

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
January 15, 2020 – 3:30PM

Committee Members present: Councilor David A. Witham, Chair
 Martin P. Dumont, Sr. Vice-Chair
 Councilor Kenneth S. Vincent
 Councilor Matt Gerding

Administration/Staff present: City Manager Bob Belmore
 Finance Director Scott Smith
 Director of Public Works Michael Bobinsky
 City Engineer Gary Lemay
 Deputy City Clerk Kelly Gagne

Other: Councilor Richard Michaud

Chairman Witham called the meeting to order at 3:34 pm.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Councilor Vincent, seconded by Councilor Dumont, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2020 meeting. Motion was approved 4-0.

NADEAU STREET ACCEPTANCE UPDATE

Manager Belmore updated the Committee regarding Nadeau Street. He explained that for years City staff has been plowing Nadeau Street; the topic came to light when residents of Nadeau Street reached out to City staff as to why the City was not repaving their street while other repaving projects have been completed in the area. After some research it was discovered that Nadeau Street was not a street that had been accepted by the City. Currently, when City staff plows the street, they have to push the snow to the end and then drivers back up the length of the street, which leaves a higher risk for a possible accident. After additional research was done it was discovered that there would be a large cost to the City upwards of \$50,000 plus to make the street up to City specs and to add a hammer head at the end of the street to allow for plowing equipment to turn around.

There was a robust discussion on the City's options. A betterment assessment option was discussed.

Councilor Witham stated that he is looking at the situation as a mistake of the City from years ago, not any current staff, that we were nice and plowed the street. Currently, this is not a project that he wants to get involved in and that a betterment assessment would be the best idea if residents were to agree to that. He asked if staff could look into the possibility of creating a

betterment assessment district for this project and what it might entail. Manager Belmore agreed that staff will look into this and report back to the committee at a later date.

The Committee consensus is to not move forward with any action and inform the residents of Nadeau Street that the City will be discontinue with plowing the street next winter season, to allow for the residents of Nadeau Street to plan for other plowing options.

SUPPORT FOR HB 1111

Manager Belmore explained to the Committee how a current pole license works. There is currently a house bill to put rules and regulations that establishes a required schedule for the removal and replacement of telephone and electric poles.. It has been brought to City staffs attention by Representative Gerri Cannon. Manager Belmore and Director Bobinsky are prepared to testify at legislature during any hearings process.

Councilor Witham stated that there are many instances where the utility pole is put in and there is no action for months. He pointed out Indigo Hill Rd where there are two poles that have been put up and nothing has been done to them.

Councilor Witham, seconded by Councilor Vincent, made a motion that the Public Works & Environment Committee endorses a Resolution to support HB 1111. Motion passed 4-0

RTE. 108 - STATE DOT PAVING IN SPRING

Manager Belmore informed the Committee that the State DOT plans to overlay Route 108 from the Rochester line to the Dover line next spring/ summer. He explained as part of that project that the City is responsible for the reconstruction/adjusting of sewer manholes, water gates and water shutoff items during the Route 108 paving project. We have estimated a cost of \$15,350 for this, which would come out of the utility funds. The estimated cost has been agreed to with NHDOT..

Councilor Vincent, seconded by Councilor Dumont, made a motion to support the City's responsibility for reconstruction/adjusting sewer manholes, water gates and shutoff item structures for the Route 108 paving project in the amount of \$15,350. Motion passed 4-0.

OLD ROCHESTER RD. – SAFETY AUDIT UPDATE

Manager Belmore spoke of the memo that was prepared by Director Bobinsky in regards to the safety audit that was completed on Old Rochester Rd by the NHDOT and Department Staff. The result of the audit is that during phase 1 the property owner has agreed to allow the State to cut down eight tall pines at this corner to help with the sight line conflict at the intersection. The City will pay for stump grinding and for two trees to be replanted in a different area by the property owner, and the State is paying for the take down of the eight large pine trees.

Councilor Gerding asked what is being done with the woodchips and if the City could use the wood chips. Director Bobinsky answered that the tree company will be taking the woodchips.

WATER DIVISION ENGINEERING STUDIES UPDATE

Manager Belmore explained that we have received proposals for two projects for the Water Utility. The first project is study to be done by an engineering firm is to look at rehabilitation, or replacement of, the water tank located at the Noble Pines. We need to validate if we need to take it down and replace it in that spot or move to another spot within the City. Currently, City staff has received three proposals, we are leaning in a certain direction, but we have no final decision to as of right now.

The second project is an evaluation of the wellfield located on Rocky Hill Road. The purpose of this study is to determine the value of the wells there, determine if the City should bring them back on-line, and what the cost/benefit would be to do so. We will have a recommendation for the Finance Committee and can come back to the Public Works & Environment Committee if needed. We are under no rush; as summer is the best time to do this.

Councilor Witham asked to make sure it is on the radar that with regards to the Noble Pines Standpipe it is an important element with the head pressure on the top of the hill. That needs to be a big part of this process.

WINTER SALT BRINE – FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Councilor Witham shared that he thought it was time to revisit this topic. Manager Belmore stated that this was talked about a few years ago and it died in Committee. Director Bobinsky stated that NHDOT and the City of Dover use it only on some roads based on traffic and/or terrain. He noted that his thought is to only use it on the hills and High Street. Director Bobinsky explained that it is an anti-icing agent.

There was discussion on how this would be used and if additional equipment would be needed. Manager Belmore informed the Committee that we have started the budget process and will evaluate this program as part of the budget process.

Councilor Witham stated it seems as though these days it is not just a snow storm there is ice, rain and snow that cause the icing problems.

Councilor Gerding stated that this would be another tool in the tool box for the City to use. Director Bobinsky stated that this could be a way to help save on the salt use.

FY21 PAVING – ONGOING PLANS

Manager Belmore went over the memo prepared by Director Smith regarding FY20 Road Resurfacing – Funding. He stated that based on our calculations we will not require any additional funding from the Municipal and Transportation Fund, and will leave a balance of

approximately \$44,000 in the Highway Block Grant special funding. Director Smith stated that the City deposits about \$5,000 a month into the Municipal and Transportation Fund.

Manager Belmore explained that the approach we did last time was to repave in clusters to include side roads which helped in mobilization and cost.

Councilor Witham brought up repaving a section of High Street corridor by Garden Street where the TAP grant work is being performed. There is cracking on the pavement and the curbing is not in good shape. With work being done that requires big equipment in that area, paving after the TAP grant work is complete would be the best option.

Councilor Vincent discussed discontinuing one side of the sidewalk and widening the road and making a turning lane would be easier. Councilor Witham thinks that is an area that needs to have sidewalks on both sides.

There was discussion on the TAP and CMAQ grants and where we sit in the process.

Councilor Witham requested City staff work up a price on what it would be to have a section of High Street repaved and the sidewalk repaired. Manager Belmore agreed and said staff will put this together and report back to the Committee.

FY21 SIDEWALK – FUNDING, PLAN

Manager Belmore did take a look at a plan that was drafted in February 2011. We have two approaches to put in a line item or keep it as complete streets projects to include sidewalks. Currently we have \$5,000 budgeted annually for minor repairs of sidewalks.

Councilor Witham stated that when we paved Franklin Street that would have been a good opportunity to pave sidewalks for that street. We should start to bid out to include sidewalks. He stated he would like to have a metric to go by. If it is a school route have one sidewalk and a heavy traffic road to have a sidewalk on each side.

There was a robust discussion regarding sidewalks and how to make a plan to replace, fix and maintain sidewalks within the City.

Councilor Gerding asked where to find a list of the school walking routes. Director Bobinsky stated he had a map for that and will get that to him.

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilor Witham went over a list of miscellaneous items:

-On Tri City Rd where the John Flatley Company has built a sidewalk which has not been accepted by the City yet, but if the City was to think about it there are a number of things that need to be done before it is accepted.

-He spoke regarding the State Liquor Store's dirt road access and the condition that it is currently in. Director Bobinsky has reached out to the developer and they added new gravel to help fix it. We requested that they pave that section. He discovered that there is a right of way for the City of Dover and drainage will be an issue if the segment is paved.

-PIKE work that was done this fall has some delaminating on Lily Pond Rd at Oakridge Rd. That will be a punch item list added Manager Belmore.

-The resident at 77 Maple Street had a sewerage back up issue. The resident stated that he believed this was in response to the culvert that was repaired. Director Bobinsky is investigating it because there was a backup over the weekend at 79 Maple Street, but believes this may be related to clogs in the lines from things such as grease etc. It is not related to the culvert work recently done.

-He noticed that the sidewalk plow new blower for unit #2 is described as a ribbon style blower which seemed to work better than the other style. The effectiveness is night and day between the 2 different blowers, we need to look into getting another ribbon style blower.

-Commercial Drive where Willand Drive is has some tire ruts in spots and he believes it is due to Dover Motor Mart where heavy equipment is driven on that road pretty consistently. He wanted to put that on the radar.

-He asked what the painting plan is for the fire hydrants and the timeline. Manager Belmore explained that the City is still painting fire hydrants.

-He noticed that Millennium Park has a light pole that is broken with deterioration at the base and has been blown over by the wind into the pavilion. Manager Belmore stated that City staff are looking into options for that now.

Councilor Vincent stated that the road that is next to black dog car wash on Route 108, Enterprise Drive has a lot of trash, tires, couches, mattresses etc. down there. Manager Belmore stated he will get Code Enforcement on it.

Councilor Gerding brought up the potholes on West High St. Director Bobinsky stated that DPW was aware of the delamination in that area.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Vincent, seconded by Councilor Gerding, motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Gagne, Deputy City Clerk