

The Utilities, Safety & Environment Committee

held a meeting on **Wednesday, May 7th, 2025** at 6:00 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Utilities: Chair Mitchell, Davis, Oswald, Armstrong, Stewart

Others: Cerra, Siwierka

Excused Absence: Oswald and Lipian

Administration and Department Heads Present: Safety Service Dir Pyanowski,
Asst Law Dir Breunig, Engineer Schneider

1. The matter of approval of meeting minutes from the Utilities, Safety & Environment Committee Meeting, on April 23rd, 2025 as circulated.

Motion was made by Mrs. Davis and second by Mr. Armstrong to approve.

MOTION CARRIES

2. The matter of a contract for the resurfacing of a portion of East River Street (East Broad to Lincoln Court).

[Utilities Committee and Finance Committee] Referred By: Engineer Schneider

Engineer Schneider said they applied for 5 Ohio Public Works Projects. They received notice that all 5 will move forward. We did not technically get the contracts as yet and will get them July 1st. Therefore, they cannot enter into any contracts until after we get the approvals from Ohio Public Works. In the meantime, they would like to get them bid out. They are trying to be ahead of the ballgame. The first one is East River from East Broad to Lincoln Court. All of these are largely mill and fills with pavement markings and signage as needed.

Mrs. Siwierka asked if there is a way to coordinate the crosswalks with the hospital to improve them while we're paving, to consolidate them or add to them. There have been discussions over the years. People cross all over; at the parking lot, under the skywalk, at the ER entrance. If we're going to resurface, maybe we can have one wide section that captures all those out places.

Engineer Schneider, said, yes, this has been discussed, the problem is you need to control pedestrians and their walking patterns and the intent before was to install fencing along the parking area to push them toward an area and without that, people will cross wherever they want to.

Mrs. Siwierka asked if we will ever get rid of the signals at the catwalk?

Engineer Schneider said that is not part of this project.

One of the issues would be if we put RFB's in that location, the catwalk could block the solar cells that supply power. They could put some paint down and some RFB's and move them if they had to, but, he doesn't think it would get used.

Mrs. Siwierka said she would encourage the administration to continue those conversations to see if we can get them to consolidate things to maybe one large mid-block crosswalk.

Dir Pyanowski said he would be in favor of speaking to the leadership at UH to ask what their plans are for that space. He agrees with Engineer Schneider that the hardest part is controlling the behavior of the pedestrians crossing the street. He asked if the city can update this after the road has been completed?

Engineer Schneider said yes and we have a paint line remover machine that can strip the lines off and put new lines on. The biggest issue would be ramps, which would have to be reconstructed.

Motion made by Mr. Stewart, second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and award a contract for 'said' project.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

3. The matter of a contract for the resurfacing of a portion of Gulf Road, (Hilliard to Vista Court).

[Utilities Committee and Finance Committee] Referred By: Engineer Schneider

Engineer Schneider said this is also an OPWC project. It's from Vista Ct to Hilliard and it's a mill and fill. This will be later this year because they will do a water main project which was approved recently. That is out for bid now. This will be late September.

Mrs. Davis asked if there is a deadline for these projects to be completed by?

Engineer Schneider said when they apply for Ohio Public Works dollars there is a timeline that is generated. The main goal is that it gets bided out within a certain time period and they score it. The sooner we bid it out, the more points we get, usually within the first 6 months. They can carry over to the next year if need be.

Motion made by Mrs. Davis, second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and award a contract for 'said' project.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

4. The matter of a contract for the resurfacing of a portion of Leona Street, (Midway Blvd. to Griswold).

[Utilities Committee and Finance Committee]

Referred By: Engineer Schneider

Engineer Schneider said this is also an OPWC project. It's in the area where McGregor Pace just installed sanitary sewers. It's the section of Leona St between Midway and Griswold. They've been trying to get this done for past 3 years.

Motion made by Mrs. Davis second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and award a contract for 'said' project.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

5. The matter of a contract for the resurfacing of a portion of Murray Ridge Road, (9967 Murray Ridge to 9740 Murray Ridge).

[Utilities Committee and Finance Committee] Referred By: Engineer Schneider

Engineer Schneider said this is also an OPWC project. The area is approximately between 9967 and 9740 Murray Ridge, near the DH up to Murray Ridge School and the corporation line. The northern portion will be resurfaced next year, which is worse. But, they have been working on it and laying hot patch to make it better.

Motion made by Mrs. Davis second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and award a contract for 'said' project.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

6. The matter of a contract for the resurfacing of a portion of West River Road, (SR 57 to Foster Avenue).

[Utilities Committee and Finance Committee] Referred By: Engineer Schneider

Engineer Schneider said this is also an OPWC project. They have been trying to get funding for this for many years. The sewer portion was taken care of a couple of years ago. It will be a mill and fill type project.

Motion made by Mrs. Davis second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and award a contract for 'said' project.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

7. The matter of accepting a grant through the Ohio Attorney General's Office for the 'Shine a Light on Dumpers' Program.

[Utilities Committee and Finance Committee] Referred By: Engineer Schneider

Engineer Schneider said this is a new grant and it's for illegal dumping and vandalism type issues. It's \$19,400 and it 100 percent paid. We would install some vandal proof fencing around the quarry, something to limit vandals from going there. Each time we finish and we fix the fence, vandals just cut it and the City keeps going back to fix it. This would allow us to put some kind of durable fencing that will deter the vandals more.

Mr. Armstrong said he's had a lot of calls about the entering of the quarry and the fencing and especially the area where they cut by the old maverick to get there.

He's excited to see how long this new material would last.

Motion made by Mr. Armstrong second by Mrs. Davis to authorize an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept the 'said' grant in amount of \$19,400.00.

MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

8. The matter of the acceptance of a Utility Easement on Leona Street, on property owned by McGregor Pace. Referred By: Engineer Schneider

Engineer Schneider said the actual utilities are on Midway Blvd, and 50th Street. It's an eight-foot utility easement that fronts onto Midway Blvd. This was requested at the PC Meeting when McGregor Pace presented their project. This easement was requested by the City because the current is only 50 feet wide and they thought it would be prudent for future utilities to have proper spacing, so they requested the additional eight-foot easement and McGregor Pace obliged.

Motion made by Mr. Armstrong second by Mr. Stewart to authorize an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to accept the 'said' utility easement on parcel number 06-24-032-107-032 and owned by McGregor Pace.

MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

9. The matter of finalizing the list of the 2025 Ward Street Resurfacing projects. Referred By: Chair Mitchell

Chair Mitchell said they will finalize the list of streets this year's resurfacing project. She also thanked the voters who voted for and passed Issue 5. Because of that, we can continue to resurface as many streets as we can.

Engineer Schneider said he passed out two lists. One is the street ranking list of all the streets. The second list includes streets that were identified by the council members during their ride-a-longs or streets that they have already listed. Each ward amount was over the amount given for each ward which is \$268,000 per ward. Mr. Lipian of Ward one and Mr. Oswald of Ward four are not here today. He said he wants to get as many streets firmed up so they can start taking pictures of sewers and getting things set up and that will take a least a month or more.

Chair Mitchell went over the list that she spoke to Mr. Lipian about.

Engineer Schneider said he didn't have costs for some of the streets which weren't on the list, so he'll have to get those amounts before they finalize the Ward One list.

Mrs. Siwierka said she and Mr. Lipian had talked about Baldwin and when she had her ride-a-long with Mr. Forthofer and the rankings would be between a 1 and 3. Engineer Schneider said they would pull funds for Baldwin from Muni Motor Vehicle fund.

During this year's concrete road repair projects, we came across a number of streets that had more issues to be completed so the costs went up. Baldwin was sacrificed because it didn't make sense not to complete the streets that were there. Over the winter some of the streets got worse and so areas grew and we spent more money to take care of those areas. In discussions with Mr. Lipian and Mrs. Siwierka, they looked at moving dollars from Muni Motor Vehicle to cover Baldwin which was supposed to be done this past year. They could carry the dollars over from there and whatever is needed from Muni Motor Vehicle to take care of itself and add it to the asphalt project. He didn't want to put it on the list where all the wards get the 2.2 million dollars so everyone would not get confused.

Mrs. Siwierka said that Baldwin was even bad last year. She doesn't know where Ward one starts and stops. Maybe after Warren and to S. Abbe. She's okay as long as it's going to get addressed.

Dir Pyanowski said this list is just 2025 streets from the 2016 ½% income tax revenue. Baldwin is being paid from what was leftover from last year and the muni motor vehicle fund. That's why it's separate funding source and not on this list. The entire length of Baldwin Ave. will get done

Mrs. Davis listed the streets she has chosen for Ward two.

Mrs. Siwierka listed the streets she has chosen for Ward three.

Mr. Armstrong listed the streets he has chosen for Ward 5. He asked if Wayne Street is asphalt or concrete? Mr. Schneider said it's concrete. He asked what the cost would be if they do asphalt? Mr. Schneider said it would be a longer stretch of the street because they have to make sure it drains. That's one of the problems when you overlay a concrete road. You want to go from catch basin to catch basin, and sometimes it's more than you need.

Mr. Cerra had a question regarding Hawthorne, was it supposed to be done as part of the concrete repair last year?

Engineer Schneider said that's one of the areas that grew quite a bit, so it was only the cul-de-sac being done.

Mr. Cerra said the cul-de-sac area was damaged from the garbage trucks and asked if we could get some of that funding back through the sanitation department? He doesn't know if those repairs should have come out of Issue 6.

Engineer Schneider said probably not get paid out of san funds, but, it's not his call.

Mr. Cerra listed the rest of the streets for his Ward.

Chair Mitchell went over the list of streets for her Ward.

Chair Mitchell said since Mr. Oswald is on vacation, they don't have a finalized list for Ward 4 and will finalize it at the next meeting.

Law Dir asked the Chair if they are ready to vote on a committee report?

There are a lot of blanks on the list.

Chair Mitchell asked the committee if they're ready to vote on this?

Mr. Cerra asked Engineer Schneider if he knows what dollar figure is for the portion of the cul-de-sac of Hawthorne?

Engineer Schneider did not have that cost at this time.

Chair Mitchell said they are actually late on getting this street list firmed up. It needs to get out to bid asap. They usually add alternates to each ward in case there is monies left over. And Engineering will decide what alternates they will actually do.

Law Dir Breunig said he would rather have a complete committee report for an ordinance than an incomplete one.

Engineer Schneider said the main goal is to have the ordinance passed by the first week of June at that first council meeting, so summer recess doesn't get in the way and push it back. So, they won't be bidding these out until after the June council meeting anyway. He said, as long as he has the majority of the list today where they can get Waste water there to camera and inspectors to begin those processes. If there are a few straggler streets, that won't take long to take care of.

Chair Mitchell said they would have one more meeting before the June council meeting and they can finalize it at that time and everyone can sign the committee report.

Law Dir Breunig said maybe they shouldn't do the alternates since Mr. Oswald's list isn't completed.

Chair Mitchell asked who has their alternates to add.

Mr. Cerra said that all the streets in his ward on his list need to be done, so, alternates on everyone's list need to be done. We could let the Engineer's office choose which ones they can get done if there is money left over.

Chair Mitchell asked the committee if they concur with Mr. Cerra's suggestion to let Engineering pick the alternates if there is extra money. The committee was good with that suggestion. They will finalize everything on May 21st.

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Mrs. Davis moved to adjourn the Utilities, Safety & Environment Committee Meeting and that motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong at 6:55 P.M.
MOTION CARRIES**

*Respectfully Submitted by,
Colleen Rosado, Secretary/Administrative Assistant*