

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION  
TWIN OAKS CITY HALL  
CITY OF TWIN OAKS BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2021**

The Work Session was called to order by Mayor Fortune at 6:19 p.m. pursuant to public notice and agenda. Roll Call was taken:

Mayor Russ Fortune-yea

Aldermen Lisa Eisenhower-yea  
Tim Stoeckl-yea  
April Milne – yea  
Dennis Whitmore – yea

Also Present: Frank Johnson, City Clerk  
Paul Rost, Attorney  
Tiffany Campbell, BFA Engineering

**CRESCENT AVENUE SIDEWALK PROJECT**

City Clerk Johnson reviewed the discussion from the Open House regarding the Crescent Avenue sidewalk project held April 19<sup>th</sup>. The outstanding point that came out of the discussion was the need to see a comprehensive plan of making the City a safe and walkable community. The survey which was sent out via email, the City's website, Facebook and Nextdoor has received 54 responses. The data collected from this survey was reviewed as well as the comments which were collected. The survey was not scientific but an opportunity for those unable to attend the Open House to voice their opinions or questions.

Bob and Karen Dresner and Denise Deckert who live in the area of the sidewalk project would like to see the survey sent out in a different manner since not everyone uses email or are on social media. They would also like to see modifications made to the questions which would provide more in-depth data.

Ms. Deckert feels that before the City takes the first step with this project they need a plan for the rest of Crescent Avenue and the remainder of the community, and that the plan should be developed before disrupting resident's property. Ms. Deckert stated she either walks or runs Crescent Avenue nearly every day and feels that the stretch from Golden Oak Ct. to Meramec Station presents more of a safety issue than from Golden Oak Ct. to Crescent Road. She feels that she was given only two choices, and that she liked neither choice.

Ms. Dresner agreed that the road is unsafe but is opposed to the construction of the sidewalk. She has spoken with other residents of Crescent Avenue and Golden Oak who were not in attendance but are opposed to sidewalks in the area. She feels that there are other tactics to control the traffic along Crescent Avenue. She stated that Officer John Wehner does a great job, but wondered if it be possible for the City to have an additional police officer when Officer Wehner is not on duty. Mr. Dresner inquired about speed bumps along Crescent Avenue. He realizes that the fire department is not in favor of the speed bumps but wanted to know if they have the final say in this matter. Tiffaney Campbell of BFA Engineering stated that the County has a process which the City would have to follow if the decision was made to install speed bumps. City Clerk Johnson questioned since the road is owned by Twin Oaks would the City still have to go through St. Louis County.

Mayor Fortune stated that the cost of doing a comprehensive sidewalk plan for the City would be out of the City's reach. The Board felt that the safety issue along Crescent Avenue could be addressed in a substantial way with the construction of the proposed sidewalk and be within the City's budget. Mayor Fortune also stated that Valley Park is in the early stages of looking into moving their City Hall to the fire house on Crescent Avenue. If this occurs he has spoken to the Valley Park attorney and voiced that he would like to see Valley Park help in the construction of sidewalks along their side of Crescent Avenue.

Mayor Fortune stated that making a Community more walkable does not always require sidewalks. There are other options to achieve this goal.

Alderman Whitmore feels that the Board has identified a critical safety issue with in the City and the Board is wanting to address this issue with this sidewalk project.

Alderman Milne stated that studies show that sidewalks not only address safety but improve the property value of the homes.

Alderman Stoeckl stated that Jeff Blume, the City's Financial Consultant, has cautioned the City to be conservative in their spending and plan financially for larger projects such as the sidewalk project. Spending this amount of money at this time gives him great concern. The City has proposed 2 different sidewalk projects within the recent past, both of which have been tabled. He feels that these projects should take precedence over the Crescent Avenue project. Alderman Stoeckl is concerned that two of the homeowners that are being affected by the sidewalk are opposed to the project. He does not feel that their concerns are being heard. Alderman Stoeckl stated that at this time he is not in favor of proceeding with this project.

The Board was in agreement to hold a Work Session on May 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss the three sidewalk projects and prioritize these projects in order of importance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Milne motioned to adjourn the Work Session Meeting at 7:12 p.m., seconded by Alderman Eisenhower and motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board of those present.

Drafted By: Theresa Gonzales  
Theresa Gonzales,  
Administrative Assistant

Date of Approval: 5-5-2021

ATTEST:

Frank Johnson  
Frank Johnson,  
City Clerk

Russ Fortune  
Russ Fortune,  
Mayor, Board of Aldermen