MINUTES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
February 17, 2015

Members of Community Development Committee present: Mel Clemens, Barth Cotner, Chris Long, Scott Barrett, and Dan Skinner.

President of Council Doug Joseph was also present.

Councilman Clemens called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the minutes of the Community Development Committee Meeting held 2/02/2015

Discussion: Community Center.

Mr. Clemens: I have nothing to bring before Council in regards to the Community Center so I'd like to put that on hold until the next Committee Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32

Community Development Committee  
--April L. Baggerow, Clerk of Council  
February 17, 2015
MINUTES SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
February 17, 2015

Members of the Safety Committee present: Chris Long, Dan Skinner, Mel Clemens, Barth Cotner, and Scott Barrett.

President of Council Doug Joseph was also present.

Chairman Long called the meeting to order at 7:31pm

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the minutes of the Safety Committee meeting held 2/02/2015

Discussion: 2015 Fireworks Contract

Mr. Long: First reading was on February 9, 2015. Any questions or comments on this?

Motion by Mr. Long to send forward to Council for second reading. Second by Mr. Skinner. All voted “Aye” Motion Carries.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm

Safety Committee
--April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
February 17, 2015
MINUTES SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
February 17, 2015

Members of Service Committee present: Mel Clemens, Scott A. Barrett, Barth R. Cotner, Chris Long, Dan Skinner.

President of Council Doug Joseph was also present.

Chairman Clemens called the meeting to order at 7:34p.m.

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of the Minutes of the Service Committee 2/02/2015

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH EMH&T FOR THE ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT OF SEWER LINE CCTV AND MANHOLE INSPECTIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (first reading 2/09/2014)

Mr. Clemens: Any questions for the Service Director on this item? Motion to send this to Council for its second reading and adoption as an emergency. Second by Mr. Skinner.

All voted “Aye” Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO PURCHASE ONE VACALL STREET SWEEPER FOR THE STREET DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (first reading 2/09/2014)

Mr. Burd: I just wanted to put a couple things out that I think you may already know, I just want to make sure they’re part of the public record regarding this item. The first thing I want to point out is that a street sweeper can be used year-round. There was a comment last week that you can only use it 4 months a year, that is not the case. The only time you really can’t use it is if there is accumulated snow on the ground, so if you take this winter as an example, we could have used it all of December because it didn’t snow, we could have used it all of January and we could have used it most of February with this week being an obvious exception.
That was one thing I wanted to point out and I also wanted to make sure everyone was clear about this item not being bid. There are 2 companies that make the type of sweeper that we want to purchase. We received pricing in writing from both. You have that. We also received pricing from a third company that offers a slightly less equipped sweeper, you also have that. We have the opportunity to buy this sweeper that is on a contract with the National Joint Powers Alliance, that takes a little over $5,000 off the price. That makes our preferred sweeper, the least expensive of the 2 options so I wanted to be clear that we didn’t just go out willy-nilly and find the one we want. We’ve done our homework for quite a long time on this and we’ve shown all the pricing relevant to this purchase. The last thing I want to talk about is just a little bit more specific on how this is funded because I’ve heard there is some confusion about that. I want to talk specifically about our stormwater fund. Every property owner in this city pays a stormwater fee. For most properties its $2.00 a month, $6.00 a quarter on the water bills. The money we collect in that fee can only be used on stormwater expenses. We can’t use it on anything else. So half of this purchase is being purchased from the stormwater fund because a street sweeper is a permitted use because it cleans out our stormwater inlets and helps maintain our stormwater infrastructure. We really can’t use these funds for much else and so if someone were to say why don’t we take this money and do blank with it instead, unless your filling in the blank with something that’s directly related to stormwater, we can’t do it. So we can’t use this money for other departments, we can’t use this money for equipment that’s not related to our stormwater system and we can’t use this money on projects that aren’t related to our stormwater system. The remaining 50% of the purchase is also being divided up among 2 funds that are limited in what we can legally spend the money on and a street sweeper qualifies. I hope I didn’t say anything incorrect, Mr. Auditor?

Mr. Harris: You passed.

Mr. Burd: Ok, just making sure. And so, I just wanted to be clear that we’re not taking General Fund money for this, we’re not taking income tax revenue for this, we’re not taking from a certain department to buy a piece of equipment that isn’t needed, we think this is needed and we think that we’ve structured this purchase in a way that makes sense. So I wanted to point those out and answer any remaining questions that you have.

Mr. Cotner: In your talking, just out of curiosity, not that I’m questioning this particular purchase, but you mentioned there are limited options of what we could
purchase. What are some examples of what can be purchased that might be on a wish list or something like that?

Mr. Harris: There’s 2 main things that the stormwater fund pays for. One thing is the operation of the department. We do have employees and the equipment for those employees to clean out inlets and the ponds and that kind of stuff. The second thing that we use it for and Nathan is going to talk later about a street program. The money to replace curb in that street program can be used with money from that fund because curb and the gutter is part of the storm water system. The city Attorney and I have worked on this years and years ago and it was proved that that’s a legitimate use for that particular money. So that’s the main 2 things that it’s used for. There has over the years been other projects that have been done out of the stormwater fund where we’ve had pipes broken and other things underground. Mel had one that they did over on Bartlett road the stormwater in there blew manhole covers off and that’s not really safe and it flooded over there so, there have been.. that was over a million dollars and we borrowed money to do that. So those are the other uses that the stormwater utility has. One of the things we’re going to be looking at this years is the water department gets the Clean River Fund, we’re going to be switching that to the stormwater from the sanitary sewer department because that’s where it belongs to be paid out of. So it doesn’t have a lot of things you can see but they have to go underground just like the sewer department does to clean stormwater, drains that sort of thing.

Mr. Burd: Just to follow up on that, this machine will clear out our inlets so the water will get where it needs to go. But if an inlet were to collapse, this machine won’t be able to fix that so that would be another project we would pay for with these funds. But whatever it is, it has to be related to stormwater.

Mr. Clemens: Nathan, what would be left in the stormwater fund? Also, would you mention the other 2 funds?

Mr. Burd: Street fund and State Highway Fund. State Highway fund we can only use on a certain number of streets, but we will be sweeping those streets and the street fund generates revenue from the gasoline tax that the city receives.

Mr. Harris: Right now there is $1,374,000 in the stormwater utility unencumbered.

Mr. Barrett: Can this fund be used for the sidewalk project?
Mr. Burd: No.

Mr. Barrett: Can it be re-appropriated to anywhere?

Mr. Burd: No. It’s an enterprise fund so when you collect money from residents and this is a stormwater fee you’re collecting it for, it has to be related to stormwater so sidewalks wouldn’t apply but curbing would but the actual sidewalk itself would not.

Mr. Barrett: As usual you’ve done a really good job putting the pieces together and answering the questions. My problem is the price tag and the public opinion. Everyone in this room I think understands it crystal clear now and people don’t really understand where we’re at when they see us buying stuff like that. Is the current one we have running right now?

Mr. Burd: No.

Mr. Barrett: So, you’re telling me there’s like 2 different people that operate it, what do they do now that they don’t have…

Mr. Burd: Well we use existing staff to run our street sweeper so we don’t have staff members who only do street sweepers and so the same people that operate street sweepers fix our streetlights, fill our potholes, salt and plow the roads and do all the other duties related to the street department. So we don’t have anyone who’s only job is to sweep the street. We have a couple different employees that know how to use this machine and they would just be using it on top of their other duties that they do daily.

Mr. Clemens: Nathan, would you do me one favor, when you speak to the press pertaining to this, bring out what the money, where the funds come from and what they can’t be used for. I think that’s the important thing.

Mr. Burd: I think it’s very important, the budget’s complicated and there are certain things you can and can’t do with it and the reason I wanted to say that is so it’s part of the conversation I don’t want people thinking that this is coming out of some other fund. There are very few things that we can do with these dollars.

Mr. Joseph: Do we still have the old sweeper?

Mr. Burd: Yes, It is parked behind the salt barn I believe.
Mr. Joseph: Is there any way we can either sell it or trade it in?

Mr. Burd: It will be traded in, the trade in value is reflected in the pricing. $4,000 we can’t get a lot out of it but it is factored into the final price, the one that we want to buy.

Mr. Clemens: Any more questions? Motion to refer to Council for its second reading and adoption as an emergency. Second by Mr. Long.

All voted “Aye” Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned 7:43 p.m.

Service Committee
- - April L. Baggerow, Clerk of Council
February 17, 2015
MINUTES FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
February 17, 2015

Members of Finance Committee present: Barth Cotner, Chris Long, Mel Clemens, Scott Barrett, and Dan Skinner

President of Council Doug Joseph was also present.

Chairman Cotner called the meeting to order at 7:44pm

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held 2/02/2015

Discussion: Council appointment for Planning Commission- (Democrat) held from: 1/20/2015.

Mr. Cotner: We’ve been saying a Democrat but it could be an Independent also. We have received a couple of resumes. We haven’t set a timeframe or dead line on this so we’ll hold it another couple of weeks to get more interest in this.

Discussion: Discussion: Authorizing CT Consultants to conduct Phase 1 of Huber Park Review/Master Plan.

Mr. Cotner: Motion to forward to Council for its first reading with recommendation for adoption as an emergency. Second by Mr. Long.

All voted “Aye” Motion Carries.

Discussion: Agreement with EMH&T for 2015 Street Program Engineering and Bidding Services.

Mr. Burd: Thank you Chairman Cotner, members of Council. This item will get the ball rolling on 2015 Street Program, specifically it will appropriate $16,068 to allow EMH&T to do the preliminary engineering as well as handle all of the bidding for the program. We are anticipating a total cost of somewhere between $900 and $960 thousand dollars when this is said and done. This program is going to repave 8 or 9 streets in the city, it’s also going to incorporate the proposal that we passed last year to replace the damage crosswalks in Olde Reynoldsburg as
well as construct the parking lot in Olde Reynoldsburg. As you know we passed those items last year but by the time we got everything together it was too late in the construction season to start construction so we do not anticipate having that same problem this year. We talked a lot in the past about our street repair needs and truth of the matter is, we just don’t have the type of funding we would like to address all of the different streets we would like to work on every year. Recently I gave you a color coded map that showed the condition of every street in the city that was not a good map, it was a tough map to look at because a lot of streets are in poor or very poor condition. We don’t have millions of dollars so what we do have we’re trying to use wisely. Part of this year’s program is we’re trying to do groupings of streets. For example, this year we want to do Tomahawk, Trailblazer, Pathfinder and Wigwam because those streets are all connected, they’re all in poor or very poor condition and by doing them all at once we’re getting an entire neighborhood addressed as opposed to taking our limited funds and sort of scattering them randomly on streets throughout the city. That was part of the thinking on why we designed the program why we did this year and we think that it’s a good program with the resources we have and we hope that you’ll give it approval. Once this is approved, it will take EMH&T several weeks to do the engineering as well as get the documents together to bid it, we would request that I pass as an emergency whenever you’re comfortable passing it just so we don’t have to wait an extra month to hire a contractor. Cities all over the region are planning their projects right now and the sooner we get in the better as far as competition and getting a better price. I know you just got this last week, I’m not going to ask you to pass it next week or anything so as soon as you’re comfortable we’re ready to get going on it.

Mr. Barrett: The parking lot portion of this, it’s the only thing I’m trying to get my arms wrapped around. I like the idea of us bringing people downtown, I think it sets our town up to win but I keep thinking about how we got the Senior Center paved, how we got it supported because it was by a creek. Would it be worth exploring since it’s by a creek also?

Mr. Burd: We looked into it last year when we were initially wanting to do it and we didn’t find any Grant proposal, I’ll certainly be happy to see if there may be anything now that will allow it. At the time there was not but I’ll look into it and I’ll see what I can find between now and out next meeting but certainly we’d love to have Grant money if there was an opportunity.

Mr. Barrett: It just seems that that particular portion of, I get the brick sidewalks in the crosswalks, those are terrible. But it seems that that parking lot becomes more
of a development issue to me and a service that we’re offering, I’m curious, it is something that we could ask the business owners to maybe have a stake in that?

Mr. Burd: Like to build it and then assess them for a portion of the charges?

Mr. Barrett: Well we want them to do good..

Mr. Burd: It’s not something that we had thought about, it would be used by anyone who wanted to use it so. I guess I can’t give an answer, it hasn’t been a plan. I guess the construction and the engineering, and I have to verify this for you but I think that’s between $70 and $80 thousand dollars of that 900+ so it’s not a huge amount. I don’t know how that would be divided up, I know there may be some business who don’t get a lot of car traffic so they may say look I don’t want to participate and they might be 3 doors down, there may be others that get a lot of car traffic and so I don’t know how we would set that up proportionately but I can certainly talk to the Development Director to see if there is anything feasible.

Mr. Harris: Just a comment. One of the problems with getting a Grant for that particular property is the long term plan for the city as I understand is, for that not to be a parking lot and the EPA only gets them stuff that they want there as a permanent fixture so I think finding a Grant for that is going to be extremely difficult.

Mr. Barrett: Then the only thing I would like is to continue this through, if we could just get a dollar and cents figure on that portion of it.

Mr. Burd: I have one I just don’t remember it, but I’ll have it for you.

Mr. Barrett: I mean, I know a couple of businesses there that would really love it and probably some people that go to those businesses that would love it. Not sure that the guys out on Taylor road.. yeah, let’s look at that.

Mr. Burd: I’ll give you the exact dollar amount and it will include the construction estimated and the engineering for it.

Mr. Clemens: The important thing is to get that brick out of there.

Mr. Burd: yes totally agree.

Mr. Clemens: I hear more complaints on that than I hear of anything.
Mr. Burd: we’ve gotten complaints consistently about it. They’re not getting better, obviously they’re getting worse. Mr. Havener and I took a group of students down there last week, we had another group of students looking at Olde Reynoldsburg and I counted 6 bricks on the sidewalks, I have a whole collection in my office of paperweights, and personally its’ the most excited about a project since I’ve been here because we get a lot of complaints and especially if you’re in the furthest east bound lanes, it is jarring to hit those crosswalks and you just can’t put cold patch down and smooth it out, it just doesn’t work. So we wanted to get it done last year, we’re definitely going to get it done this year.

Mr. Clemens: Because all of that traffic we do have there, that’s important.

Mr. Burd: and the speeds they go unfortunately.

Mr. Barrett: when we replace the crosswalks, will we be making provisions for a new type of crosswalk because that’s some pretty heavy traffic.

Mr. Burd: It’s going to be asphalt. It’s just going to be typical road.

Mr. Barrett: I mean mark them in any way?

Mr. Burd: Oh yea, they’ll be marked as crosswalks. They’re still going to be striped and marked as crosswalks, they just won’t be brick.

Mr. Cotner: Any other questions? Ok, so at least 2 readings here, we’ll see where everybody gets as far as comfort level based on some answers we get back then. Motion to send forward to Council for first reading. Second by Mr. Long.

All voted “Aye” Motion Carries.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:52pm

Finance Committee
---April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council
February 17, 2015