

STREETS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MINUTES
OF JANUARY 8, 2018

Municipal Council of the City of Vermilion
Municipal Complex, 685 Decatur Street, Vermilion, Ohio 44089

In Attendance: **Vermilion City Council:**
Steve Herron, President of Council; Monica Stark, Council at Large; John Gabriel, Ward One; Frank Loucka, Ward Two; Steve Holovacs, Ward Three; Barb Brady, Ward Four; Brian Holmes, Ward Five.

Administration:
Jim Forthofer, Mayor; Tony Valerius, Service Director; Chris Howard, City Engineer; Chris Hartung, Police Chief; Chris Stempowski, Fire Chief.

Call to Order: Frank Loucka, Chairman, RESOLVED THAT this Streets, Buildings, & Grounds Committee comprised of the committee of the whole does now come to order.

TOPIC ONE: **Street Program 2018**

F. Loucka explained that a couple months ago, council had discussed the possibility of paving Main Street from Liberty to Main Street Beach. He thought with council's approval they could ask the engineer to provide council with estimated costs. S. Herron mentioned they should look at where the city will be financially once they review the budget. However, he thought they should start thinking about it, but they shouldn't shut their minds off to doing another project or two if the city can afford it. S. Holovacs said if they ask the engineer to provide cost estimates then council should look at what other streets they might be interested in. Mayor Forthofer said he would like to get an estimate for Hollyview between Sanford and Forestview as well. B. Brady said they may also want to look at street striping and allocating the funds from Street Maintenance and Repair rather than permissive use because it has no life span.

B. Brady MOVED: J. Gabriel seconded to request the city engineer to provide costs estimates for the paving of Main Street from Liberty to Main Street Beach, and Hollyview between Sanford and Forestview. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TOPIC TWO: **Traffic Signal Project**

S. Holovacs noted there are control boxes along the curb on Liberty Avenue and he was aware there were at least three poles clipped last year on Liberty. He said he ran into Brian Sarratore and asked if they were putting in any type of ballast to protect these boxes, and was informed by Brian that discussions were held with T. Valerius on this matter. Therefore, he would like to know what the city's cost will be to protect these boxes. Also, there is a possibility with an ODOT project that they may be looking at picking up 80 percent for some of the protection. However, he would like the service director to start looking into this now and get back with council on the costs.

TOPIC THREE: 2018 Hydrant Mapping/Repair/Replacement Program Request

F. Loucka requested from the administration a status update on working and non-working fire hydrants, and what the program will be for 2018. He assumed the city had a location map of all hydrants and their condition. T. Valerius said its part of their water system and they do have a list. Approximately 25 out of 600 hydrants are out of service; 10 additional hydrants need repair. He noted the list changes all the time as they flush hydrants in the fall and spring. This is a good time of the year for the employees to work on the hydrants. They rebuilt about 15 hydrants last year and they installed two new ones at roughly \$3,200 per hydrant. Some of the 25 hydrants that are out of service will probably remain out of service as they have a 4" line going to them, so they will not work properly anyway, and some of the hydrants are in the woods. They try to replace and fix as many hydrants as possible. F. Loucka asked for a periodic update on the hydrants that are out of service. T. Valerius said he submitted the list to the Fire Chief.

S. Holovacs asked if the location map is paper or electronic. T. Valerius said it is a paper map. S. Holovacs reminded council that years ago they hired Bramhall to work on GIS mapping and wondered if this information could be merged. C. Howard, City Engineer said it could be done as previously they set up the GIS mapping that shows the sanitary and water, but it was done 10 years ago and wasn't certain it had been updated, so it probably needs to be checked and cleaned up. S. Holovacs said they should look at what the cost would be to centralize this map with all this information.

J. Gabriel added that when they are flushing hydrants they should consider sending out a text on the text alert system letting the public know when and where they are flushing hydrants to avoid problems during a residential or commercial activity.

B. Brady asked what is limiting them of replacing the 25 hydrants that are out of service. T. Valerius said it is a money and manpower issue, but some of the hydrants in VOL are supplied by a 4" line which is useless. It would take them replacing the water main so it's useless to replace the hydrant without replace the main first. B. Brady asked if any of the 25 hydrants would be useable for the fire department that should be replaced quickly. T. Valerius said they are looking at replacing two hydrants on Willow Lane that are next to a telephone pole. Ohio Edison needs to come out and pull the pole so the repairs can be made. They want to do it this time of year as a lot of people in the Lagoons are gone during the winter. There would probably be a three-day boil alert and they would probably need to shut down the road since it's so narrow.

M. Stark asked the Fire Chief if there are plenty of water supplies to cover areas throughout the city as needed. Chief Stempowski said he feels as though they have a plan in place, but there are always hiccups in the system. He mentioned all the engines have 1,000 gallons of water on them and the tanker carries 3,000 gallons. They use a compressed air foam system and have Mutual Aid Agreements that bring in additional resources. They also have water shuttles which they have used. They plan accordingly because in their jurisdiction they have areas without hydrants.

F. Loucka confirmed that if a fire hydrant is yellow it is in fact inoperative. T. Valerius confirmed the yellow hydrants are out of service.

Chairman Frank Loucka adjourned the meeting after no further discussion came before the committee.

Next meeting: February 12, 2018

Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk
