

Streets Committee - February 2, 2024

Attendees: Chris Bell (CB1), Mark Porter (MP), Chris Berger (CB2), Tim Alder (TA), Erich Heibach (EH)

Guests: Matt Trafis & Alex Maros – Jonson Laux Construction Ohio

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 am.

The guests from Johnson Laux introduced themselves and gave an overview of their company. The company is a general contractor that works with municipalities. They assist with grants from the State of Ohio. The company works through Source Well. There is no upfront cost for the grant work if the municipality utilizes one of the Johnson Laux contractors for the project. They wanted to introduce themselves because they feel there are opportunities for our salt dome project. They noted that salt domes frequently receive some funding from the state; not all but some. The guests offered to, at not cost, review the plans from the Orange Village salt dome to give us their approximate estimate of what such a structure would cost. The Street Commissioner suggested sharing park restroom plans when they are available to get a sense of what the estimated cost may be.

The committee discussed the 2024 Road Program. After reviewing the engineer's PCI ratings, potential costs, and the \$350k budget, the committee agreed to make Southwyck Drive the primary bid and Countryside Drive and Reserve Trail the alternate bids.

TA communicated that the county will be updating the signage on Bell, heading west near the Newbury/South Russell border. This is in response to numerous traffic incidents that occur at the bend in the road soon after entering South Russell.

Per TA, the Village has used 481.25 tons of salt this season (November – 52.5 tons; December – 56.0 tons; January 372.75 tons).

The Street Commissioner shared with the committee an issue with the 2020 salt truck hydraulics. In 2020 the Village purchased a demo truck due to the year-plus timeline for delivery of another truck. It was learned after the fact that the arm air system installed was poor and out of warranty. The commissioner gave an overview of his due diligence on this matter and provided the committee with a quote to replace the system. The committee agreed to replace the system and allocate the \$14,675 to the vehicle maintenance budget. The Streets Commissioner believes that we can sell the old unit to someone who will use it for parts, likely for a few thousand dollars.

The committee discussed spring crack sealing in the Village. The Street Commissioner will contact the vendor and schedule the work to be completed some time in April.

The Street Commissioner reported on the drainage system installed on the north side of the park. Inspection after heavy rain and snow melt shows that it is working as designed. The drainage on the back side of the playground will be installed when the weather dries out in late spring/early summer.

The committee gave the street commissioner permission to move forward on getting official quotes to replace the 1-ton in 2024.

TA noted that Chagrin River Watershed Partners is taking care of the 2023 stormwater report. There will be a meeting to review it in March.

EH shared a sheet with the committee that provides an overview of the general salt dome options. EH will send to the Fiscal Officer so it may be shared with the rest of Council.

Councilman Berger shared that he met with a grant writer who may be able to assist the Village. He would like each committee to think about which projects being considered could potentially utilize this service to reduce costs. The Street Commissioner suggested the drainage work on Bell Road east that will need to occur prior to paving in 2025.

EH advised that grants need to match our project needs, rather than applying in an effort to get a “deal.” He noted that grants come with many stipulations.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.