

Streets and Alleys Committee
February 22, 2016

Present: Committee Members Fleck, Larmore, and Buxton; Council Members Clausen, LeJeune, Scott, and Sovinski; Mayor Hazel; Safety-Service Director Hitchcock; Auditor Strawn; Law Director Moore.

Committee Chairman Fleck called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. He reported he has had questions of what the City is going to do until we get to certain streets for repairs. Director Hitchcock distributed a 14-year plan of streets that need repairs.

Director Hitchcock asked if council members' intent is to pay the Brandon Avenue waterline from the water fund or the half percent. If it needs to come from the water fund, then he will need to cut another water project that was included in the budget. CM Sovinski stated the waterlines do not need to come out of the water utilities. Mayor Hazel reported the AG's office stated the City can take 12" and larger waterlines from the GF for fire protection. Director Hitchcock explained this was before the second additional tax levy was passed.

Director Hitchcock and Mayor Hazel explained the list of priorities of streets will fluctuate from year to year. For example, three years ago the three blocks of Brandon Avenue were not even on the list. The street has deteriorated because of the heavy trucks going to Landmark. The design has been increased to help prevent the breakdown of the street from the trucks.

CM Larmore suggested a list of streets to be bid out be publicized. Administration will need to decide the priority for the year of what streets should be repaired based on the bid results.

CM Scott stated residents have asked him about alley repairs. One particular complaint is behind Low Bob's on Market Street. He has also had complaints about railroad tracks. Director Hitchcock explained RJ Corman gave the City permission to take out some railroad tracks, but later found out Norfolk Southern are the actual owners of the tracks. Therefore the City is working with Norfolk Southern to obtain their permission. Director Hitchcock further explained that alleys can be added to a priority list if desired by Council. Mayor Hazel stated a chip and seal on alleys could be more economical. CM Fleck stated he remembers when the alleys used to be chip and sealed. Mayor Hazel reported a dura-patcher runs from \$60,000 to \$80,000. The County has a dura-patcher, but it is not available for the City to use. CM Scott stated the complainants he had basically wants the potholes filled in. Director Hitchcock will tell the Public Works department to look at the alley behind Low Bob's.

CM Sovinski stated he would like an inventory of all streets block by block. Director Hitchcock reported the City has a listing with a rating scale. If a street is not on the current list, it is most likely 12 to 14 years away from getting repaired. There are several streets in the City that need repaired, but are not bad enough to be on the list.

Director Hitchcock explained collector streets can be submitted to ODOT for state funding. Livingston Street is a \$1 million project, but is not on ODOT's list of collector streets. ODOT has done four main routes in Celina in a five year period.

CM Larmore asked if the City could come up with a program that the City pays 50% and the businesses or residents pay 50% for repairs of alleys. Director Hitchcock stated Administration will look into what options the City has. The City owns sidewalks, but the Ohio Revised Code makes property

owners responsible for upkeep of sidewalks. He is not aware that alleys can be handled in the same way.

Director Hitchcock reported the street resurfacing program will be bid by early May with the intention to have the projects completed prior to school starting.

CM Sovinski asked if it would be beneficial to have a consultant come in to do a comprehensive plan for street repairs. It would be advantageous to be able to tell the public the City will be hiring experts to get a written plan with the criteria being used. Director Hitchcock stated between Bob Lowry and himself, Administration can do what a consultant company would do. CM LeJeune suggested a press release be done to give the public the tentative plan. CM Sovinski suggested Administration write a report to include the criteria being used to come up with the priority listing.

Chairman Fleck adjourned the meeting at 6:56 pm.

Submitted by Joan S. Wurster, Clerk of Council