

STREETS, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2017

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

In Attendance: S. Herron, M. Stark, F. Ostrander, F. Loucka, J. Forthofer, B. Holmes, B. Brady, B. Keller, G. Fisher, C. Hartung, T. Valerius. Absent: L. Miggins, Mayor Bulan.

Call to Order: Jim Forthofer, Chairman, RESOLVED THAT this Streets, Buildings & Grounds Committee consisting of the Committee of the Whole does now come to order.

TOPIC ONE: Review of Rubric Street Selection

J. Forthofer thanked council for their diligence in filling out their portion of the rubric. He said the city engineer had a chance to look this over as well and he summarized it on a spreadsheet he provided to council. He said they need to look at how much money they have for future obligations. The finance director prepared a forecast of available revenues for streets through 2025. B. Keller said in 2018 the money available for road projects is \$100,000. J. Forthofer said normally they have \$250,000 unencumbered and wondered why it's only \$100,000. B. Keller said the city is obligated to several costly projects, in particular the Highbridge Road Bridge, Traffic Signals, Vermilion Road, and debt service from years past.

J. Forthofer said in 2018, according to the city engineer, they have to take in consideration the repainting of pavement markings, Main Street Reconstruction, and street resurfacing post water main installation, which is \$330,000 worth of obligations. They have \$100,000 of available revenues. B. Brady said they have a \$500,000 carryover, so there is a buffer which won't help them this time.

J. Forthofer said they have so much in obligations for pre-established projects that they need to get their arms around first. Therefore, he asked how much available revenue they will have for streets in 2018. B. Keller said they have \$100,000 to spend in 2018, which is not part of the committed obligations.

M. Stark said when she is looking at the finance director's report; she notices there are parentheses around the \$100,000 so she would think this is a negative number in a financial spreadsheet. B. Keller said if the \$100,000 is what they spend in 2018, then the ending balance in the levy fund would be \$157,934.48.

F. Loucka asked if the \$90,000 for pavement markings was already accounted for before the \$100,000 and B. Keller said yes as it was already factored in. Council had additional questions pertaining to the spreadsheet as the format appeared confusing. B. Keller said these numbers are a forecast based on historical figures and what council has already committed to.

S. Herron said on January 1, 2018, they will have a new administration and council, and in January they will hold a streets planning meeting. Therefore, at that point they need to look at what the

city's numbers are. They need to get the Main Street Reconstruction done and then look where they are, but the discussion should really begin in January. J. Forthofer said this exercise has demonstrated how difficult it is right now. He feels they need input from the city engineer on what absolutely needs to be done with the Mayor's thoughts expressed as well.

It was noted the forgiveness tax shows a dramatic increase in 2018, 2019, and 2020, as opposed to 2017.

J. Forthofer didn't believe they could punt this whole thing until the next council. Now that they have illustrated this problem, in November they should resume the discussion of reconciling the dollars and finding out where the biggest holes are, and the avenues to pursue money. He tabled this issue until the November 13 Streets meeting.

B. Brady said they need to be careful in the future that they don't cut up a street the way they did on Main Street and not plan to pave it at the time it goes out to bid.

TOPIC TWO: Street Weight Limits

T. Valerius provided council with a Truck Route Signing Plan that the engineer prepared which shows all allowable trucks routes in the city as well as areas that are not a designated truck route. The streets included in the truck route are: Overlook, Niagara, Main, South Street, Liberty Avenue, West River Road, Vermilion Road, Jerusalem Road, North Ridge Road, Sunnyside Road, Haley Street, and Devon Drive. No trucks are allowed on Sailorway Drive and signage will be posted at both ends of Sailorway off of State Street and Sanford.

F. Ostrander asked what happens if somebody wants to dump stone near the lake by Elberta. T. Valerius said they would have to use Niagara. Council discussed the fact that garbage trucks and schools buses are exempt from the street weight limits. Anyone else over five tons would have to obtain a permit from the Mayor.

M. Stark asked if Niagara is the most broken down road out of the four in that area. T. Valerius said all four of these streets are fairly new because they were all redone after they put in the lift station.

F. Ostrander MOVED; F. Loucka seconded to have legislation approved to amend the traffic control map to incorporate the Truck Route Signing Plan as presented. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

TOPIC THREE: Highway Overpass

M. Stark said she would like to start a conversation relative to advertising the city on their highway overpasses. She said there is one in Grove City and in Stark County. She would love to see them get some numbers to see how much it would cost to do something like this. She would love to see something that says "Vermilion" with a lighthouse or sailboat silhouette at the overpass area at

Sunnyside Road by the rest area. She thought it would get the city noticed as there is no other community close by that is doing this. S. Herron thought it was a fantastic and creative idea because the area by the rest area would be a great spot. Obviously, it comes down to the costs and he thought maybe they could contact communities that have this and see what they paid. B. Keller said they could always make a public records request to those cities on how much they paid. M. Stark asked the finance director if he could follow up with communities on their costs. J. Forthofer thought they would need to get permission from ODOT and asked T. Valerius to look into this. He said in Avon they have signage on their stone banks. This issue was tabled until the November meeting.

Side Note: M. Stark after the conclusion of the meeting clarified to the clerk that her intent was not to have the city pay for this, but possibly look at groups in the community that may want to take this on as a fundraising opportunity.

Chairman Jim Forthofer adjourned the meeting after no further discussion came before the committee.

Next meeting: November 13, 2017

Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk

