

**Street Committee Meeting
September 10, 2021 7:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Chairman Carroll, Councilman Porter, Street Commissioner Alder,
Engineer Haibach

Visitor: Greg Heilman, Chillicothe Rd.

Carroll called the meeting to order and read the roll.

The Engineer addressed the 2021 Road Program. Specialized Construction will possibly start in early October. The delay was the result of the contract award being pushed back until after July so the Village could get the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant funding. The repaving will include miscellaneous base repairs that consist of driveway aprons on East and West Bel Meadow where culvert replacements occurred. There were 26 culvert replacements. He is working with Specialized for a price for this. The Engineer explained that the Village will do this when a culvert replacement occurs the year that paving is scheduled. Per the culvert replacement plan, if the resident purchases the pipe, the Village will install it, but then the resident is on the hook for replacing whatever surface they have on their apron. However, if the Village is paving that year, it will take care of this. Carroll verified that it only applies when done within that year and not earlier. The Engineer said there is no hard and fast rule on this and if a resident replaced the pipe two years earlier, for example, the Village could pave the apron.

Carroll explained that the Street Committee hopes to develop a five-year plan of roads to be repaved. In doing so, residents could be notified and consider replacing their culverts. Perhaps the Village's willingness to replace the paving would act as an incentive to get the culverts done.

Carroll asked how much of a struggle it would have been for the Street Department to complete the culverts had the project started on time, and the Street Commissioner confirmed it would have been difficult.

Porter asked about the completion of the project, and the Engineer said it would be within 30 days of the start.

The Street Commissioner advised that he would proceed with striping the roads and would only be doing the yellow lines. His preference would have been to have had this done before the start of school. Normally, it would be done after the Road Program. Crack sealing was done early to pound the sealer into the cracks. The heat helps it penetrate. The Engineer agreed with the Street Commissioner in accomplishing this early.

Carroll asked about the use of Reclamite, and the Street Commissioner said it was discussed that it would not be done this year. Instead, half of one road would be done next year. Carroll reminded the committee that it was recommended to wait a year before applying the Reclamite, which had been a problem in Sheerbrook when it was applied right after paving. Carroll suggested that the committee identify which half street would be done the following year. The Street Commissioner suggested East and West Bel Meadow. Whichever road was chosen, Carroll wanted it to be done where it made sense to see its effectiveness. The Street Commissioner said the Village would be going directly through the Reclamite company instead

of Specialized, which would save money. On the road list, Carroll suggested putting when the roads were paved and what year the reclamite was applied to the road so that historically, the impact could be determined.

The Engineer reported that he is in the process of delineating the area south of Village Hall to identify where the project area should be for the retention basin. All the calculations are complete for storage volume for a 100-year storm. The site is ideal for a retention pond of this kind. Porter asked when the Army Corps of Engineers would need to be notified, and the Engineer explained that when the wetland delineation is done, the Village will file a permit. Carroll asked about the timeline for this process, and the Engineer said about one month. Carroll asked specifically how long it would be until the Engineer submitted the report to the Army Corps of Engineers. The Engineer said within a month. Carroll pointed out that the Village is two and a half months into something that he thought would happen more quickly than it has. Porter reiterated that the committee wanted to hear about additional progress and the timeline of the process. The Engineer hoped that the Village would be able to file a general permit indicating that the project area was within the limit of wetland impact. If it is necessary to file an individual permit, which he is trying to avoid, it will take longer. The general permit takes generally four weeks once the Village submits to the Army Corps of Engineers. Carroll asked if that meant the project could go out to bid by the end of the year or early next year, and the Engineer said it would be ready to bid this year. The Engineer stated that he would submit the plan to the Army Corps of Engineers by the end of September. The Engineer said he was looking to bid the project in November or early December. Porter expected that the bid award would be between November and January. Carroll asked when digging would begin. The Engineer explained that depending on weather, the project could begin somewhere between May and August. The project must be complete by the summer of 2022. Porter asked if it would be as big as a football field. The Engineer said that he would like to see it large enough to serve as a soccer field since it will be a dry basin. Porter asked how deep it would be, and the Engineer said it would be about four feet.

The Street Commissioner asked about the grade of the retention pond and the Engineer explained that the grade goes uphill to the south and to the east. The project would run east and west. It would be incised into the slope on the far east side and banked up on the west side. It will be like a tilted rectangle, tilting east to west. The bottom of the retention pond would be at about the elevation of the current stream. Carroll asked how long the detention pond would take to drain if it were completely full. The Engineer said a couple of days.

Regarding the spoils, Carroll asked if there were a large enough area to put the spoils of the project. The Engineer indicated that the soil that will be removed would be good gardening soil. Carroll asked if a nursery business might be interested in taking it away. The Street Commissioner said it takes a year to dry out. He described a process of placing the soil in a bag under the power lines with First Energy's permission to dry and ultimately be available to the public or Village. Carroll indicated that Sugar Bush would also be dredging and have spoils, and the Street Commissioner said that they have their own area for this material. Carroll wondered about this issue for other lake communities in the Village. The Street Commission advised that having the Village storing the material under the power lines was ideal, and Carroll stated that

the Village would not store the bags. Rather, the Village would advise the neighborhoods that if they planned to do the project, the Village could avail the site to them possibly. Carroll cautioned that there must be strict parameters since the largest cost of dredging is hauling the wet material off-site. He also did not want to create a problem in the future. The Street Commissioner spoke to TRC and was told they would haul the material away for \$25 a truck. The Engineer said this was low for a disposal cost. The Engineer suggested checking with First Energy before volunteering the information to residents. Carroll also saw the benefit of using TRC. The Street Commissioner would verify the information with TRC as well as checking into the cost of the drying bags.

Regarding the Lake Louise Bridge, the Engineer reported that the gas line had been relocated and the line on the bridge was dead. The Engineer stated that he received a proposal from the contractor, Union Industrial Contractors, to remove and replace the whole bridge at once. This would complete the bridge a month sooner. Doing it half a bridge at a time creates a safety issue for the residents. Union Industrial Contractors first proposed utilizing the emergency gravel path access, which was where the gas line had been moved, and where Dominion now has a permanent easement. Water drainage issues and the easement presented a problem with the plan. The second plan would be to create a temporary road and bridge to go around the bridge that is being replaced. The Engineer has a structural engineer examining the plan and should have an answer soon. Carroll verified this would not present an additional cost to the Village. The Engineer concurred. Porter asked about the completion date, and the Engineer said it would be Spring of 2022 but would start this year.

Carroll asked about the issue with the unauthorized storm collection pipe that was leaking sewage. The Street Commissioner had not heard back from the Geauga County Health Department. Carroll emphasized that this is a big deal and needs to be addressed. The Engineer said that he had left two messages with Dave Sage, Director of the Geauga County Health Department. He did not think the county had been out to test the water. Carroll said that he would call Sage about this because this matter could not be ignored with the sewage levels. The Engineer indicated that in previous conversations with Sage, he acknowledged the Village's concerns but said there were more significant issues to address. He also advised that one of the homes that is tributary to the drainage collector pipe had just replaced a failed septic system. Sage thought there would be a profound reduction in sewage from this. Until they test, the Village will not know. The Street Commissioner advised that the water from the pipe is going into a small pond on the northwest corner and being diluted and then going over to Paw Paw Lake. He has a contractor ready to bore under the road and put in another pipe to take it directly to the stream heading to Paw Paw Lake. He wants to see the reduction in numbers before doing this. The Engineer said he would have this work done regardless. Carroll verified that it would still be possible to test the water to see if there is an issue, and the Engineer concurred. The ditch into which it would discharge is on private property and is currently discharging onto private property. Carroll stressed the need to address the problem.

The Street Commissioner brought sample pavers for the committee to view. The pavers are proposed for memorial pavers in the park. Carroll addressed the allowable area of hard surfaces in the park. There is an existing walkway that perhaps could be used. He verified that

permission would have to be obtained from the Western Reserve Land Conservancy (WRLC), and the Street Commissioner agreed but added that they were fine with the walkway because it was a permeable surface. The committee discussed cost of the materials. Carroll suggested the committee present the proposal that instead of random plaques around the park that residents have three options for memorials: a brick path, bench, or tree. He suggested the Street Commissioner obtain prices and consult with the Chairman of the Parks Committee. Carroll indicated that the Parks Committee was discussing a master land management/land use plan for the park, and Streets Committee would want to be sure it fits in with the fabric of the park long term. The Engineer thought a long-range plan for the park was an excellent idea so that concepts like an expanded parking lot and a restroom will fit well together and be cohesive. The plan would enable the Village to accomplish the projects as money becomes available for them. Doing projects piecemeal is problematic. Carroll reiterated that the Street Commissioner should speak with the Chair of the Parks Committee regarding the proposal and should consider initiating the project in the existing pathway. The Street Commissioner explained that the path could be paved, and as memorial pavers are purchased and engraved, they can replace the pavers in the path. He added that there is also the floor of the Teahouse that could be included. Carroll added that the funds generated from the sale of the pavers could be placed in a park maintenance fund.

The mechanic job description was reviewed during the joint HR/Finance Committee meeting. Carroll advised that there is routine maintenance in everyone's job description. With the mechanic position, the committee was considering that it involved heavy mechanical work like engine and transmission work and something that was out of the ordinary. Changing the lawn mower blades was routine maintenance that should not be counted towards the mechanic time data. Carroll also indicated that on one day, the data indicated eight hours of mechanical work when the employee was only at work for four hours.

Carroll asked the Street Commissioner to explain the adjusted work schedule used by the Street Department to do some of the culverts. The Street Commissioner said as far as he knew, they had a deadline because the pavers would be coming down the road at the end of July or beginning of August. The Street Department had 20 more culverts to go. At the time, he called Carroll who said he could not make the determination. He called the Mayor, who had no problem with it, so they went forward. They did 13 culverts in that four-day period. Carroll noted that he also saw someone cutting grass at 4:30 p.m. one of the days. The Street Commissioner stated that there was regular maintenance to do as well. Carroll indicated that the work was very specific for culvert work. When he spoke to the Street Commissioner about the work schedule change, he provided the Street Commissioner with options including speaking with the Mayor. It was discussed in the HR Committee meeting that the schedule resulted in compounded time, which was not his understanding from the description of four 10-hour shifts and being off on Friday. Then it turned into comp time and created issues. It caused consternation and it was his perception that it was not the way it was presented. The Street Commissioner asked if he would have had the latitude to do this without Council's approval. Carroll explained this was why he was asking what happened. Nothing was brought to Council formally. Carroll did not know why it was thought there was a deadline of July because it was known that the Village could not do the bid for the Road Program until July. The Engineer

added that OPWC did not let the Village know of the grant award until mid to late June. Carroll felt there was a lack of communication that created issues. The Road Program would not be done until October. The Street Commissioner explained he did not know that in the second week of July. Carroll reiterated that there must have been a breakdown of communication because the Engineer indicated that the Road Program could not be done until early October because of the grant requirements, but the Village rushed culvert replacements and created additional overtime to get things done that did not have to be done until October. He realized there was other work to be done, and the Street Commissioner even indicated that he backed off on some of the culvert work because he had other issues to address. The point being that the way the work was done created additional overtime with people cutting grass. The way the Street Commissioner explained it to Carroll was that it would be to knock out the culvert work. Carroll told him that neither he nor the Streets Committee could make the decision. He directed the Street Commissioner to speak to the Mayor for his thoughts, but nothing was brought to Council. Ultimately it created more overtime and time off, and with people off on Friday it left the Service Department closed. The Street Commissioner indicated he was there on Friday for six hours.

Porter's recollection as to the overtime question was that the Employee Handbook states that the Mayor approves it as the administrative officer, so it would not go to Council. Carroll was uncertain about this. When the Street Commissioner originally asked about four 10-hour shifts, it was not something the committee was in favor of doing as a permanent arrangement because it did not make sense for the Village because the Village needs people present in the department daily.

Carroll addressed the easement ditch cleaning. The Street Commissioner said that he had to find someone to clear it because the Village does not have the proper equipment. The last record of it being cleaned was 1989. He spoke to the four corner residents, who supported the clean-out. A contractor was located and for \$1,200 the ditch was cleaned. R&B Trenching was hired to complete the project and it would be finished that day. Porter verified it was in the budget, and the Street Commissioner verified it was in the stormwater budget. With regard to Village easements that are readily accessible, he asked the Street Commissioner to create a spreadsheet to indicate a cleaning schedule. The Engineer recommended looking at the ditches every five years to see if they require cleaning. The Street Commissioner asked how the Village should maintain the ditches, and the Engineer said that if it were filled with green perennial vegetation like grass, it would be fine to let it grow. Woody growth and debris should be eliminated by brush hogging it every year. The Street Commissioner referenced another ditch that was cleaned out within the last year and verified that it would be acceptable to keep just the waterway clear, and the Engineer concurred. The Street Commissioner verified that this should include the area between Chillicothe Rd. and the backyard of the first house, which was not included in the project. The Engineer told the Street Commissioner to obtain a quote for the add-on area.

The Street Commissioner indicated that the oblong pipe that runs under Chillicothe Road has water sitting in it. He thought there was an easement for it going towards Manor Brook to clean it out. The Engineer said that it is permissible and should be done. The pipe should not be filled with water.

The Engineer asked what the Village was doing with the Parkland Dam issue. Porter stated that at the moment it is unresolved. Porter indicated that the detention pond would help Parkland, and the Engineer agreed. Porter added that it may be the ultimate solution. Carroll added that the residents lowered the level of the pond, but it is unknown by how much. The Engineer said that the two time he viewed it in the last two weeks, it did not look any different. Carroll indicated that he was sent a picture that showed that the water had gone from going over the top of the pipe to below the edge of the top. Porter also saw the photo and did not know if this was a natural result, or the result of holes being drilled. Carroll said that Berger indicated that they drilled holes and lowered it. Between the detention pond and lowering the level, the situation is helped since it would relieve the head pressure. The Engineer added that it would stop the flush of water that gets to the dental office, the swim lake, and then Parkland.

The Street Commissioner indicated that with the replacement of the 12-inch pipe that comes off the side of Bullfrog Pond toward Bell Road, water could be split. The pipe is not in the right of way and is on HOA property. Carroll stated that the Village should first do the retention pond to see what that accomplishes. The Street Commissioner said he spoke to the Kensington Green HOA about the HOA replacing the pipe, but they did not get back to him. Carroll reiterated that the Village should focus on the project on Village property to see the impact. If more is needed, the conversation can be continued. Porter said he would bring this matter up at the HOA meeting in October. Porter indicated that the pipe would help, but not nearly as much as the retention pond. The Engineer said it would be a drop in the ocean. Porter indicated that it just needed to be replaced and was a maintenance item under the HOA bylaws rather than a change to the land because it is an existing pipe. Carroll indicated that Kensington Green also has a dry pond, and the Engineer was aware there was work being done on this. He spoke to the Engelina Koberna who had taken the point lead on the project.

The committee discussed the benefit of lowering the Parkland Lake level, and the Engineer said although he had not conducted a hydrology analysis, he said the static water level should come down a foot from the emergency overflow elevation of the pond. Carroll asked whether the reduced pressure on the dam could reduce the repair cost. The Engineer said possibly, but repairs would still need to be done. A geotechnical report would be needed to determine if there were any damage other than what is apparent. With this, engineering solutions could be developed. This would be the first step. Carroll felt that if the Village were considering a bond for this project, the cost of this survey should be borne by the residents. If the residents had a geotechnical survey done, Carroll asked if the Village could use the information in the event it chose to take on the project through a bond. The Engineer said yes and indicated that if CT Consultants were asked to do it, they would contract it out. He could provide a list to the residents of his preferred geotechnical engineers. Carroll asked if the Engineer has had direct contact with the residents, and he said yes. Carroll suggested providing them with three or four recommended geotechnical engineers to avoid the need to have it redone.

Carroll addressed a stormwater issue between Laurel and Countryside Dr.. The Street Commissioner indicated that he was approached by a resident who said there used to be a swale in the backyards that ran from Hazelwood to Bell Rd. It was overgrown. There was no easement, and the Street Commissioner did not feel the Village should get involved because of

the necessity to enter private property to remove debris. He explained this to the resident who then dropped the issue. The committee agreed that with it being private property and not having an adverse effect on infrastructure or roads, the Village should not be involved. Carroll suggested communicating with Village the residents that dumping branches, grass, lawn waste, etc. in swales could contribute to issues down the road and to please avoid the situation by clearing it. The Street Commissioner suggested putting it in the newsletter, and the committee agreed.

The Street Commissioner relayed his plan to hire a contractor to hydroseed the entire Bel Meadow ditch. He did not have the cost but would put it under stormwater. He added that Orange Village and Chagrin Falls are going in on a hydro seeder to be share with the three communities. He did not have a price on it, and Carroll indicated he should get the price to be included.

The Street Commissioner addressed safety issues when doing manhole work. The Service Department needed a tripod safety lift device, which is \$3,000 and not in the budget because he did not have a line item for safety. He also wanted to get a gas tester. Carroll thought this would run \$500. Carroll thought these were basic safety items and encourage the Street Commissioner to consider all safety issues. Porter asked if it were needed now, and the Street Commissioner explained it was needed for a job the following week. He could borrow one for this. Carroll asked if everyone was properly trained. Carroll was also concerned about the classification of the space. The Street Commissioner explained that the space is a catch basin that they will be accessing. Digging will occur on the outside with a backhoe. He explained that it would be necessary to go down into the manhole to brace up the wall because concrete will be poured against it. Carroll wanted to ensure Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements were being followed with confined space entry. Carroll reiterated the need for training and safety precautions to include ventilating the confined space as well as proper operation of the tripod. Porter asked the Street Commissioner to address purchase of the tripod at the September 13th Council meeting.

Carroll adjourned the meeting at 8:29 a.m.

Michael Carroll, Chairman

Prepared by Leslie Galicki