

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
February 17, 2009
3:15 P.M.

Councilman Rico, Chairman, called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order, with Councilpersons Bennett, Berz, Robinson, Benson, Gilbert, Page and Pierce present. City Attorney Michael McMahan and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Lee Norris, Jerry Stewart, Steve Leach, Dennis Malone, Jim Templeton, Gary Hilbert, Greg Haynes, Lamar Flint, Larry Zehnder, Dan Johnson, Donna Kelley, Richard Beeland, Daisy Madison, John VanWinkle, Chief Williams, and Jeff Cannon.

Mr. Norris began with **Resolutions (a) and (b)** on tonight's agenda. The first Resolution authorized Barrett Taylor of BDOT Properties to temporarily use the right-of-way at 3914 St. Elmo Ave. to install a canopy and fence. The second Resolution authorized Gregory A. Ross to temporarily use a portion of the right-of-way at 63 East Main Street to install a canopy, planter, and sign. This is the new "green" building on the corner. Mr. Malone provided a video of these two Resolutions.

Resolution (f) on next week's agenda rescinds Resolution No. 25633 with Roto Rooter for failure to execute the Contract and authorizes the award of said contract to C&C Construction Services in the amount of \$11,200.00, plus a contingency amount of \$3,500.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$14,700.00. Mr. Norris explained that Roto Rooter's Bond Agent went away, and we had to re-bid this. Councilman Pierce asked if this was a local company and was told "yes".

Resolution (g) authorizes a Change Order relative to Contract No. E-04-002-201 with Stein Construction Company, Inc. increasing the contract amount by \$41,645.46, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$252,327.46 for the Mountain Creek Road Improvements—North of Stonebrook Drive. Mr. Norris stated that this section of Mountain Creek Road had been troublesome for a number of years and had several vertical curb issues; that we are continuing to level it out. We also encountered problems with the soil and other delays, and this is the final change order.

Resolution (h) authorizes Change Order No. 1, Shallowford Road at Jenkins Road Intersection Improvements, with Volkert & Associates, Inc. increasing the contract amount by \$32,800.00 for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$98,800.00. Mr. Norris explained that we had been working with the church and school and need to expand the scope of the work.

Councilwoman Bennett confirmed that this was a Professional Services Contract and did not go out to bid. She asked about another contract we had with Volkert, stating that she may be confusing the two.

Councilman Benson asked if we were close to seeing this done? Mr. Norris responded that we were getting the design work done.

Councilwoman Bennett asked about the “Obama Bucks” and using this for infrastructure?

Mr. Norris responded that this would not qualify, noting that the qualifications were included in a “very long” document.

Councilman Benson stated that this money might qualify for something else that would release money for this purpose. Mr. Norris was hesitant to say this.

Chairman Rico asked Adm. Leach to speak to the uses for this money and why this would not be included in the Stimulus Package.

Councilman Page stated that he had planned not to bring this up, but he did believe that the Council needed to be educated in terms of how this Stimulus Package will affect the City; that he would like for Dan Johnson to speak to this or anyone who knew something about it; that the Council needed to become educated.

Adm. Leach stated that the uses were very broad; that Matt Lea with the Mayor’s Office is helping Public Works through this and is pulling out sections that were important to them; that he was getting into the Bill itself and that Matt Lea was the contact and would have the best overall look; that they were trying to sift through this, and it was difficult; that Matt Lea was handling this for the Mayor.

Councilman Page stated that he would like to make a request to Matt to put his findings in writing and have Matt come to the Council to explain this.

Adm. Leach stated that everything was “woven” together, and one had to look at all categories.

Resolution (i) authorizes Cindy Hixson to temporarily use the right-of-way at the entrance of Spring Valley Subdivision on Valley Bridge Road to improve the safety and appearance of the island area. She is qualified for a Grant from Neighborhood Services, and this is how she will be using the grant money.

Mr. Norris turned the meeting over to Larry Zehnder, Administrator of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Zehnder indicated that he had two issues, the first being **Resolution (e)** on next week's agenda concerning the C.H.I.P.'S for Charity Golf Classic and Jefferson Park.

He first discussed Jefferson Park, an item which is not on the agenda. He stated that he had met with Councilman Gilbert; that this was a unique project and needs to be advanced. He explained that it is a small piece of property off of Main Street and presented some slides to show the Park, noting that this was an example of partnerships, with six partners included. His slides showed that the Park was in the middle of a housing development. This was started in 1992 and is an old school site, with the foundation still being out there. Lyndhurst paid for the Master Plan, which includes playgrounds, a pavilion and community gardens. It is a workable plan, and they all worked to put together the dollars and cents. He noted that this was really more of a Public Works project and that Dennis Malone had put a lot of work into this. He mentioned the environmental aspects and contributions, noting that CNE was a part of this. He noted that it took \$541,000 put together to make this work. He reiterated the importance of seeing all the partners making this possible. He asked Jeff Cannon to talk about this project.

Mr. Cannon mentioned that there are M-1 housing developments that were bringing in around \$600 a year in taxes and are now bringing in around \$35,000 a year, which is a little bit of an investment; that people are investing in the building. He pointed out a "gray" area in the middle of the slide that Barge, Waggoner & Sumner had drawn up a plan for and noted that the design is competitive with sustainability in mind; that the neighborhood had bought into this, and they would be putting out RFP's.

Councilman Page stated that this was a great concept and asked where the funds were coming from? Mr. Cannon responded that they had been working with developers and builders and other organizations; that their funds were from Lyndhurst, Benwood and UTC—that it was all privately funded.

Mr. Zehnder added that not just Public Works and Parks and Recreation were working on this, but everyone was working on this as a team and a model to use in other areas; that this was a true park in a neighborhood.

Councilman Benson confirmed that it was a passive park.

Mr. Cannon added that when you have a large park in a neighborhood, it makes it saleable.

Chairman Rico stated that this was in his district, and he would take full credit for this.

Councilwoman Bennett noted that Larry Zehnder and Commissioner Brooks did something similar in regards to the Walking Trail in Lookout Valley. She noted that the Outdoor Building was very exciting and asked Mr. Zehnder to speak to this.

Mr. Zehnder noted that there had been a media tour of the Outdoor Building; that it was LEED certified and a center for outdoor recreation; that outdoors and the environment is crucial to Chattanooga; that this was a fabulous center in Coolidge Park.

Mr. Zehnder indicated that this was all he had prepared for Jefferson Park and continued with **Resolution (e)** that authorizes his department to hold the “C.H.I.P’S for Charity Golf Classic” each year to raise funds to provide scholarships and needed equipment for its USGA Adaptive Golf Program. He explained that this is a fundraiser for those that are disadvantaged to take part in different programs and Golf in particular.

Councilman Pierce asked about the First Tee Program? Mr. Zehnder responded that Hickory Valley is being developed by First Tee; that First Tee and UTC Foundation are getting money; that the City purchased the property, and it will be developed by First Tee; that an Agreement will come before the Council; that this is moving right along and will have a home shortly.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 P.M.