

**Street Committee Meeting**  
**June 25, 2021 7:00 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Chairman Carroll, Councilman Porter, Street Commissioner Alder, Engineer Haibach, Fiscal Officer Romanowski

Carroll called the meeting to order and read the roll.

Regarding the 2021 Road Program, the Street Commissioner referenced the portion of Fernwood Dr. after it crosses Hazelwood Dr. and becomes Russell Township. He said it was horrible on the Russell portion. He spoke to Gene at Russell Service Department who said he had money and if South Russell would pave it, he would pay for it. The Engineer stated it would cost \$21,000. Carroll clarified that the Village would be paving all of Fernwood, and the Street Commissioner confirmed that all of Fernwood would be paved as well as the portion that is in Russell Township. Porter clarified that Russell would pay the \$21,000 for it, and the Street Commissioner reiterated that Gene said he had money in his budget and just needed a number. Carroll asked what the total project cost would be and explained that the Village would want a formal agreement with Russell to do this. The Street Commissioner said that they were excited when he mentioned that the Village could do this. Porter verified that the Russell Township Board of Trustees would be on board with this, and the Street Commissioner stated yes, absolutely, because the road was in bad shape.

The Engineer stated that the bid amount from Specialized was \$371,028.30 for the base, which was the Bel Meadows and both alternates, Chelsea Ct. and Fernwood Dr. The Engineer and Street Commissioner viewed the streets on which they wanted to have miscellaneous base repairs. The Engineer had included 130 square yards of base repair in the bid, but on review determined it was 628 square yards. This included a 100-foot-long area on the Kensington boulevard. The bid amount was \$371,000 and the additional base repairs would be about \$37,000. The extension of Fernwood would be \$21,000. The estimate the Engineer received to do a chip seal on the Village parking lot was \$44,000. The Engineer stated that the Fiscal Officer checked with the Geauga County Auditor and the Solicitor, and both recommended that the Village did not pursue an additional scope that exceeded \$50,000. He explained that an additional scope would be doing work that was not contemplated in the original bid package. The parking lot would be \$44,000 and was under the \$50,000 threshold, so it looked like additional scope the Village could have by a change order. The other overages in base repairs and the additional work on Fernwood were already included. He did not think these counts as additional scope, nor do the base repairs.

Carroll verified that the \$37,000 and \$21,000 were over the original bid amount, and he wanted to ensure that this did not become an issue. Carroll explained to the Fiscal Officer that the original Road Program amount was \$371,000. The Engineer and Street Commissioner identified an additional \$37,000 in base repairs and a potential extension to Fernwood for \$21,000. It would be adding \$58,000 to the bid amount. If part of the project were just additional work that had been identified, would it have to be bid out? She verified it was part of the same area, and the Engineer said it was Fernwood and miscellaneous base repairs. The Fiscal Officer stated this could be done. Porter added that it would be necessary to change the budget for the Road

Program at the July 12<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. The Engineer reviewed the areas specified for base repair. The Fiscal Officer advised that the motion should be clear that it was part of the original scope.

The committee discussed the necessity to address the parking lot, and the Engineer said it could be considered with a future Road Program. Carroll stated his inclination would be to stick with the \$58,000 in additional work and identify the parking lot for something in the 2022 Road Program. Porter agreed. The Engineer stated that the \$21,000 estimate for the Fernwood extension was pending approval and agreement with Russell Township. Carroll and Porter discussed the possible contents of such agreement. The Street Commissioner said he would call the Russell Street Department to determine their level of interest with it being \$21,000.

Porter verified that the Road Program work would not start until after July 1<sup>st</sup>, and the Engineer agreed. It could take several weeks to get contracts signed but offered that possibly Specialized might get started on good faith knowing that the project had been awarded. Porter asked if work would be complete by the start of school, and the Engineer said he would have to get a schedule from Specialized. A preconstruction meeting could occur immediately after Council awarded the contract. The Street Commissioner asked if he should hold off on the road striping, and the Engineer reiterated that he would need to get a schedule from Specialized.

Regarding the Lake Louise Bridge project, the Engineer stated that there was a preconstruction meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup> with Union Industrial. He did not yet have their schedule for the project. The Engineer explained that Union Industrial had a process by which they would build a temporary bridge for traffic around the bridge being replaced. The Engineer said he would consider this as an option. The only bad news the Engineer had to share was that Dominion was having difficulty finding a contractor to do the boring for relocating the gas main. The Engineer and Union Industrial would provide them with recommendations. Carroll pointed out that the Village was running out of time on the project, and the Engineer concurred and added that the grant was from two years ago. Porter asked if there was a start date, and the Engineer said no. Porter asked if it would be done before the start of school, and the Engineer said no. According to the agreement with the Homeowners' Association (HOA), they are not allowed to draw the water in until August. Completion date is set for December 17<sup>th</sup>. Carroll asked when the grant was due to expire, and the Engineer said it had expired but as long as the Village demonstrated activity on the project, funding would not be cancelled. He added that it is important that the Village draws on the funds this year to pay the contractor.

Carroll asked for the status with the subsurface drain. The Street Commissioner said the 10-inch line had not yet been taken underneath Louise Drive to the ravine because it was draining onto the property on the corner, 27 Louise Dr., where it was diluting in the pond before going across the road. The Street Commissioner spoke to the resident who was temporarily in agreement with this because once it was connected across the road, it would go directly to Paw Paw Lake. Carroll asked what the status was with the County regarding the septic issues. The Engineer said he did not know. Carroll was disappointed that the County had been sitting on this. The Engineer said the Health Department was very much aware but apparently had bigger fish to fry. Porter asked what the Village expected the county to do, and the Engineer explained that they would track down the source of the septic discharge and take appropriate action.

Carroll asked about 1113 Bell Rd. The Street Commissioner explained it involved a homeowner who had been in contact three times about his claim that when the Road Program for Bell Road West occurred in 2014, his sanitary line, which ran under Bell Road, was damaged. He went to the county first, and was told it was doubtful, but the county explored the issue and verified there was a sag underneath Bell Rd. According to the Engineer, it was extremely doubtful that the Village had anything to do with the problem, but the resident was looking for a deep pocket to pay for his pipe. The Street Commissioner further explained that there was a pipe the resident could connect to on the north side of Bell, and the county said it would waive the connection fee if he hired a contractor to connect it. The Street Commissioner wanted to alert the committee to the issue. He reiterated that the Village was not responsible for the problems with the line. Porter asked how deep the line was, and the Street Commissioner said 12-feet. The Engineer said the resident's contention was that there had been heavy equipment parked on the street when Bell Road was being repaved and this was what caused the issue. The Engineer said this was impossible. Carroll asked how this issue would be addressed. The Street Commissioner said he would discuss it with the county, and the Engineer would provide his best solution to reconnect the resident with the pipe on the north side of the road. Carroll asked if the resident had major issues right now, and the Engineer stated that because of the dip in the ground, it creates a little bit of a siphoning effect. Every couple of years, enough sediment accumulates in the six-inch lateral to where it backs up and has to be jetted.

The Street Commissioner reported that eleven driveway culvert replacements had been done. Culverts on East and West Bel Meadow would be reviewed and if they were bad, the resident would be contacted to arrange for changing them before the road is paved. Carroll verified that the Street Commissioner had replaced the culvert on Hazelwood, and the Street Commissioner said yes. The Street Commissioner explained that the contractor removed the resident's driveway and damaged the road. It was just going to be an argument, so the Street Commissioner had it filled with gravel between the concrete driveway and the roadway and then it will be paved with the Road Program. Carroll verified that normally, this would not be done. The Engineer said no, and Carroll asked why it was being done. The Engineer said the contractor was not the friendliest guy and claimed the damage was not his responsibility. He should have sawcut the end of the apron as it meets the road before removing the apron, which the contractor did not do. Carroll questioned why the Village was doing this when the resident's contractor made the mistake. The Street Commissioner stated that there was a bond being held by the Building Department from the contractor. Carroll verified that it would be up to the homeowner to pave the apron, but because the Village happened to be doing work on the road, the Village would do it. The Engineer said the estimate to make this roadway repair in front of 306 Hazelwood was \$900. The Street Commissioner said this could be assessed from the bond. Carroll stated that if the Village could say definitively that the contractor did his work improperly, then the Village should hold the bond. Porter agreed. The Street Commissioner advised that it was not stated in the driveway permit that it was necessary to sawcut the roadway, but it will be now. The Engineer said he did not know that the permit needed to state this. Carroll stated it was now necessary to state every little thing.

Regarding ditching, the Street Commissioner stated they were up to 2,000 feet and moving right along. Ditching was done in front of Kensington Green, and a pipe was found from Bullfrog

Pond to the Bell Road ditch. It was plugged up. The Engineer said the pipe may predate the pond because it was an old, vitrified clay pipe. Based on when Bullfrog Pond and Kensington Green was developed, no one was using vitrified clay. Carroll suggested it may have been from the old airport. The Engineer said it was a 10-to-12-foot clay pipe that went to the ditch and seemed to connect below the water level. They could not get into the pond to take a look, but felt the pipe was plugged solid. The Engineer advised that with a retention pond, there typically was a single outlet. Carroll asked if it would be best practice to identify the purpose of the pipe. The Engineer agreed. The Engineer added that if the pipe were to be opened, it would lower the water level. The Street Commissioner asked if he could go on to the HOA property to clear the end. Porter asked if he was referring to the Bullfrog Pond end, and said it was a maintenance thing that the Village could do because it was a pipe that was blocked. Carroll thought permission would be required. Porter added that it was within the right of way and was a maintenance item. Carroll said it would make sense to have the HOA President speak to the Engineer and Street Commissioner. The Street Commissioner stated that he had been in contact with Katherine Collins. Porter advised she is the secretary for the HOA. He informed the Street Commissioner that he should explain that it is a maintenance issue, not a change to the land, and the Village would like to know where the pipe goes, and its status.

Carroll addressed the GovDeals auction of the Salt Truck and indicated it was at \$9,700 and the Street Commissioner said there were five days left on the auction. There was at least one interested buyer.

Carroll asked the Engineer about the status of the lidar survey. The Engineer said that according to the CT Consultants survey staff, they are about three weeks out. They are thinking a drone is the better option than the airplane flyover because the airplane is not as available. It would then take a week to migrate and analyze data, but the data collection would happen in about three weeks. Carroll reviewed the scope of the survey from the Modroo Farm and picking up Alderwood, all of the Country Estates ponds, and all the way south to the park. Carroll advised that he had walked the Preserve area with Jen Lyndall, Laila Stephenson, David Lowe, and another gentleman. They observed the area where the quasi dam had been removed by the resident. Lowe indicated to Carroll that the water in the streams had not been as high, but there was a question as to whether this past spring had been as wet as the previous two. Porter indicated there was a silt island in the common pond of Country Estates. Carroll stated that both communities recognize that there are maintenance issues that need to be addressed. The Preserve plans to do work but want to do it in a sensible fashion that will not make it worse for them or for Country Estates. The Engineer added that the Preserve also did not want to waste money doing something that did not necessarily need to be done.

The Engineer advised that he did not think that Pond 3 was a foot lower than Pond 2, as it was originally designed.

Porter asked if residents should be notified of the lidar study, and the Engineer said they should be notified. Carroll suggested sending a letter to all of Country Estates and Alderwood to let them know they may see a drone flying over for survey purposes. Carroll emphasized that the survey should occur sooner rather than later, and it was the goal of the Village to develop a more cooperative working relationship between the two neighborhoods. He stressed the need for the

Village to be providing as much accurate information as possible to get the matter resolved in a cooperative manner. He understood where Country Estates had its nose out of joint with unclear information that felt threatening. Porter agreed.

Porter suggested utilizing an eblast. Carroll asked the Engineer to develop verbiage for the notice and to provide it to Carroll and Porter for review before submitting it.

Carroll expressed frustration with issues being identified, but then get kicked down the road. With the lidar survey, the Village needed to have a plan that both neighborhoods understand with expectations that certain things were going to be done. He said this went back to the reinforcement of the importance of maintaining the swales and ponds because they contribute to other problems in the Village. Carroll added that the Village, too, has been guilty of not maintaining ditches.

Carroll advised that there is a sink hole by the stop sign on Sheerbrook Dr. west of Maple Springs and asked the Engineer and Street Commissioner to look at the situation to see if maintenance work were required.

Carroll referred to a home in this vicinity that had filled in a ditch and asked if residents must pull a permit to do this. The Street Commissioner said this project was permitted and inspected by the Engineer. Carroll specified that there was a process associated with this, and the Engineer concurred. Carroll and the Engineer agreed that open ditches were the better option, and perhaps people should not be allowed to fill them in. The Engineer added that when residents choose to enclose the ditches for safety or aesthetic reasons, the resident bears the cost to do it. Furthermore, if something happens and it fails in the future, the Village can open it back up. Porter asked if these are in the right of way, and the Engineer stated that they are. Carroll questioned whether the Village's allowing the practice creates a trend when an open ditch is preferable.

Carroll asked for clarification about a statement made at the previous Council meeting about work that had been done in the Village based on the 2004 Stormwater Study that was in the 2013 Study. His understanding was that the only work done from the 2004 study was Chelsea Ct. Looking at the 2004 study, everything that was mentioned were mainly culverts. Carroll asked if it was safe to say that the vast majority of the work from the 2004 study was not done. The Engineer stated this was correct. Carroll advised that this was not what was relayed in the Council meeting and felt it should be corrected. He believed the wrong message was being sent that the Village had taken care of this work when instead the Village had just had a study compiled that identified \$1.5 million worth of work that needed to be done. A lot of that was still work remaining from 2004. The message conveyed in the meeting was that most of the work had been done, when in fact it was not done and required another study to show this.

Carroll asked the Engineer where the Village stood with progress with the proposed detention/retention project on Village property. The Engineer stated he created a job number and sent it to the Environmental Department. Carroll asked if the Engineer thought there was the ability to get it done this year. The Engineer said it would depend on what wetland delineation and remediation was required.

Carroll asked who was responsible for maintenance on the corner of Chillicothe and Bell Roads where the memorial is located. The Street Commissioner said that he needed permission to clean it out because they wanted everything gone except for the tree. The Mayor was working on this with Kathy O'Donnell who blew a gasket when they wanted to clean it out. The Street Commissioner planned to salvage viable plants and replant them in the Cemetery. Carroll asked if the plan should be to redesign the area and incorporate landscape that would better suit what is there now. Just tearing it out might not be the answer. The Street Commissioner said they could clean out the undesirable plants and leave the desirable plants. Carroll clarified that the corner should be redesigned with the help of a professional landscape service. The Street Commissioner said this could be done in-house. Carroll recognized the benefit of utilizing a professional service, but ultimately wanted to know the plan for the corner. Carroll asked what Kathy O'Donnell's involvement was and offered that the Village could work with her group to redesign the area. The Street Commissioner said the group had not done anything with it in a couple of years. Porter suggested talking to the Mayor to see where it stood.

Carroll adjourned the meeting at 8:05 a.m.

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Michael Carroll, Chairman

Prepared by Leslie Galicki