

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
November 3, 2009
4:00 P.M.

Councilman Rico, Chairman, called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order, with Councilpersons Ladd, Benson, Berz, Scott, McGary, Gilbert, Robinson and Murphy present. Attorneys Michael McMahan and Valerie Malueg and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Jim Templeton, Dennis Malone, Dan Johnson, Lee Norris, Daisy Madison, Richard Beeland, Steve Leach, Gary Hilbert, Dickie Hutsell, Greg Haynes, John VanWinkle, Bill Payne, and Jerry Stewart. Mayor Littlefield joined the meeting later.

On motion of Councilwoman Ladd, seconded by Councilman Murphy, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2009

Adm. Leach began with **Resolution 7(a)**, accepting a 5.5 acre conservation easement at 5600 Hixson Pike from Clear Creek Church of Christ to be used as part of the N. Chickamauga Greenway Master Plan. Rick Woods was present to answer any questions. Mr. Wood showed a map and also introduced a member of the Clear Creek Church of Christ that was present. Mr. Woods noted that this donation fits in with their plans. Appreciation was expressed to the church member.

Ordinance 5(e) is a closure and abandonment for Kirti Naik of an unopened alley located off of the 2100 Block of East 23rd St. near the Burger King.

Resolutions (c) and (d) are similar and are SLAP contracts, (c) being to Tower Construction Co., Inc. and (d) to C&C Construction Services.

Ordinance (f) on next week's agenda is a closure and abandonment for Chestnut Properties, LLC and is deferred from the 10/27/09 meeting. Public Works is working on this.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2009

Resolution (b) was deferred from 10/27/09 and is a contract with Thomas Brothers Construction Company, Inc. and was deferred until after the Capital Budget is passed. Councilwoman Scott had some questions in regards to parking lots qualifying for sewer funds, number of detention ponds on the site, and flooding in the zoo. It was stated that this is the end of these projects for Public Works.

SPEED LIMIT ON MLK—JOHN VANWINKLE

John VanWinkle, Traffic Engineer, was present to discuss a Study on MLK Speed Limits. He stated that they had received comments from the public that the speed limit is not reasonable, and they were under obligation to re-examine. Speed limit on 10th and 11th Streets is 30 mph and 25 mph on MLK. In 2002, before the conversion to two-way streets, people were traveling 40 mph. In 2005, the limit was dropped but the behavior was the same. In 2008, no one was going 25 mph and enforcement stepped up. In 2009, because of the enforcement, speed dropped slightly. He noted that some felt it was unfair to enforce a speed limit that is too low. The downtown speed limit is 30 mph, and it is being proposed to change the limit in the 500 Block of MLK to 30 mph and the 800 Block to 35 mph.

Councilman McGary, while showing appreciation for Mr. VanWinkle's professionalism, felt that the speed limit should be uniform at 30 mph.

Councilman Benson felt it was wrong to compare MLK to downtown, because of the neighborhoods that existed on MLK; that people in these neighborhoods liked to be able to walk across the street.

Councilman Murphy stated that all constituents would like lower speed limits in their neighborhoods, but we had to set what makes sense.

At this point Adm. Leach went back to agenda items—**Ordinance 6(a)** on next week's agenda that updates flood regulations. Mr. Hutsell explained that in April we were notified by FEMA to check our procedures and Ordinances; that our Ordinances needed to be better defined and that Patty Dodd with RPA had assisted in this; that they went through the Ordinances to make changes, and they are now acceptable. Councilman Murphy asked if these were all over town. Mr. Hutsell stated that for FEMA Flood Insurance maps, every panel had been identified.

Chief Parker stated that he would withdraw **Resolution (g)** on tonight's agenda. Councilman Benson noted last minute concerns regarding this.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.