

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
VIRTURAL MEETING
CITY OF TWIN OAKS BOARD OF ALDERMEN
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021**

The Work Session was called to order by Mayor Fortune at 1:00 p.m. pursuant to public notice and agenda. In attendance via video conference were:

Mayor Russ Fortune

Aldermen Lisa Eisenhauer
Tim Stoeckl
April Milne
Dennis Whitmore

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

PRELIMINARY PLAN FOR CRESCENT AVENUE SIDEWALK PROJECT

Tiffany Campbell with BFA Engineering began the work session by focusing on two aspects of the preliminary plans for the Crescent Avenue Sidewalk Project.

First, Campbell explained that there is a need for a retaining wall along a portion of the project due to the steepness of the grade down from the road. It could be built next to the sidewalk or a smaller version could be built along a portion of the nearby property owner's driveway. The second approach would require a significantly smaller retaining wall, costing about \$15,000 less, but it would also require additional easements and permission from the property owner. City Clerk Johnson noted that depending on the cost of the right-of-way acquisition, there may not be a net savings.

Next, Campbell reviewed the location of existing utilities in the project area, the costs associated with relocating them, alternatives to relocating the utilities, and issues to consider with such alternatives. Following questions from several Aldermen, Campbell and the Board discussed the possibility of widening the sidewalk in the immediate area around utility poles, bridging gaps in the curbing around utility poles, and other options for avoiding the need to move utilities.

Campbell then reviewed each item in the cost estimate with the Board. Mayor Fortune noted that the cost of the sidewalk itself is minimal with the majority of expense deriving from the steps that need to be taken to prepare the project area for construction.

The Board then reviewed the area needed for temporary and permanent easements. Attorney Rost advised the board on the differences between acquiring a sidewalk easement vs. right-of-way. The Board directed Campbell to reduce the temporary area easement show that it more closely follows the contours of the sidewalk.

The Board also discussed the possibility of continuing the sidewalk further to the south so that it would connect with an existing sidewalk at the border between Valley Park and Twin Oaks, and the possibility of widening the road itself and adding a shoulder instead of building a sidewalk.

The Board concluded the discussion on the sidewalk project by directing Campbell and City Clerk Johnson to work together on preparing an additional set of plans that would show an option for building the sidewalk and curb in the proposed project area with minimal moving of utility poles and tree removal. The Board also directed Campbell to prepare a more "user friendly" version of the plans that could be used to present the proposed project to the public and discussed options for engaging with property owners that are directly impacted.

Finally, the Mayor asked the Board and City staff to consider creating a resident survey on what future capital improvement projects they would like the City to prioritize.


ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Eisenhower motioned to adjourn the Work Session Meeting at 2:23 p.m., seconded by Alderman Milne and motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board of those present.


Drafted By: _____
Frank Johnson,
City Clerk

Date of Approval: _____

ATTEST:



Frank Johnson,
City Clerk



Russ Fortune,
Mayor, Board of Aldermen