

Street Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
August 11, 2015
City of Newark, Ohio

The Street Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday August 10, 2015 following a meeting of the Finance Committee. These members were in attendance:

Curtis Johnson, Chair	Alex Rolletta
Dee Hall	Jeremy Blake
Carol Floyd	Doug Marmie
Jeff Rath	

We wish to report:

1. **Ordinance No. 15-24** vacating a portion of a 16.5 foot wide alley as shown on the plat of the John R. Hughes addition, as recorded in plat book 3, page 13 of the Licking County plat records, located between properties at 279 and 295 Wilson Street was considered.

Brian Morehead- this is the alley that was presented by the Licking County Commissioners and at the last meeting you passed the resolution of intent and this is the next step in the process to vacate the alley.

Motion by Mrs. Floyd to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

2. **Resolution No. 15-74** a resolution of intent to vacate a portion of a 16.5 foot wide alley running north from West Main Street, between properties at 108 and 112 West Main Street was considered.

Brian Morehead- this is one of the alleys the Street Committee discussed last month and there weren't any objection regarding the vacating of this alley so I am presenting the resolution of intent to vacate the alley to you tonight.

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

Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

3. **Resolution No. 15-75** a resolution of intent to vacate a portion of a 12 foot wide alley as shown on the plat of the John McCune's addition, as recorded in plat book 2 at page 246 of the Licking County plat records, located between properties at 301 and 303 Clinton Street was considered.

Brian Morehead- this is one of the alleys we discussed last month. It is on Clinton Street. One property owner owns the property on either side of the alley and he requested the alley be vacated. There were no objections therefore I am here tonight presenting the resolution of intent.

Motion by Mrs. Floyd to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

4. An alley vacation at Woodlawn Ave and Fairlawn Ave was considered.

Brian Morehead- this is an alley that was discussed last month as well and the decision then by the Committee was not to move forward with the vacation. In the meantime some of the residents there have presented more information to the Fire Department, I have not personally seen that but the Fire Department sent me an email last week stating that they were no longer in opposition to the alley vacation. Autumn put it on as an item for discussion for tonight. I don't know that I have any other input I can add to that.

Mr. Rath- if I recall the last time that we discussed this there was some opposition from residents living north and south of the alley because they utilized it, correct?

Brian Morehead- I don't know where they live actually.

Mr. Rolletta- I have spoken with residents in the neighborhood who are opposed to this alley vacation still.

Mr. Marmie- I can relate this to an alley vacation that we ended up and I was in full support of on Deo Dr. with the expansion of a business and then after the fact I heard a huge up roar about why it was closed because residents in the area didn't know it was going to be closing and it was being used as a thoroughfare. We did hear a few of the residents come in about this one, I don't know if that justifies whether or not we say no. Property owner rights still rule but right now in this case it is the City's property. The concern I have is that if the city says no we want to keep it and then we fail to keep it maintained and these folks have to continue to pay out of their own pockets to maintain it the way they have that's not right either. I think it is something we need to consider and give the Engineer our opinion. I don't know if right at this moment I can say yes or no but I could go either way now that the Fire Department has said its ok. What is your opinion?

Brian Morehead- I don't have a strong opinion either way. I think that it disconnects the alley system through there if you vacate that but I don't really have a strong opinion. I don't know if there are any folks here that would like to speak on it.

Mr. Rath- the difficulty that I see if I recall is the residents on both sides of the alley utilize the alley for access to their own property. I can just see a neighborhood feud or fight coming because they are going to maintain that alley and utilize it for their own use anytime somebody drives through there they are going to throw a fit because somebody is driving through the alley.

Mr. Johnson- there was one resident who didn't want the alley closed because she used it as an alternative route.

Rhonda Loomis- 870 W Church St, Mr. Rolletta is correct. This came up when I was on Council. It is actually the Kluisza's who are against the vacate. If you look at your aerial you will see semi-truck trailers parked in the alley. When I was in that seat was they would call it the truck stop. They couldn't get those folks to stop parking there trucks and so the threat back then was we are going to close this alley so no one could use it and they could continue doing their trucks. Mr. Rolletta is absolutely right; there is a lot of opposition to vacating that alley. The alley is paved and it does interconnect like Mr. Morehead said. I sent the Kluisza's an email when I saw it was on the Planning Commission and I had asked them to email and also to remind Brian's department about the zoning issue with the semi-trucks. I just wanted to agree with Mr. Rolletta that they don't want it vacated.

Mrs. Floyd- as someone who uses the alleys in the City of Newark to get to my house, to me this could be a straight through from Fairlawn to Woodlawn and if you can't go through then you

have to go down to the corner one direction or the other so I can't see doing this at this time. Maybe in the future if something else comes up but this is not something I would be in favor of pursuing.

Mr. Rolletta- I just want to reiterate that I am not in favor of the alley vacation either.

Mr. Johnson- we don't vote on this but Mr. Morehead you have heard that there is opposition to it.

Brian Morehead- ok then we won't move it forward then.

Curtis Johnson, Chair