

Service Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
December 9, 2014

There was a meeting of the Service Committee in Council Chambers on Monday December 8, 2014 at 5:30 P.M. with these members were present:

Bill Cost Jr.	Ryan Bubb
Jeff Rath	Alex Rolletta
Jeremy Blake	

We wish to Report:

1. **Resolution No. 14-95** authorizing the Director of Public Service to execute a contract for reimbursement of legal representation of indigent persons for calendar year 2015 with the Licking County Board of Commissioners for the City of Newark, Licking County, Ohio was considered.

Law Director- this is our standard annual legislation that allows the City to be reimbursed by the County for payment of attorney fees for indigent defendants in the Municipal Court. We used to have an ongoing contract however the State now requires that we renew it every year and we are here today for our renewal.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath
Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

2. **Resolution No. 14-96** a resolution affirming the base rate for the storm water utility service charge as authorized by the codified ordinance of the City of Newark, Ohio was considered.

Roger Loomis- back in 2006 we did a resolution to set the rates for storm water utility. Part of that resolution was that we would come back and do an assessment of those rates. We have a group that meets once a month so we did an assessment of that to see whether the rate is appropriate to where we think we are collecting the proper amount of money or whether we think we should raise that. This is simply a resolution to keep the rate at what it is currently \$6.50. We are spending about 8% of that money on maintenance and debt and capital projects within that utility.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Mr. Blake- can you discuss Section 2 which states there are credit adjustments for non-residential owners of property.

Roger Loomis- all residential customers get billed one ERU. Part of the program is that non-residential customer's commercial or industrial and pay more than that but they have the opportunity to get a credit for things that they do if they have a water retention system, adopt a storm drain and then we give them up to 50% credit for performing these actions.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

3. **Resolution No. 14-97** a resolution authorizing and directing the Director of Public Service of the City of Newark, Ohio to execute and file an application with the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District and to provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for possible funding assistance was considered.

Roger Loomis- this is part of the Log Pond diversion ditch. We have some erosion on the bank just south of Granville Rd. We are going to start working on the engineering of this project. We are going to apply to them to reimburse us for this project; they will reimburse us 80%.

Motion by Mr. Rath to send to full Council

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

4. **Resolution No. 14-98** a resolution adopting the updated countywide all natural hazards mitigation plan (CANHMP) for Licking County, Ohio was considered.

Brian Morehead- this is a plan that was originally developed by the Licking County Planning staff back in 2009 and this is an update of the plan that were done at the end of 2012 into 2013. It went to FEMA for approval and it was there for about a year and now it is back to us. Part of adopting the plan is that all of the communities involved will adopt a resolution and it will be in effect at that point. It is a rather lengthy document, it is over 200 pages and I gave you the website over at the county that has the document on there. Basically it is a document that talks about how each community and the county over all handles the natural disasters that happen in the County.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Mr. Blake- Mr. Morehead you mentioned that it is about 200 pages but I did read it and on page 84 they have you specific in there as a quote specific to the flood plain. "Beyond normal levy and drainage maintenance noted projects have occurred or plan to in the foreseeable future. The city is being reactive to flood plains and the flooding." I am aware of a project from our Storm Water Utilities Coordinator that there is some discussion about fixing the levies. So I was hoping that you might be able to clarify that for the community and the public.

Brian Morehead- after this document was written or revised in late 2012 we initiated a project in 2013 to start studying what it would take to raise the levy in the south end of

town. The levy along the south fork Licking River does not provide what is known as 100 year flood plain protection so a lot of the south end of town from the river northward to about the railroad tracks are in a flood zone. If the levy were higher we would be able to have the levy recertified and it would provide greater flood protection and allow the floodplain in that area to be reduced. We have done survey work and we are looking at the design work for that now. Our initial impression was that by 2-3 feet but we now think it is 6 inches to a foot, foot and a half and it is not all the way across it is more in certain areas. We are going to put some costs numbers to that before we move forward with it but it would be a very beneficial project for the south end of town.

Mr. Blake- I just want to reiterate that as far as development for businesses or Habitat for Humanity that would be beneficial because right now Habitat for Humanity won't go in that neighborhood because it is in the flood plain so if we were to get that levy higher that would solve that issue.

Mr. Cost- you mentioned getting all the different communities signed on, do you see this as a long involved process or fairly quick?

Brian Morehead- the deadline is February of this next coming year so I anticipate all the other communities will be signing on if they haven't already.

Mr. Rath- the south side levy extension can you give us a ball park dollar amount? Is it in the thousands or millions?

Brian Morehead- we are hoping it is in the single millions range and depending on the cost of it that will dictate the timing of it.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

5. **Resolution No. 14-99** preliminary legislation State Route 16 off ramp at Church Street exit was considered.

Brian Morehead- this is preliminary legislation through ODOT basically we are just starting the planning process. We have had \$400,000.00 programmed in State fiscal year 2015 to be able to make some changes to the State Route 16 off ramp there at Church Street. If you get off there now you realize it is just one lane we would like to widen that out to two lanes so that you can have a right turn and a left turn. We think that we can do that relatively easily so this is the first step in cooperating with ODOT.

Mr. Rath- is this in the more near future rather than distant? Would this have any effect on the Cherry Valley Rd interchange, have you taken that into consideration with this project?

Brian Morehead- we have thought about that and we don't think it will have any adverse effect, we actually think it would help the situation out there.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to forward on to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

6. **Resolution No. 14-101** consent legislation Buena Vista Street Bridge was considered.

Brian Morehead- this is sort of the final piece of legislation from ODOT for the project to replace the bridge on Buena Vista Street over Cemetery Run. ODOT is presenting 100% of the funding for that through a new funding program that was announced last year through the Governors' office. We will look forward to the construction of that beginning in 2015.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Mr. Cost- how long of a project is that?

Brian Morehead- I would guess a 3-4 month process.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

7. **Resolution No. 14-102** authorizing and directing the Director of Public Service to advertise for bids and enter into contracts, subject to the appropriation of funds, for the demolition of 110-114 Union Street, and declaring an emergency was considered.

Director Mauter- both the Department of Development and Property Maintenance are looking at the possibility of doing demolition on this building. Are you all familiar with 110-114 Union Street? It is about a 3 story high commercial building across from Flying Colors Preschool and Goodwill. It has demolition orders on it from Property Maintenance. The building is badly deteriorated it has been sitting vacant for a number of years now. The Department of Development has some Federal grant dollars that we can use for this we don't know if we have enough. Because we want to use Federal Grant dollars we have to do the public advertisement, because of the interior deterioration. We really need to use the emergency clause so we can get immediate effect.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Bill Cost Jr, Chair