

The Utilities, Safety & Environment Committee

held a meeting on **Wednesday, April 12th, 2023** beginning at 6:00 P.M.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Committee Chair Mitchell, Davis, Simmons, Corbin, Oswald, Lipian

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS: Cerra, Tollett

OTHERS PRESENT: Asst Law Director Breunig, Safety Service Dir Lundy, Engineer Schneider, Bill Forthofer, Waste Water Supt Korzan, Water Team Leader Jacob, Sanitation Manager R Eye, Public Works Sup Conner

1. Approval of the Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes ~ March 8th, 2023.

Moved by Mrs. Simmons and second by Mr. Oswald to approve said meeting minutes.

2. The matter of a presentation on Asphalt Recycling.

Referred By: Safety Svc Dir Lundy

Dir Lundy said this is a concept that was brought to the City's attention. They had the opportunity to see this concept along with members of the Engineer's and Street's teams. They wanted to have this presented to Council. This is an environmentally friendly approach and would be cost saving and potential for the City to do additional paving projects. Representatives from Benedetti are in attendance; Al Benedetti is the President of the company and Ed Fitzgerald.

Ed Fitzgerald, 17839 Lakewood Dr., Lakewood. He was on Council in Lakewood and they began to look into alternatives to their street resurfacing issues in the early 2000's. They tried cheap fixes and band aid approaches and those didn't go over well. They got on a pilot program for the asphalt recycling during the years of 2006 thru 2008. The bottom line was that it was 30% cheaper and it was a success. In 2008-2009 Mr. Benedetti invented this process and started the company. The machines that are used for this process cost a few million dollars and it stopped being an alternative. They re-entered to offer the program as an option to cities. Asphalt recycling is recycling the asphalt that is already there. The prices were averaged 30 – 40 percent cheaper and longevity is equal to or longer than traditional paving. It is also the environmental impact that makes this a great product. It is up to 80% reduction in green house emissions. They are not trucking in new asphalt, they are not tearing up the streets for two weeks. It's a one- or two-day process. Mr. Fitzgerald went over a PowerPoint Presentation which is available upon request.

Asphalt is a petroleum-based product, when gas prices go up, asphalt prices go up. They are estimating their cost at at \$15 or \$16 per square yard and asphalt is coming in around \$30.00 per square yard. You don't have to shut the streets down, they can be driven on 10 minutes afterwards. It's a 3-step process; 1.) preheater machine heats the road to 350 degrees using a radiant convection heat source. 2.) the recycling machine removes existing surface and re-applies the newly recycled asphalt. 3.) the roller compacts the road surface and it's now drivable.

Al Benedetti, the president of the company, 4397 Killarney Rd., Richfield. He began saying that his father started the company in 1959 and he was the original inventor. The process is quick and is very little disturbance to the residents and it does it for 30 to 40 percent less.

Mrs. Davis asked if they clean the street before they start the process, because there could be debris on the street.

Mr. Benedetti said, Yes, they require that the street be cleaned ahead of time so that they don't get any foreign material into the asphalt mix.

Mr. Fitzgerald said the first step in the process is to get a list of streets that the City would like to consider. They were given a tentative list and they drove around the city and looked at those tentative streets. The process doesn't work for every street. They cannot recycle concrete streets. They also cannot do streets where the asphalt has worn away too much. They do not do cul-de-sacs because the need to work the equipment in a straight line. They can add asphalt in if needed. They cannot do complete reconstruction. The next step would be to decide which streets. They saw enough roads today in Elyria where they would be an option.

Mr. Lipian said many of our streets have concrete below asphalt and he wondered if it has an effect on the existing concrete?

Mr. Benedetti said no, there is not affect to the concrete which would be acting as a base below. They would remove the existing asphalt and recycle that and it would be relayed the same way that conventional means would.

Mr. Lipian asked if the product is as durable and less prone to cracking?

Mr. Benedetti said since they've been in business as long as they have. They see a 7 to 10-year life cycle in the area. If both the base and the surface are asphalt, they can get a thermal Transfer down through the lifts so they applying the newly recycled hot mix to a hot base. When it's compacted, there is a thermal bond that takes place and it's a much better alternative and longer lasting than applying a hot material to a newly milled cold base and counting on the tack or glue to adhere those surfaces together and bond.

Mr. Tollett asked how many times they can re-do the same road?

Mr. Benedetti said it's infinite. There are roads they've done 2 and 3 times because asphalt is 100% recyclable.

Mr. Tollett asked if they also do the stripping?

Mr. Benedetti said it would be a subcontractor that would perform the stripping.

Chair Mitchell asked how much will this cost?

Mr. Benedetti said it would be about 35 to 40 percent less that traditional resurfacing.

Mr. Fitzgerald added that it depends on the size of the project. They do have to have a minimum in order to ship the equipment to that city, which would be around 13,000 to 15,000 square yards. They have been consistently coming in 30 to 45 percent cheaper. Law Dir Breunig wanted to be clear that this is just an informational presentation and they will not be entering into a contract this evening.

Mr. Cerra asked what the Engineering Dept thinks about this? and would they be able to let them know ahead of time which streets qualify?

Mr. Schneider said they've listened to the presentation. And they feel it could be a good option. This company is a little different than other companies that do a similar job. The topping would have more voids to it which is more indicative of a base than a surface course and it might not be a smooth. We need to actually see them do it and see if it's right for us.

They do not do any sort of grinding of joint repairs, however the product that they use to re-adhere the material is different than a tack coat, it's a blend of a material called cyclamen me and they add extra AC to it so it almost becomes thicker and would fill in those voids.

Mr. Schneider said the city has streets where they have multiple layers of blacktop over concrete when you peel that back can it be reduced to be more in line with the curbs for drainage?

Mr. Benedetti said yes, they are able to dig a little deeper and bring back more of the curb reveal and process that across the width of the material for redistribution.

Chair Mitchell thanked Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Benedetti for their time. She thinks this is fascinating. If it can save us money, we should look into this.

3. The matter of using \$1,300,000 of ARPA Funds to purchase 3 Sanitation Trucks.

Referred By: Council-at-Large Member Tollett (*this matter was approved by Finance on 3/27/2023*)

Councilperson Tollett said there are two pieces to this matter; the need and the funding mechanism.

Rodney Eye, Sanitation Dept. Supervisor is here to discuss the need for new sideloading Sanitation trucks. In 2010 when the automated program began, the department started with 8 trucks and they are still using 7 of those 8 trucks after 13 years. The life expectancy of those trucks is 8 to 10 years, we've used band aids and we're still using 7 of those trucks. Problems they are running into now are a lot of the parts to fix them are becoming obsolete due to the age of the equipment. They ran into a problem recently where they couldn't get a part, but the mechanics were able to fabricate a part to get the truck back onto the road. A lot of the trucks are running a 2007 emission on 2010 trucks. They are at a crossroads where they need to update the equipment. They have purchased a few trucks and we're getting into a bind with keeping this equipment on the road.

Law Dir Breunig asked Mr. Eye if they have specs or quotes or proposals and how we would go about purchasing these?

Mr. Eye said yes, he has those and they would be purchased through State Purchasing. He has a budgetary quote, which is like a range, until he's given the okay to order, then at that, he would get hard numbers.

Dir Breunig said any further action by this committee is premature until there are final numbers and the purchasing mechanism for this. The money has been appropriated but we need more information before they can pass legislation on that. He suggested this be a traditional referral for when they're buying equipment. The first step was to have council appropriate the monies and the second step is for the purchase of the vehicles. They need the full data for the purchase.

Mrs. Davis asked if there are any trucks to be traded in and are we leasing or purchasing the new trucks?

Mr. Eye said we are better off to get more of a profit if they sell them on GovDeals.com. And they are not going to lease, the new trucks will be purchased.

Mr. Oswald asked if there was a time where we had to rent trucks to do the job?

Mr. Eye said yes, we have rented trucks, when needed, over the years. They did order two new trucks in 2021 and they are currently on the road and that saved from having to rent any trucks last year.

Mr. Lipian thanked Mr. Eye. He had a tour of the sanitation facility and he understands that if there are no parts available. He asked if there are other needs for the Sanitation Dept.?

Mr. Eye said the main need is equipment in order to get the job done.

Chair Mitchell said that she feels it makes no sense the we buy new trucks and equipment and we let them sit outside. We have needed a new Central Maintenance Garage for years.

Mr. Lipian said he agrees with Chair Mitchell about the needed facility.

Mr. Eye said he would like to extend an invitation to anyone that would like to come out to the garage. He will show them the equipment and the facility.

Chair Mitchell thanked Mr. Eye.

Mr. Tollett agrees about the need for a new garage. The timeline on these trucks is 18 to 24 months. What he is proposing is that we use ARPA Funds to pay for these trucks. Savings to the taxpayers would be \$345,383 if we use the ARPA Funds. Sanitation rates are determined by what the cost is to run that department and it gets divided amongst everything. If we choose to continue with our sanitation department, this is a need. Between leaf pickup and brush pickup is better than outstanding. The choice is we bond it for 10 years and have the tax payers assume \$1,645,383 or we use ARPA Funds. This is identical to the fire truck.

Dir Breunig said Finance appropriates the funds from the various accounts, which has been done. And Utilities determines the need and the specifics on the purchase, which is the piece we don't have yet.

Dir Breunig will meet with Mr. Eye to go over those final figures and it will move forward to the following committee meetings.

4. The matter of applying for and, accept if offered, a grant/forgivable loan from Ohio EPA for renovations and expansions of the Water Pumping Plant.

Referred By: Water Team Leader Jacob *(this matter was approved by Finance on 3/27/2023)*

Water Team Leader Jacob said the Water Team has applied for five million dollars for the renovation and expansion of the water pumping plant. This could be a grant, a forgivable loan or a matching grant. It's from DEFA / Ohio EPA. It will be reviewed and if the City qualifies they'll offer it to us. What is needed at the plant is they want to be proactive and take care of the plant before they would need repairs done as an emergency.

They want to expand the capacity of the plant so they can sell more water in the future which would bring in more income and will keep the water rates lower.

Mrs. Simmons moved, Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept, if offered, the 'said' Grant, emergency clause requested.
MOTION CARRIED COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

5. The matter of a professional service agreement with Makovich & Pusti Architects for architectural development services for the City.

Referred By: Assistant Dir Calvert *(this matter was approved by Finance on 3/27/2023)*
This matter has been removed from this Agenda.

6. The matter of Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with Black & Veatch Consulting for customer assistance programs for water & sewer bills.

Referred By: Engineer McKillips *(this matter was approved by Finance on 3/27/2023)*

This matter was discussed and passed at Finance on March 27th and Chair Mitchell asked if they need more discussion on this matter? It was agreed to vote on the matter without discussion.

Mrs. Davis moved and Mrs. Simmons seconded to recommend an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into the 'said' amendment with Black & Veatch for 'said' programs, emergency clause is requested.
MOTION CARRIED COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

7. The matter of advertising for bids and award a contract for the 2023 West Ave. Water Line Replacement Project, monies are appropriated in the 2023 budget.

Referred By: Engineer McKillips *(this matter was approved by Finance on 3/27/2023)*

Engineer Schneider said this is a replacement project of the water line on West Ave, between 4th Street and 9th Street. The current main is close to 100 years old. They are looking to getting it in place prior to any resurfacing of that area. They have an OPWC project for that area to get funded.

Mr. Oswald asked if that main is under the sidewalks or the street?

Mr. Schneider said the plan is to put it out by the sidewalk and replace the sidewalk on the east side.

Mr. Oswald moved and Mrs. Simmons seconded to recommend an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and award a contract for the 'said' project.
MOTION CARRIED COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

8. The matter of Change Order No. 1 for the 2022-2023 Sanitary & Storm Sewer Repairs with Xtreme Excavating, LLC.

Referred By: Engineer McKillips *(this matter was approved by Finance on 4/10/2023)*

Engineer Schneider said as everyone is aware, Council has increased the funding for the 2023 Street Resurfacing and it has caused staff to go out and inspect more sewers so they inspect the sewers below the roads before they resurface and they found a lot more breaks so they need to increase the current contract with Xtreme Excavating so they can stay on schedule.

Motion made by Mr. Oswald and second by Mrs. Davis to authorize an ordinance to enter into the 'said' change order.

MOTION CARRIED COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

9. The matter of discussion of the Republic Steel Quarry.

Referred By: Wastewater Superintendent Korzan

Chair Mitchell said this matter is only regarding security at the quarry.

Supt. Korzan there are 3 items that were listed in the report and listed on the City's website. this is the 6th five-year review report from the USEPA on the quarry, dated March 20th, 2023. The three items being required for us to act on is; 1.) to update the existing operational maintenance plan and there's a second item which goes along with that that which they are working on. They will have that done and submitted to the EPA within the next few months. They matter at hand is the site security issues that have been going on there; vandals, trespassers who cut holes in the fence and cut the locks off of the city access gates and the Engineering Dept has done a lot over the years to try to thwart this type of activity over the years. They've cleared vegetation off of Riverside Drive and the side of the river and additional clearing vegetation so that trespassers can be seen. Other potential actions the city can do is install a CCTV camera system with wi-fi feed to the EPD. They're asking residents to call EPD if they see activity on the site. They will also post additional signs which will advise trespassers to be reported. There are already hazard signs about the EPA Hazard site and combined sewer overflow. There are also signs notifying that swimming in the Black River is prohibited per ordinance. They will step up surveillance of that area once the river is low enough and kids will be down there and walking across the river. Another idea is the possibility of the EPD Drone Team to be utilized. They would also like to obtain ideas from residents and council members.

Mrs. Davis suggested signs and postings to be placed on the West River side.

Supt. Korzan said that is what is needed along the entire length of the West River, but that is where the signs get torn down almost as fast as they get put up. And the fence on Mussey is actually the old LTV property and when LTV was there, they had a night security guard.

Mr. Oswald asked if more lighting would help?

Mr. Korzan wasn't sure if there is electricity for lighting, as far as an electrical line.

10. The matter of continued discussion of the 2023 Street Resurfacing.

Referred By: Chair Mitchell

Chair Mitchell stated that Wards 1, 3 and 4 that don't require as much street resurfacing as the rest, she wanted to ask if those Ward representatives have money left over and if they would like to share it with other Wards.

Engineer Schneider placed the list of streets and costs up on the screen for the audience and committee members to be able to see. Engineer McKillips has gone over this list with everyone as far as high priority streets and other departments as well. A number of streets has been selected. The current cost that has been allocated is at 3 million. The total highlighted comes to 2.8 million so there are streets to add.

Ward 1 – Mr. Lipian said his ward has numerous streets deeply in need. First street is Sugar Lane which is a commercial road that needs a lot of repair. It's been discussed to take care of Sugar Lane in phases. What's on the screen is Phase 1 which will cover the first section from East Broad into Sugar Lane. The 300 block of Cornell is very bad. He asked what is his additional amount allocated from the ARPA Funds? So that is \$400,000 for each ward. He also added the 200 block of Cornell and Winkles St, which got a very high rating on his survey. East Broad St is referred to the 'war zone', but it will be redone soon and there will be sections of streets that will also get paved during that re-pavement and to get the most bang for our buck, he would like to start at the edge of that perpendicular street and go down on Kipling Street after the section off East Broad is finished. He also would like the Sherman/Harvard intersection done as well as 1200 block of Garford. Next is patching the 400 and 500 blocks of Park Ave., also the 300 block of Stanford Ave. These streets total \$417,000

Ward 2 – Mrs. Davis went over the streets that she is considering in her ward, her first street was Meadowfield Ct., but that's out now. She'll start with Moran St. from Griswold to Midway Blvd, David Dr., Bond from Lake to Adams is a patch work and heavy traffic, Sheriff St., Clinton Ave. which is patch work. Those total \$356,000. So, she'll add Meadowfield (concrete/asphalt) and Bell from Rublin to West River. That adds up to \$400,000.

Ward 3 – Mr. Corbin said he seldom gets complaints about the roads in Ward 3. The only road that is consistent is Abbe from Broad to Chestnut Ridge. He sees that OPWC might be throwing in some money for that street. The other street is Calann. As pointed out earlier, the streets in Ward 3 are not that bad.

Mr. Schneider said that they won't get the final approval for OPWC until July 1st. The total dollar figure on the Abbe Road project is \$330,000 and the City will pay roughly 25% of it, which is typically paid for with muni motor vehicle funds. They applied for University to Chestnut Ridge and so to keep dollar figures down a little bit. Next year they will apply for the remaining portion.

There will be a lot of funds left over from Mr. Corbin's ward. Around \$160,000. He has gotten calls about potholes and he said the Street Dept has done a great job with fixing them.

Ward 4 – Mr. Oswald said that many of his streets are concrete and he had previously asked Mr. Forthofer on how they were going to fix Pepperdine,

Mr. Forthofer had said there are some longitudinal cracks in the street and cracks going the other direction. They took into consideration all of the cracks and they will cut it up and get it put back together.

Mr. Oswald would like the entrance driveway into Rapha Academy, the old Northwood, (off Gulf Road) to be repaved.

Mr. Schneider said that is owned by the city. And he estimated the cost to be around \$25,000.

Mr. Oswald's streets are: Pepperdine, Winthrop, Berkely, Hemlock (concrete repairs), drive into Rapha Academy.

Ward 5 – Mrs. Simmons said she likes to think more money will be available for the streets. We're rolling out the beautification program and the streets are bad. She asked why they are putting concrete on Holly Lane; shouldn't it be asphalt? She needs more money. And her residents have to realize that every street can't get done. She listed her streets; State Street, Wooster, Howe, Holly Lane which totals \$413,000 and 4th Street (Middle to East), as an alternate.

Chair Mitchell thanked everyone for voting for Issue 6 and they are doing what they said they would do by getting residential streets done.

Ward 7 – Mr. Cerra said he has a referral in for an additional million dollars of ARPA Funds for streets. Beginning in 2016 through this cycle, about 11 million dollars of Issue 6 dollars have been spent on street resurfacing. That's just great and we've done what we told the residents we would do. Mr. Cerra listed his streets; Thornwood (Abbe to Thornwood), Rosewood (Thornwood to Georgetown), Rosewood (Georgetown to Hollywood), Sherwood (west of 854), Sandalwood (Georgetown east to cul-de-sac).

Ward 6 – Chair Mitchell said the majority of the calls she gets are for Fowl Road, it's horrendous from Fairfield Estates Development to the corporate limit and that cost is \$160,000.

Engineer Schneider said Fowl Road is a non-improved road. It was sealed a few years ago to give it some structure. It was meant to be only a secondary access for emergency only. If Fairfield Development would expand it will need storm and sanitary sewers and water lines which will destroy the road if they do that. The chip & seal wasn't meant to be a permanent fix.

Chair Mitchell said the residents who live in Fairfield use Fowl Road to get to Albrecht. So, if we don't pave it, doing the patching does no good, but doing nothing is not an option. What is the something that we can do?

Engineer Schneider said that whatever we do, won't be a permanent fix. It really needs a base and drainage in order for a road to last.

Mr. Forthofer said the bad sections that are closer to the south can be saw cut out and maybe do some asphalt in those areas. There quarters of the road are still decent but the bad spots are pretty bad. He said they would have to try to figure what that cost would be.

Chair Mitchell listed her streets as Penfield (intersection of High St), Woodland (intersection of High St), Bell Court (Clemons to new Development), High St (west of Demas), Blake St. and Fowl Road as an alternate.

Chair Mitchell said they have \$160,00 from Mr. Corbin's Ward to spend. The conversation on how to spend these leftover funds continued as discussion for over 20 minutes. If they take the total amount of \$160,000 and divide it by 6 it comes to \$26,000 for each of the 6 Wards. Though it's difficult to use only \$26,000. Chair Mitchell suggested that the \$160,000 be kept aside to be used for alternates.

Mr. Lipian referred the money as the 'Corbin Windfall' and asked if those funds can be allocated today or do we wait until a future meeting?

Chair Mitchell said they want to finalize the list today.

Mrs. Davis said they need to finalize their lists today and then come back to discuss the windfall.

Engineer Schneider said the resurfacing typically start and stop at catch basins to make sure the surface drains. Or start and end at an intersection. It's not feasible to say that \$26,000 of a street will be resurfaced. In the past, they've always gone way over and they put the alternates in according to the money that they have, and one Ward might get a little bit more than another Ward, but, they select it so that the money is all being spent to the best of the ability and not necessarily picking one ward over another ward. Once again, too small of a project is not a good thing.

Chair Mitchell asked if we that the whole \$160,000 and give it to Mr. Cerra?

Everyone agreed.

The alternates which were finally chosen are; Miami & Garford intersection, S. Logan (Broad & E Heights), Dewey, W. River at Mall (concrete repairs), 4th Street (Middle to East Ave.), Fowl Road (south of Fairfield – repair – chip & seal bad spots), Thornwood (to Sandalwood).

Mrs. Simmons moved and Mrs. Davis seconded to recommend an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to Advertise for bids and enter into a contract for the 2023 Street resurfacing program, Emergency clause is requested.

MOTION CARRIED COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

Mr. Oswald moved to adjourn the Utilities, Safety & Environment Committee Meeting and that motion was seconded by Mrs. Simmons.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted by,

Colleen Rosado, Secretary/Administrative Assistant