

MINUTES OF THE MISSION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

March 1, 2017

The Mission Community Development Committee met at Mission City Hall, Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. The following committee members were present: Pat Quinn, Tom Geraghty, Arcie Rothrock, Nick Schlossmacher, Debbie Kring, Kristin Inman, and Suzie Gibbs. Absent: Ron Appletoft. Councilmember Rothrock called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Creation of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee

Ms. Smith stated that the committee discussed the creation of a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee at their February meeting and the consensus of the group was to move forward with the necessary ordinance to formally establish this committee. This external (citizen) committee will assist in the development, approval, and management of the five-year Capital Improvement Program. Councilmember Inman asked if staff thinks there will be any recruitment issues for this committee. Ms. Smith stated that she did not think there would be an issue and provided information on the committee membership:

- 2 members from the Planning Commission
- 2 members from the Parks & Recreation Commission
- 1 member from the Sustainability Commission
- 1 member appointed from each Ward (4 total)
- 1 member appointed from the business community (could be a non-resident)

Councilmember Kring asked if this will be a “permanent” committee. Ms. Smith stated that it will as it is being established by ordinance. Information on this new committee will be shared on the City’s website and through social media.

Councilmember Quinn recommended that the ordinance creating the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee, and establishing roles, responsibilities and membership be forwarded to Council for approval. All on the committee agreed, but this will not be a consent agenda item.

Roeland Park / Mission Interlocal

Ms. Smith reported that this is a “housekeeping” item. Mission approved an interlocal agreement with the City of Roeland Park in 2014 to consider redevelopment options at the northeast corner of Johnson Drive and Roe Boulevard. As a result of staff turnover, and other

factors, the agreement no longer accurately reflects the process being used to evaluate the project. She stated that we are recommending termination of this agreement. Roeland Park has moved ahead on their own and is working with CBC Real Estate to market and assist in the redevelopment of this site. KDOT has stated that they will sell the right-of-way located on Mission's portion of the parcel. She stated that although the interlocal will be terminated, we will continue to work cooperatively with Roeland Park on this site that borders Mission.

Discussion by the committee continued on the KDOT right-of-way located in Mission that they will sell to Roeland Park and property tax associated with Mission's portion of this parcel.

Councilmember Quinn recommended that termination of the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Roeland Park regarding exploration of redevelopment options for land located at the northeast corner of Johnson Drive and Roe Boulevard be forwarded to Council for approval. All on the committee agreed, but this will not be a consent agenda item.

Ordinance Amendments - Tree Board and Parks & Recreation Commission

Ms. Smith stated that the committee has previously discussed the merger of the Tree Board and Parks & Recreation Commission, and staff has prepared the necessary ordinances to accomplish this merger. Councilmember Gibbs stated that she thinks joining these two groups is a great idea. Councilmember Geraghty asked if it will be easier to recruit members to this larger commission. Ms. Smith provided an update on the current membership in both the Parks & Recreation Commission and the Tree Board. All current members will continue to serve on the combined commission. She stated that the two groups met informally last month and had a very productive meeting.

Councilmember Gibbs recommended that the ordinances merging the Parks & Recreation Commission and the Tree Board be forwarded to Council for approval. All on the committee agreed, but this will not be a consent agenda item.

Management of Various Regulatory and Informational Signs

Mr. Belger reported that the street identification sign replacement project is complete. Public Works is now beginning to inventory and replace/remove other warning/regulatory/informational signs throughout the City (i.e., "No Parking," "Neighborhood Watch," "Children Playing" signs). He stated that these various signs are scattered throughout neighborhoods and that many were originally put up based on a single request. He stated that one area of recent concern was 58th street between Nall and Lamar. Following an inventory of these signs, staff will review the list with our on-call engineers if necessary and the Police Department. Standards that will be adhered to are those in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and the City Code. If a sign meets the required standards, staff will ensure it is set-up as it should be and those that do not meet the standard will be removed. This project will begin in District 2 (55th Street to Johnson Drive).

Councilmember Quinn asked that the “Welcome to Mission” signs be updated as they are in poor condition. Mr. Belger stated that he has three examples of possible replacements and will get new signs installed. Councilmember Quinn also asked if staff can make uniform directional signs to our parks. Mr. Belger stated that this is a good idea and will be addressed through the Parks Master Plan. Ms. Humerickhouse stated that signs are also needed for the Community Center and Aquatics Center. Councilmember Gibbs stated that she supports getting directional signs to our parks and facilities in place.

Discussion by the committee continued on the electronic speed sign that is being tested on Lamar, issues with the solar power for these, and the need to have the full software for the sign to use it to its maximum capacity.

Councilmember Kring stated that she has received a request to install a crosswalk on Johnson Drive between Lamar and Barkley as this is a spot where people frequently try to cross Johnson Drive.

This item was informational only and no action was taken.

Revisions to Accessory Animal Permit (Bees)

Ms. Sitzman stated that a resident recently requested that Council consider eliminating the current accessory animal permit fee for keeping bees. The current fee is \$50 and an inspection is required prior to a permit being issued. Staff does not see a need to change this fee and currently no one has a permit for bees in Mission. There are eight current permits for chickens. She stated that we do sympathize with her concerns about the need for bees, but the fee is needed particularly because an inspection is required.

Councilmember Quinn stated that a vendor at the market has commented that it may be difficult to raise bees in Mission due to residents spraying for weeds and other factors. Discussion continued on similar fees in other cities, where hives can be located on a resident’s property, and the work required to keep a hive going.

The committee agreed that no change to the current accessory animal permit for bees will be considered. Ms. Sitzman will contact the resident regarding this decision.

Department Updates

Ms. Randel stated that she has been approached by Kyle Rogler, Roeland Park Planning Commissioner who is working on a architects networking project through AIA. They have toured Johnson Drive and as part of their project they would like to work on visualizing/designing a structure for Mission’s Farm & Flower Market. They would hold a design charette in May and use our market for the exercise. She stated that this would be interesting

and helpful to Mission. The group would be invited to attend our April committee meeting where a larger discussion on the market will take place. Discussion by the committee continued on what kind of structure they might design and Ms. Randel stated that they will provide us with a copy of their final design.

Councilmember Schlossmacher asked that we consider opening the Farm & Flower Market one weeknight a month for either vendors to be open or a special event. Ms. Randel stated that the Mission Business Partnership has expressed an interest in organizing several food truck events. She stated that we could consider opening the market on Thursday evenings to make it available to those working in Mission during the week. Discussion continued on the benefits of opening the market on a weeknight, possibly contacting Hy-Vee to see if they have breakfast items available through their food truck, and the impact a newly opened fitness/training business is having on parking in the area on Saturday mornings.

Ms. Smith stated that issues with the condition of Dearborn north of 51st Street have been brought to her attention. Councilmember Geraghty stated that this area is on septic and needs to have sewers and curbs. He stated that the street is in poor condition, but may not be as bad as others in the city and there may be other priorities. Mr. Belger provided an overview of the street program and geotechnical testing that has been completed to determine which streets are in need of complete reconstruction vs. mill & overlay. A handout was provided identifying those streets that are in need of complete reconstruction and the anticipated costs associated with each. Mr. Belger stated that the chip seal program will extend the useful life of these streets, and provided information on the preferred PCI score (70 or better). Discussion continued on the total dollar amount required to reconstruct the streets listed (\$14.5 M - \$22 M), the average lifespan of a street, how to fund these improvements (cash/debt), and our current debt amount (about \$32 M). Councilmember Quinn stated that we need to start addressing these streets and secondary stormwater issues, possibly paying cash for some and issuing debt for some. Mr. Belger stated that stormwater improvements are considered as part of the price for reconstructing these streets. Councilmember Kring asked that burying utilities also be considered. Ms. Smith stated that additional information and options will be brought forward as part of the budget process. Councilmember Kring stated that she and Councilmember Schlossmacher can bring infrastructure issues forward when they visit our Kansas delegation in Washington DC as part of the NLC conference this month. Ms. Smith discussed issues with removing the tax exempt status from bonds and our need to preserve this tax exempt status. Councilmember Quinn stated that he is not a fan of debt but does recognize that it is needed for some projects.

Meeting Close

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting of the Community Development Committee adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sumrall
City Clerk