

City Council Work Session

5:30 PM
Council Chambers
September 18, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor/Council (please check) x Hanel, x Cromley, x Yakawich, x Cimmino,
x Brewster, x McFadden, x Friedel, Swanson, x Sullivan, x Clark,
x Brown.

CM excused: Swanson

ADJOURN TIME: 8:35 pm

Agenda

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| TOPIC #1 | Executive Session (pending litigation) 4:45 pm |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Private

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| TOPIC #2 | Excess Park Lands Disposal |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Mark Jarvis, Parks Department Planner: property disposal study process. examples of parcels Council approved for sale. Park board will ask Council to reconsider selling Lampman Park and use it as un-programmed open/green space.
- McFadden: Lampman area property owners said no to SID? Yes. If owners won't create a SID, why should city council reconsider selling it? Who will pay for improvements?
- Tina Volek, City Administrator: sewer SID nearly paid off? May make a difference in attitudes about park SID.
- Sullivan: least cost would be to continue doing what currently exists.
- Jarvis: agree, may provide grass and irrigation in short term and more development later if demanded.
- Cimmino: master plan completed? Yes, late 1980s. How will city pay for improvements? Unknown, have to discuss later.
- Clark: did staff market the land or sit on it? Matter of workload, didn't actively try to sell the land.
- Brown: cost to maintain grass and irrigation? If we develop and maintain here, should consider doing it with other undeveloped parks.
- Cromley: list of parks that could be sold? Yes.
- Yakawich: how did City get the land? Subdivision process.

- Volek: used to take anything but that has changed. More selective on what city accepts.
- Hanel: opposed to selling Lampman until another discussion with neighborhood and should reexamine whether it could be used for new or relocated fire station. Also don't agree with the value assigned to it and need to reappraise before selling.
- Brown: where does cash for land go? Benefit the neighborhood where the land was dedicated.
- Clark: don't necessarily want to sell Lampman but the Department has let it ride a long time.
- Friedel: when will fire study be released? February.
- Cimmino: agree, make sure that consultants look at options.
- Volek: history of 24th St./Lampman relocation discussion. Council wishes?
- McFadden: if part of land is used for fire station and Park reimbursed for land loss, could money be used for developing other parts? Yes.
- Brewster: neighborhood consistently said they don't want to pay for improvements. More inclined to sell it or use it for other City use.
- Friedel: ask youth or other sports leagues about paying to develop.
- McFadden: what would park sale money be spent for? Develop Lampman Strip Park is current thought.
- Brown: revalue the land if we sell Lampman.
- Volek: wait until fire study done, then approach residents to see interest in building a park, if not City will try to sell.
- **Public Comment:**
- Rick DeVore, Chair of the Park Board: when Park Board approved sale of park lands in 2014. Centennial Park plan consultant stated by 2030 City would need additional 100 acres of park space to meet needs. Decided not to sell at that time.

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| TOPIC #3 | Barrett Road |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Dave Mumford, Public Works Director: meeting at Medicine Crow School last year about traffic and pedestrian safety on Barrett. Working on design of trail following Kyle Ln and intersect with Kiwanis trail. Yellowstone County would form a RSID but county will not start petition and will not maintain a trail.
- Brown: will kids living above have to still use Barrett Road? There is a ditch that restricts access.
- **Public Comment:**
None

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| TOPIC #4 | Midland Road (30% complete) |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Debi Meling, City Engineer, introduces Ken Ard, project engineer.
- Ken Ard: brief presentation of project.
- Hanel: why 10' path? it's the standard.
- Sullivan: Mullowney and Midland intersection lights improved? Small upgrade.
- Brown: 10' path, but no on-street bikes? Yes.
- McFadden: Mullowney, west to north, yield sign destroyed and should be reinstalled.
- Cimmino: complete street checklist used, but not really complete street? Yes, it is. The design accommodates all users.
- Friedel: 10' path, show lights in it? No. Will lights help the trail? Yes.
- **Public Comment:**
- Steve Zier, on behalf of SBURA: thanks for the PW money, great job by engineering.
- Yakawich: lots of discussion to get to the project.
- Volek: proceed with design unless Council directs changes? OK to proceed.

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| TOPIC #5 | Gravel Road Upgrade |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Debi Meling: hope everything included that Council requested. Gravel road update.
- Brewster: how to make SID street improvements more effective.
- McFadden: lots of calls from people who want rock placed on their gravel alleys.
- Friedel: grading alleys, they are rough. Mumford: yes, hard to keep up every year.
- Hanel: good explanation about why we need concrete on the street borders. Wish we could better explain it to the public.
- Cromley: any minimum size for a SID? 3-4 houses at least, just to make it cost effective.
- Brewster: streets off Lake Elmo, people encroach on R/W. Not sure that a grader can help. Difficult issues, especially where land and house values are low.
- Sullivan: know some alleys were paved, now gravel. Due to underground pipe replacement? Not usually. Heavy trucks damage them and gradually turn them from asphalt to rock/asphalt mix.

- Brown: 1- 2 blocks of street improvements, still better with ribbon curb? Costs of standard and ribbon curbs are similar and which one City uses depends on storm drainage. W. 21st; rock in swales installed by City? Usually done by developer.
- Yakawich: good effort from PW to create SID. Like to create Council subcommittee to look further at issue. Get info out to community, City pay for some extra costs, don't want this discussion to die.
- Sullivan: have a good PW board, might be a good way to get more info out to the public and be the interface between residents and City.
- Brewster: 16.5' width a standard? Yes, but will do less if there is less R/W. 33' street allows parking on both sides and 20' unobstructed lane for travel and fire department access.
- **Public Comment:**
None

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| TOPIC #6 | Annexation Policy and Housing Density |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Wyeth Friday, Planning Department Director: density and annexation presentation.
- Brown: average lot size? Not certain, smaller lots than before. Varies throughout City.
- **Public Comment:**
None

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| TOPIC #7 | FEMA Integrated Emergency Management Course |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Pepper Valdez and Captain Jason Lyon, Firefighters: Coordinated attacks and active shooter more common. Employees applied for HSA grant, awarded to Billings and active in March. Billings PD and FD, joint project to prepare Billings for active shooter, etc. training. Grant will provide training and PPE. FEMA letting some money loose for training program. 4-day training course. No cost, will start with community assessment. March 27- April 1 training. While focused on man-made disasters, it can apply to natural disasters too.
- Brown: training for decision makers? Lyon: Yes. Just for Billings and Yellowstone County? Mainly targeted at local level but state will be invited to attend.
- Sullivan: should do more training, not less and assessment could be valuable.
- Cromley: when will assessment occur? Lyon: Late 3rd or 4th quarter this year.
- Yakawich: appreciate your passion for the topic.
- Hanel: no opposition, so proceed.

- **Public Comment:**
None

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| TOPIC #8 | Council Discussion |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Hanel: Grand Avenue areas sinking, need work.
- Clark: photos and email about trail deterioration – going to handle it? Volek: will look at it as soon as river flow subsides.
- Brown: do we have a maintenance plan for trails? Annual budgets for Parks or PW. Haven't mowed as much as usual to avoid setting fires.
- **Public Comment:**
None

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| TOPIC #9 | Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda |
| PRESENTER | |
| NOTES/OUTCOME | |

- Dennis Ulvestad, 3040 Central Avenue, Billings, Montana: ride along with Billings PD last Friday. Park Ranger money would be used better for patrol/traffic officer.
- Clark: know what hours the officer will work? Probably 4-10 hour shifts and late afternoon and evening.
- Sullivan: what was response time for PD to respond to "miscreant" in recent park incident? Will research.