesses in the downtown area that have struggled to stay open. And closing off streets makes it harder for them to conduct business. The city does now have options for outdoor dining areas, including the new picnic area at Riverside Park Shelter and the new outdoor seating area at Park National Bank. The request will not be approved for those hours and the concern from Police Chief Mills that due to the current order and a possible new order, it would be a very well attended event and it would be unmanageable for the Police Department and could violate the Governor's stay safe order. The committee also reviewed a request for approval to close a portion of Sycamore St. from Main and Water St. from June 4th to June 7th for 2 concession trailers to sell festival foods to build upon the virtual Frontier Days atmosphere. And to also have a few more picnic tables set up in Memorial Park. The committee discussed the request and feel that the requests are not feasible at this time due to social distancing rules and many of the downtown retail businesses have been closed and they find it difficult to conduct business when roads are closed down for events. The committee feels there is no reason to close streets or parking areas at this time and to not disrupt other businesses and eateries downtown.

Other business discussion appropriate to come before the committee included a suggestion of an emergency maintenance phone number sign to be placed at the drinking fountain, Gutters to be installed at the new Riverside shelter, maintenance of the new outdoor dining area and Speed Bump on Crestview.

There being no additional business Mr. Haskins made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:42pm
Seconded by Ms. Vilardo All yes

Respectfully Submitted, Jackie Bain

"These minutes have been approved and adopted by Ms. Chamberland June 1, 2020, Ms. Vilardo June 1, 2020 and Mr. Haskins June 1, 2020."