

UTILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

OF JULY 16, 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 Holoavacs, Ward Three; Barb Brady, Ward Four. Absent: Brian Holmes, Ward Five.

Administration:
Jim Forthofer, Mayor; Tony Valerius, Service Director; Chris Howard, City Engineer; Amy Hendricks, Finance Director; Captain Graham

Call to Order: Steve Holoavacs, Chairman, RESOLVED THAT this Utilities Committee comprised of the committee of the whole does now come to order.

TOPIC ONE: City Street Lights

S. Holoavacs said he received information from the service director on this issue as they are asking residents to call the mayor's office when they observe a street light out. The administration will then contact Ohio Edison with the pole location. Also, on Liberty Avenue the administration will keep an eye on the lights that are out and they will talk with the police department to see if they can help with this. He is satisfied with this policy and has already advised the administration of some street lights that are out in his ward.

F. Loucka said if a resident sees a light out and gives an address, will the administration look for the strap number instead of having the resident trying to locate it. T. Valerius said the city will get the information from the pole if they have the location. S. Holoavacs said some poles are not house to house and a light could be five houses down so he thought if a resident gives an address the city could figure out which light is out. T. Valerius said they can figure out which light it is. He mentioned there will be a blurb on the next water bill advising residents on the procedure of reporting lights that are out.

TOPIC TWO: Sunnyside Road Ditch Enclosure

C. Howard made council aware of the condition of the ditch on Sunnyside Road south of the Cooper Foster Road intersection on the west side of the road as it is starting to undermine the road. The road was repaved a couple years ago and the edge line is starting to fall into the ditch, so the city received prices from Miller Excavating to fill the ditch in because they are concerned they will lose the road or somebody is going to fall into the ditch. The price for about 300 feet is \$24,524. He feels this is something that needs to be done so they don't lose the road and nobody has an accident. S. Holoavacs said he had a chance to look at it and it seems they are losing about 6"-8" of the street on the west side. C. Howard said the berm and the edge lines are gone. S. Holoavacs agreed this is dangerous and F. Loucka said the street is narrow to begin with.

B. Brady asked if there should be resident input into this project. S. Holoavacs said this area is all fields and B. Brady said somebody owns those fields. C. Howard said it's within the right of way. B. Brady said the ditches are all in the right of way, so you're going to expect on other streets the resident's to fill in the ditch. She guesses it's a bigger pipe they are putting in and C. Howard said its 24". B. Brady said the residents should be responsible for the cost of a 12" pipe just like they are on the other streets and with the upsize the city pays the difference. This was the agreement the city had; if they are filling in a ditch and it's an improvement to somebody's property the resident pays for a 12" pipe and the city pays for the upgrade as this is consistent for everybody. S. Herron said in this situation he would disagree because the effort is being made to repair the road. C. Howard said they will put a berm on it. B. Brady said when they come onto Edgewater Drive...S. Herron believed it was different and B. Brady said the edge is falling into the ditch; it's exactly the same thing and the service director said the city wouldn't fill in the ditch and she doesn't see the difference. S. Holoavacs said it becomes the safety issue because this will take the street out. There is probably more water coming through there then most areas because of the open fields. He asked council if they want to go back to the ordinance and hold up this project or does council want to vote to fix this.

T. Valerius emphasized that at this point the edge of the road (the white stripe) in some places is gone and that's the edge of the ditch. He feels it is a safety issue because if a car gets over too far they are going to be in the ditch.

M. Stark said with the safety issue at hand and if the road gives in more, then how much more money is that going to cost the city to replace the road and fix the ditch at the same time. She would say this is something they need to do to stop the city from spending more money; it's like you need to spend to save.

S. Holoavacs MOVED; S. Herron seconded to authorize the administration to contract with Miller Excavating to fill in the ditch on Sunnyside Road as described by the city engineer in an amount of \$24,524.00. Discussion: Amy Hendricks said \$25,000 was already allocated as shown on her project sheet under Stormwater Fund 606 as provided and discussed earlier during her report. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS; 1 NAY (Brady). **MOTION CARRIED.**

S. Holoavacs adjourned the meeting after no further discussion came before the committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk