

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

6:00 P.M., TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2008

COMMITTEE ROOM

ROOM 239, CITY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: *Council Member Joycelyn V. Johnson, Chair*
 Council Member Evelyn A. Terry, Vice Chair
 Council Member Dan Besse
 Council Member Robert C. Clark

OTHERS PRESENT: *Council Member Molly Leight*

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order and stated that the Committee would first consider the Consent Agenda and asked if any items needed to be pulled for discussion.

Council Member Clark requested to pull Item C-5. No other items were removed for discussion.

Council Member Clark made a motion to approve the balance of the Consent Agenda. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Terry and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- C-1. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS RELATING TO THE BURKE MILL ROAD REALIGNMENT PROJECT:
 - a. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE PURCHASE ORDER TO CHARLES D. LOWDER, INC. FOR WORK ASSOCIATED WITH THE BURKE MILL ROAD REALIGNMENT PROJECT FOR \$150,000.
 - b. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROJECT BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009.

- C-2. RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH ATC ASSOCIATES OF NORTH CAROLINA, P.C. (EAST WARD) - *Petition of ATC Associates of North Carolina, P.C.*

- C-3. RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT FOR HDR ENGINEERING OF THE CAROLINAS TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR STORMWATER MASTERPLAN UPDATES OF THE UPPER SALEM AND MIDDLE SALEM CREEK WATERSHEDS. [*\$715,238 from Stormwater Funds.*]
- C-4. RESOLUTION APPROVING CITY PARTICIPATION IN A DRAINAGE PROJECT ACROSS PRIVATE PROPERTY – *1564 Jordan Drive.*
- C-6. CITY/COUNTY UTILITY COMMISSION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.
- C-7. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF MINUTES - *July 15, 2008.*
- C-5. REPORT ON COMINGLED RECYCLING PILOT PROGRAM. [*INFORMATION ONLY.*]

Council Member Clark stated that he could recommend several West Ward neighborhoods that would participate in the pilot program. He expressed concern that the efficiency of collecting the recyclables would not cover the cost of the transportation.

Mr. Gregory M. Turner, Assistant City Manager/Public Works noted that that is one of the aspects that the pilot program will evaluate.

Chair Johnson requested that staff identify concentrated areas where neighborhoods participate regularly in recycling, that would benefit most from the program.

GENERAL AGENDA

At the request of staff, Chair Johnson stated that Item G-4 would be considered first.

- G-4. CONSIDERATION OF APPEAL BY TRIANGLE GRADING AND PAVING RELATED TO ITS DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE CITY'S CONTRACTOR LIST.

Mr. Turner noted that the petitioner has requested additional time and the item will probably be brought back to the Public Works Committee in September.

Council Member Clark made a motion to remove the item from the agenda. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Terry.

Council Member Clark expressed his dissatisfaction with the company and their work on the widening of Country Club Road between Jonestown and Peace Haven Roads.

The motion to remove the item carried unanimously.

- G-1. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED RENAMING OF "FREEDOM STREET" TO "LOUISE WILSON LANE".

Mr. Paul Norby, City/County Planning Director, stated that there is one public street within Kensington Village that is proposed for a name change. He noted that there is a biography and information in support of the name change in the agenda book, and also noted that there are two private streets proposed for name changes that do not require a vote from the Committee.

In response to Chair Johnson's question regarding George Redd Court, Mr. Ben Stamey, City/County Planning Department, stated that emergency services reviews any proposed street renaming and if a road exists with a similar sounding name, it is not recommended without adding additional words to the street name to signify it. This prevents future problems for emergency personnel by having duplicated or similar sounding street names.

Mr. Norby noted that he has requested a prioritized list from emergency services personnel of duplicated or similar sounding street names which will be presented to Council for changes.

Ms. Robin Carpenter, 4110 Pine Hall Road, Walkertown, stated that there will be a dedication ceremony on September 26 renaming Freedom Street to Louise Wilson Lane, and noted that a specific time will be set at a later date. She also noted that Kensington Village provides a quality product and affordable housing. She further noted that there are currently five tenants, 40 applications in process and 142 units available.

No one being heard, Chair Johnson declared the public hearing closed.

Council Member Clark made a motion to approve the item. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Terry and carried unanimously.

G-2. PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSAL TO NAME AN UNNAMED STREET SEGMENT TO "BRYSONS MEADOW COURT".

Chair Johnson stated that the public hearing was now open and asked if anyone wished to be heard. Seeing no one, she declared the public hearing closed.

Council Member Clark made a motion to approve the item. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Besse and carried unanimously.

G-3. CONSIDERATION OF STREET CLOSING PETITIONS:

- a. PETITION TO CLOSE AND ABANDON A PORTION OF MICKLE ROAD (NORTHWEST WARD) – *Petition of Barbara Cooley, Mickle Dam Homeowners Association. [Item remanded to Public Works Committee by City Council on July 21, 2008. No public hearing was held.]*

Mr. Turner stated that the original petition requested to close all of the unopened portion of Mickle Road and the petition now asks to close only a portion of that area due to concerns raised by an adjoining property owner. He also stated that staff recommends approval of the petition and a new public hearing date will need to be set.

Mr. Dan Moury, 3400 Dixiana Lane, stated that he wanted to ensure the requested closure is what was agreed upon by the adjoining property owners. He also stated that he is a member of the Mickle Dam Homeowner's Association.

Council Member Clark made a motion to approve the item. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Terry and carried unanimously.

- b. PETITION TO CLOSE AND ABANDON A PORTION OF ELECTRIC DRIVE (SOUTHEAST WARD) – *Petition of William and Carolyn Lazenby. [Item held in the Public Works Committee on July 15, 2008.]*

Mr. Turner stated that the proposed closure is one lot deep and once closed, it is customary that the property would be divided among the adjoining property owners.

Ms. Carolyn Lazenby, 1111 Hubert Court, stated that there is a proposal to build a church in the area and the street closure will allow for additional property for the church.

Ms. Juanita Ramsey, 945 Dize Drive, stated that there is a petition from the community in opposition to the closure and read a letter from the community members.

Chair Johnson expressed concern that there was little to no communication about the project prior to the petition being submitted.

Council Member Terry stated her first knowledge of the petition was when she saw it on the agenda, at which time, she requested that all involved parties meet and discuss the project. She expressed concern about the additional traffic and questioned whether or not surrounding property owners had seen a site plan for the building. She suggested that neighbors between Dize and Electric Drives meet to discuss the project.

Ms. Lazenby stated that she communicated with Ms. Ramsey and other neighbors, but questioned whether or not the proposed street closing or the building project was being discussed at this time.

Mr. Turner stated that issues have been raised regarding the impact of the street closure and the building, and suggested that the City's Department of Transportation be given an opportunity to research neighborhood concerns and suggested to hold the item in the Public Works Committee for an additional month.

In response to Council Member Terry's questions, Ms. Lazenby stated that the building will be 9,000 square feet, will accommodate 300 or fewer congregants and the approved site plan allows for 79 parking spaces.

Ms. Ramsey noted that no one from the church has reached out to the community and neighbors are concerned that their property values will deteriorate.

Council Member Clark noted that the road closure and building project may or may not be related and questioned whether or not the land gained by the road closure is needed to build the church.

Ms. Lazenby noted that the land obtained from the road closure has no bearing on the building of the church. She also noted that the building permit has already been issued, that she spoke with Ms. Ramsey and the neighborhood association director and has communicated with all but a few residents in the community.

Mr. Turner noted that he has not seen a site plan and does not know if the road closure is necessary to the building project, but it may be necessary for a property setback. He also noted that if the land was perked and a septic permit was issued by Forsyth County, Ms. Lazenby will still need to apply to the City for a building permit. In response to Council Member Besse's question, Mr. Turner noted that adjoining property owners are notified of a closing via a mailing from his staff regarding the matter being heard at the Public Works Committee and a mailing from the City Secretary's Office once the public hearing date has been set by the City Council. A sign is posted regarding the closure and maps are located with the sign for clarification. He also confirmed that the property is not landlocked.

Council Member Clark made a motion to continue the item to the September Public Works Committee meeting. The motion was duly seconded by Council Member Besse and carried unanimously.

Chair Johnson requested that the project be reviewed by the Community Appearance Commission as the proposed building site for the church is property that was purchased from the City.

Council Member Terry noted that she would meet with the petitioner and neighborhood members prior to the September Public Works Committee meeting.

G-5. PRESENTATION OF CONCEPTUAL PLANS FOR THE STROLLWAY EXTENSION ON TRADE STREET.

Mr. John Allen, Development Director, stated that plans were compiled for the project last year and this presentation includes changes that were requested by Council for the strollway extension of Trade Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets, and between Seventh Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive.

Ms. Kimberley Barr, Stimmel Associates, gave the presentation.

Chair Johnson requested to know the costs associated with the extension and noted that other areas of downtown be reviewed for similar upgrades.

Ms. Barr stated that the project should be a practical application and the same fixtures, lighting, benches and trash receptacles could be placed throughout downtown to bring continuity.

Council Member Clark requested an increase in surface parking downtown, other than on-street parking and parking decks, by utilizing small, empty lots, such as the one on Sixth and Trade Streets.

Council Member Terry requested an update on how trailblazing and way finding signs would be incorporated.

Mr. Turner noted a presentation was made at the July Public Works Committee meeting on these potential signs and that once a citizen reaches their destination, there would be pedestrian oriented signs with aesthetics applied to match the surrounding streets.

Council Member Besse noted that the Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership is working on a trailblazing sign project which will have to meet North Carolina Department of Transportation standards.

Chair Johnson requested that the trailblazing sign information be redistributed to Council Members and expressed concern that the northern section of downtown at Northwest Boulevard and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive was not included in the presentation.

Ms. Barr stated that Northwest Boulevard and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive were included in Phases One and Two of the Strollway Extension project and she just presented on Phase Three.

Council Member Besse noted that Phases Two and Three will tie the Strollway in to Northwest Boulevard, along with the existing greenway.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Dennis Peck, Whipporwill Drive, stated that he submitted a petition for the closure of Bunting Lane on October 8, 2007 and has heard nothing from City staff.

Chair Johnson requested an update on the petitioned closure be provided to Council Members.

Council Member Leight noted that there is a safety concern at the Gateway traffic circle near the Gateway YWCA and questioned whether or not additional signage could be placed there to allow safer travel for pedestrians. She also requested an update on the status of sidewalk construction, pedestrian bridge and Strollway bridge.

Council Member Terry noted that there are similar safety issues at the Fayetteville Street traffic circle.

Mr. Turner noted that the appropriate way to cross a traffic circle is at the splitter islands. He also noted that he will compile information and bring back an update on the status of the greenway, Strollway bridge, pedestrian bridge and possible safety improvements.

Council Member Besse requested an update on the Strollway South Extension and noted that he would like to meet with the new Pedestrian Coordinator.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:05 p.m.