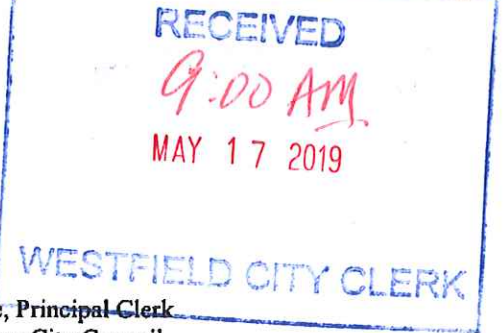


BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

April 9, 2019



Convened: 7:00 P.M.

Present: Dave Billips, Director of Public Works
Casey Berube, Deputy Superintendent
Jack Campaniello, Secretary
Mark Cressotti, City Engineer
Thomas Pereira, Member
Brittany Rash, Senior Clerk

Alison Daigle, Principal Clerk
Leslie Lefebvre-City Council
Maryann Babinski-City Council

Reading of the minutes of the March 12, 2019 waived and accepted.

1. Public Participation:

Louis Morales, 33 Gifford Avenue resident, is requesting that the road go from private to public and requesting that the road be paved. City Council has the say to recommend for a private road to be considered for acceptance into a public way. Councilor Babinski did state that back in 2017 there was a list of private roads brought forth to the City Council to be voted on to be accepted as public roads, some made the cut and some did not make the cut; Gifford Avenue was one of the roads that did not make the cut at that time. It has been suggested for the residents of Gifford Avenue to go back to City Council to be accepted as a public way. The residents are requesting for the time being that the road be graded until there is a decision on making the road public and potentially paved. Director Billips stated they will grade the road. The residents were told that they need to go to the Assessor's Department to have it removed stating that the road is paved although the road is not public and is not paved. The residents are also looking to have gas introduced into the road to upgrade heating sources, but they directed to go to Gas & Electric for that type of service request and questions. Gifford Avenue residents also had questions about getting mailboxes for their homes as the Post Office will not deliver to the homes as they do not want damage to their vehicles, but residents were directed to the Post Office to resolve issue as the road being private is not going to be paved only graded. If the road becomes a public way it does not necessarily mean the road would be paved by the city. Bob Pac, for the Greenway Rail Trail, stated that the FRIENDS group has graciously donated signs and trees, removed graffiti from some signs on the trail, and are replacing trees that were damaged/destroyed from the windstorm. He did a manual count between the time frame of 12:45pm-2:45pm from the dry bridge to the tin bridge (Located by HB Smith and Stop & Shop) and it was recorded that 208 residents made use of the trail; bicycle use and walkers recorded. Bob Pac mentioned that the Board meeting would be held on April 16, 2019 if there was any interest in attending. Mr. Pac did inform the Commission Board that the Mayor's Ride to be held on May 13, 2019 would have bicycles donated by Horizons for folks to participate. The Mayor's ride would go through the trail, to the downtown area and lastly to the new bridge and there would be a ceremony held at 5:30pm. Matthew Roman, member of the senior snoopers group, is requesting the information that was collected from the BETA Group, but it is not made public and is not finalized. Matthew Roman states that East Mountain Road and Holyoke Road are deteriorating. He has stated that the excise tax collected should be put towards fixing the roads and repairs.

2. City Councilor Communications:

Les Lefebvre brought up the question on where it stands with the process of Crescent Circle. According to Mark Cressotti, City Engineer, they have been in contact with the group overseeing the surveying of the project. The project is moving forward for Crescent Circle as best it can be at this present time. Les did bring up issues in regards to the road repair L80 meeting requesting Public Works presence at the next meeting. Once the pavement plan is in place it will be shared to help inform and educate residents and Councilors.

3. Follow-Up Discussion on Veterans Banner Protocol:

The program was approved at the last Board of Public Works Commission Meeting on March 12, 2019. During this meeting approval is sought out for the forms that would be used to obtain the information for the banners. Cost of the banners has been confirmed at \$80.00. The application and its criteria have been approved by the commission. Alison will be reaching out to the vendor for more information and a sample product of the banner. Julie Barnes from the Veterans Affairs office will be assisting with reaching out to the community to spread the word for sponsoring the banners.

4. Department of Public Works Monthly Report David Billips:

Public works is renting a paving box that will be delivered 4/10/19 that lays down a section of the concrete/asphalt rather than just spot patching. Use of the paving box will be started on City View and move West. Depending on

how the paver box pans out they may be reaching out to City Council for funds to purchase one. Workers are out working daily on Stormwater issues as well as potholes; Laro road is a stormwater issue and the stormwater issue needs to be fixed first before paving happens otherwise the same issue will arise. Contractors are still being utilized in patching potholes and overlay. The Pavement Management Plan has gone to the Mayor and the dollar amount needed will be \$4.5 million. Snow and Ice is done and around \$1.2 million dollars; which is a bit lower than the past. The salt shed design is progressing but may not be enough funds available for this project. The trash truck plan was presented to the Mayor and it has not been cut as of yet. Prospect St, Root Rd, Servistar Way, Northwest Rd are roads that are on the top of the list to be done. Director Billips did suggest that each department cut 1% of their budgets that would generate another \$1.3 million dollars maybe more to put towards road repair. Another suggestion Director Billips had was to do a proposition override to fix the roads and put it on the ballot to let the residents decide. Director Billips did meet with Congressman Neal and Mitt Romney when he visited Washington DC on business and there is an infrastructure bill in the works towards road repair in hopes that we may receive some funding.

5. City Engineer Mark Cressotti:

Mark Cressotti stated Chapter 90 coming in for road repair and if funds were properly dispersed over the years then \$35-\$40 million dollars could have gone towards road repair. Western Avenue will start with road work done by Gas and Electric the following week, starting 4/16/19. There are sewer installments and improvements being done. Old Colony, Old Farm, Pinewood, and Pineridge are awaiting bid documents and hope to have shovels in the ground by July 1st. There is an anticipated completion date of June 2019 for Plantation Circle. Mark stated that the Columbia Greenway is moving forward for the right away. Under the Greenway there is sewer that Southwick put in; it will take some time to figure out how to connect to the sewer for Old Farm Road, Country Club Drive, Shaker Road, and Colony Drive. There is HUD funding for Washington Street; sidewalks and trees will be put in, in the fall.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 PM.


Secretary