

## **MINUTES OF THE MISSION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

January 10, 2018

The Mission Community Development Committee met at Mission City Hall, Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. The following committee members were present: Pat Quinn, Hillary Thomas, Arcie Rothrock, Nick Schlossmacher, Kristin Inman, and Sollie Flora. Absent: Debbie Kring. Councilmember Inman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Also present were City Administrator Laura Smith, City Clerk Martha Sumrall, Public Works Director John Belger, Parks & Recreation Director Christy Humerickhouse, Chief Ben Hadley, and Public Information Officer Emily Randel.

### **Farmers Market**

Ms. Randel provided background information on previous Farmers Market discussions, including the proposal to possibly move the market to Thursday evenings. She provided a summary sheet of the current vendors and their availability for either/both Saturdays and Thursdays in 2018. She said that of those that are not available either days in 2018, they like our market but, due to a variety of conflicts, do not anticipate participating in 2018. Ms. Randel stated that based on current information, we would not be able to guarantee more than an average of five vendors on Saturdays. An alternative would be moving the market to Thursday afternoons/evenings in the hope that this would fill a niche. A Thursday market would also be on "shaky ground." Previous food truck events have been very popular and should the decision be to move the market to Thursdays, staff would reach out to our large daytime office population so they are aware of the market and are encouraged to visit on their way home from work. The committee discussed several anchor vendors and their availability going forward.

Councilmember Quinn feels the Saturday market is dwindling and that undertaking a Thursday market is worth the risk. There are already many Saturday markets that we are competing against and, with the addition of food trucks, this weekday market could be very successful. Councilmember Schlossmacher agreed and stated that having food trucks and beer available will be an additional draw. Ms. Randel suggested that the market run from 5:30-8:30 p.m. and asked whether shade should be considered. The committee also discussed the pros and cons of having the market weekly vs. several times a month. Ms. Randel stated that vendors and the public like the reliability of a weekly market. Councilmember Quinn stated that he feels we should move the market to every Thursday night in 2018 and see how it works; if it is not successful then the market ends. Councilmember Flora suggested that it could be promoted as a market and concert series. Ms. Randel also asked if all agreed with a shortened season from June through September. Councilmember Thomas stated that last year's market went too long (through October) and that it became an issue when there were only three vendors left at the end. She also stated that we may want to consider a "Third Thursdays" event, and that we should reach out to local business incubators for possible vendors.

The Committee directed staff to schedule the 2018 Mission Farm and Flower Market on Thursday evenings from June through September.

### **2018 Snow Plan**

Mr. Belger provided an overview of the City's Snow Plan, including information on training, on-call procedures, maintenance of trucks and loading of salt, application procedures, public relations, shifts, and routes. He stated that they have a fairly new crew and have been working to get everyone trained. He noted that when dealing with the public for motorist assist, they contact the Police Department. There are two 12-hour shifts that run from 7-7 with four members on each. The crews switch from day to night shifts monthly. Mr. Belger discussed the maps included in the plan and the priority for clearing snow. He stated that each storm is different, and they tweak and react to each storm to provide the best service as safely as possible. He also stated that the most common questions received are whether the City plows parking stalls on Johnson Drive and whether we plow/shovel sidewalks. The City does plow parking stalls on Johnson Drive and if there is a large amount of snow that gets piled at the corners, this is moved during the night to a public lot to melt so that visibility from side streets is maintained. The City does not plow or shovel sidewalks as this is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. Often, businesses along Johnson Drive will hire a contractor to complete this work. The City crews do work to clear snow at the Community Center, City Hall, on school routes, and trails and parks, with trails and parks being the lowest priority. He did note that the trail through Waterworks Park is cleared earlier as many Rushton students walk to school using this trail.

Councilmember Quinn requested information on the current staff and how many have previous experience plowing. Mr. Belger stated that there are several with experience and several with very little. Those that do not have experience train with Mr. Belger or Mr. Morton until they are ready to head out on their own.

Councilmember Inman asked if we have ever considered adding GPS tracking to snow plows so the public is aware of the status of their streets. Mr. Belger stated that they have not and he does not feel there is an issue with streets being missed. The goal of Public Works is to have all streets cleared/treated within 24 hours once the snow stops. If there is an issue in the future, we can consider this.

Ms. Smith asked Mr. Belger to discuss some of the challenges they face when plowing. He stated that on-street parking can become an issue, particularly when residents park on both sides of the street. Safety is always the highest priority.

Councilmember Inman requested information on the protocol for contacting Public Works when they receive concerns from the public or how the public contacts Public Works with concerns. Mr. Belger stated that he will provide all councilmembers with his cell phone number and they

can call him at any time. For the public, they are encouraged to call the Public Works main telephone line.

Councilmember Quinn asked if Johnson Drive property owners are required to clear their sidewalks by ordinance. Yes, they are encouraged to do so and most hire a contractor. The committee discussed previous requirements to clear sidewalks within five hours which was repealed.

Mr. Belger also stated that salt is only effective to treat streets when it is above 10 degrees.

This item was informational only and no action was taken.

#### **Department Updates / Other**

There were no department updates.

#### **Meeting Close**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting of the Community Development Committee adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sumrall  
City Clerk