

MINUTES

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Committee Attendees:

Daron Stephens, Engineer
Mike Flynn, City Manager
Dianna Layne, Deputy City Clerk
Hannah Toole, City Commissioner

Brian Sewell, Public Works Director
Shanda Cecil, Planning
Kitty Strode, City Commissioner (by phone)
Jeff Neal, resident

NEXT MEETING – Monday, March 6, 9:30 AM, in the Training Room.

MINUTES – Shanda made a motion to approve the January 9, 2023 minutes; Hannah seconded. Minutes approved.

REDWING/BULLION WAY INTERSECTION – Public Works had placed a message board saying that this intersection was going to become a three-way stop, which prompted Jeff Neal, resident (Lexington Director of Traffic Engineering), to contact Mike with an alternative suggestion. He suggested making space for a left turn into Bullion Way from the Bypass to the intersection, change the Kroger stop to a through right combo, and make the stop signs on either side larger with a sign underneath that says “through traffic does not stop” (see map attached). Mr. Neal found out that District 7 is opening the Bypass for signal timing input in the future.

TOWN BRANCH UPDATE – All piers are drilled, and the concrete has been poured. They are forming up for the rear retaining wall this week. Ceasar Aranda (mason that did Mickie’s Bar and McEldowney building) has given us a price of \$24,000 to tuckpoint the back of 1 South Main, Strength Fix building and the wall at the back of the courtyard at the McAllister’s building, and to stucco across the entire length to clean it up and make it look good. Daron will get with Debbie to get on the HPC agenda to approve doing the stucco work. The exterior wall of 1 South Main was the interior brick of the building we just tore down. That brick is not meant to be outside exposed to the elements, so the brick is crumbling in places because the roof has leaked for many years. There was no structural connection between 1 South Main and that wall. We are trying to get to substantial completion by Beer Cheese Festival.

The bid opening for the other end of Town Branch (Family Dollar) was last Thursday and Todd Johnson Construction was the apparent low bidder at \$963,000. Mike and Stephanie have seen their work. After we check their references, we should be able to put this on the second Commission meeting agenda in February. This project should get started in March/April, and they will have 210 days by the bid documents to complete it, which will be around October.

WALL-MAPLE STORM SEWER – Additional drilling is complete, and we did not find the karst feature. We are going to go back to the original design. This will keep the South Main and French Avenue area on the back burner for right now. Prime will finish the final design and we will put it out to bid but it will be a FY24 project. Where the unnamed alley meets Maple, we will have to excavate approximately 25’ to get the pipe installed.

STORMWATER ASSET INVENTORY – All of the field work is done on this project, and they are compiling the information and putting the database together. Then Buchanan will fill in the gaps of what we have to camera allowing us to fill in the connection points. The number of

structures, depths, pipe sizes is all done from Colby down to Lowe's. The farthest structure is at Stockyards Bank, and it runs all the way to Colby Ridge and Concord. This project will be finished a lot quicker than expected.

FIFTH STREET UPDATE – One of the conditions of the Division of Water approving this project was that we have to have every tree 3" or larger laid on the ground before the bats come back at the end of March. This area is considered a summer time habitat. We got with Houston Contracting and he gave us a price for clearing the hillside. He will take down the remaining section of the chain link fence also. The work area is from Mr. Grisby's house to the railroad and from the creek to the Gordon property. Then we go back to the Division of Water to determine if they are going to give us the stream location permit or not. It will be ready to go to bid when Houston finishes. The brush and trees will be taken out to the Strodes Creek Compost Facility (soccer park). The Corps of Engineers has already blessed the project. There is a blue line stream that runs through there. There are two reliefs for the water to go through, and they both go under the CSX Railroad. When we move that stream over, we must make sure we do not cause more flooding issues upstream. It looks like we are not going to improve the flooding issues, but we cannot make it worse. We will probably get it bid this fiscal year and get most of the construction done in the warmer months, but we will have to budget money in the next fiscal year to finalize the project.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

1. Colby Ridge and Redwing intersection repairs
2. Vaught Road project in April
3. Winn Avenue
4. Sandblasting and painting the MLK Bridge

CITY HALL RENOVATIONS – The workmen are running through a final punch list of repairs.

GENERAL COMMENTS – Mike mentioned the following projects:

1. **Main Street High Side** – Still in the process of compiling the information from the public meeting. Then they will provide alternatives and we will have a couple more public meetings.
2. **Bulb-outs** – The State is supposed to do some more striping on Lexington Avenue. We are not going to do the bulb-out in front of the Courthouse. The only bulb-out we should look at is in front of Leed's Theater.
3. **Sidewalks** – Most of the bad spots on Main Street are fixed. We need to look at the depressed flower boxes around the Kerr Building. We need to fix everything on Main Street and put together a list for the budget process.

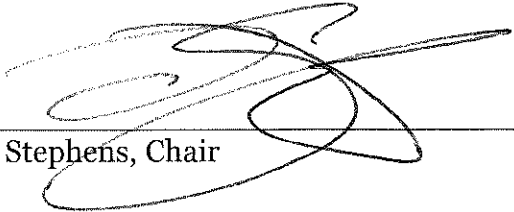
Brian shared that the privacy screens are up at 222 Cook Avenue. In the future, they will dig back into the hillside and start pouring the retaining wall. The updated preliminary plans for the new building are with Brian Ward and should be back soon. Brian needs to send the specs and we will be ready to bid.

PROCUREMENT PROCESS – During COVID, the procurement process changed, and they added internet advertising as an acceptable source of advertising. Our policy says it must be advertised in the newspaper. Bill Dykeman is working on whether that is all we have to change

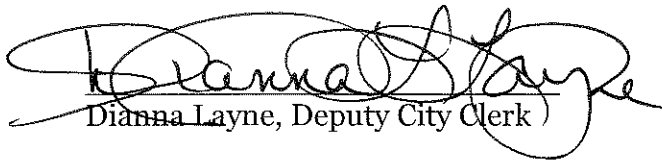
so we can advertise on the internet and hopefully receive more bids. Lynn Imaging has a network of approximately 7,000 subscribers. Every job that is posted on their website, an email goes out to the entire list. The bidding contractor pays \$100 to download the plans so you are getting responsible contractors. Hopefully, we can get more bids through them. Prior bids on Town Branch netted two bids. This past project, we received seven bids.

COURTHOUSE LIGHTS – Rimar submitted a bid for this project. LG&E will not let KU donate bucket trucks to put up the lights. Mike suggested talking with Chief Whiteley about use of the city firetrucks and possibly the county.

ADJOURN – Dianna made a motion to adjourn; Hannah seconded. Meeting was adjourned.



Daron Stephens, Chair



Dianna Layne, Deputy City Clerk