



SHAKER HEIGHTS

Safety and Public Works Committee Minutes Friday, March 2, 2019 8 AM Council Chambers

Members Present: Nancy Moore, Council Chair
Jonathan Hren, Citizen Member
Austin McGuan, Citizen Member
James Sammon, Citizen Member
David E. Weiss, Mayor
Jeri Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer
Jeffrey DeMuth, Chief of Police
Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works
Patrick Sweeney, Chief of Fire

Others Present: Annette Tucker Sutherland, League of Women Voters

The meeting was called to order by Nancy Moore, Council Chair, at 8:05 AM. Chair Moore explained that the Committee does not have a quorum. Therefore, for each agenda item, a sense of the Committee will be on record.

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Approval of the February 1, 2019, Meeting Minutes

There were no additions or changes to the minutes. The minutes will be formally approved during the next Committee meeting.

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Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Management Plan District **Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works**

Director of Public Works Patricia Speese explained that in 1988 the State of Ohio General Assembly passed the Ohio Solid Waste Disposal Act, which established regional government agencies to help reduce the amount of trash and increase the amount of recycling. The goal was to reduce reliance on landfills. The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Management Plan District (CCSWD) was then established in 1989. CCSWD is the governing body that the City of Shaker Heights reports to relating to recycling. Director Speese added that every few years the CCSWD solid waste management sponsors a clinic. This involves input from all the surrounding communities. Currently, the City pays a "generation fee" of \$1.50 per ton of solid waste to the CCSWD for solid waste that goes to a landfill. This fee is what helps support local programs. Every community does this in

Cuyahoga County. Recently, the plan was updated and the new plan runs from 2019 through 2033, which will include updates every five years. This requires a buy in from a percentage of communities so that the plan goes into effect. If this is not obtained, the Ohio EPA will establish a plan. It is preferred that we develop our own plan through the CCSWD. In 2023, the generation fee will increase by \$.50 per ton, which will bring the fee to \$2.00 per ton and will have an approximate \$4,500 yearly impact on the budget. (The average statewide fee is \$4.50 per ton.) This would have a minimal impact on the budget. This is a great deal when coupling with the County. Part of the renewal of this plan is to maintain the current programs that they have. Some of the existing programs are: Grants, Education/Outreach, Litter Collection Programs, and Household Hazardous Waste. Director Speese added that some of the potential new initiatives are: Municipal Yard Waste, Multi-family Recycling, and Scrap Tires. (Please refer to the audio portion of the minutes for descriptions of each potential initiative.)

Director Speese explained further that the City has a great partnership with the CCSWD and it is beneficial to all the residents to maintain a plan with them. Should the local communities not ratify the Plan, the director of the Ohio EPA is required by State Statute to prepare a plan for Cuyahoga County and order the Solid Waste District to implement the State's plan.

Chair Moore thanked Director Speese and summarized by stating that the big picture is if we do not approve this plan, we get the one written for us by the State and we do not want to give up control. Obviously, there are many incentives to the CCSWD plan and a good price break per ton compared to the statewide price average per ton. She added that she continues to find a difference between the standards that are set by the CCSWD for recycling and the City standards contained in Shaker Recycles App. She stated that the potential new initiatives also concern her and she is hoping that the City will have input to resolve this due to many Facebook posts that the CCSWD puts out. It often leaves the feeling that we are living in one world and the CCSWD is living in another in terms of recycling.

Director Speese stated the CCSWD deals with multiple different solid waste companies. The City's consortium (approximately 18 communities) has only one company. Therefore, we have one set of rules to follow through Kimble Companies. CCSWD is dealing with Waste Management and Republic Services; therefore, the CCSWD rules must encompass all of the companies they deal with compared to the City dealing with the rules relating to the consortium contract. That is why there is such a big difference. It is best to use the City's App.

Citizen Member Jonathan Hren stated that Public Works would like the Committee to ratify that Shaker Heights continue participation with the CCSWD.

Director Speese agreed.

Citizen Member Hren referred to the first page of Director Speese's memo and stated that it will eventually have an approximate \$4,500 yearly impact on the budget. Is this based on the average tonnage?

Director Speese responded affirmatively. She added that it was a higher number as she wanted to error on the side of caution.

Chair Moore stated that she wondered what all the waste fees amounted to each year.

Director Speese state that they amount to approximately \$58,000 per year.

Chair Moore explained that what we are looking for is a recommendation to City Council to support or ratify this plan; the alternative being the State will do it for us.

Committee Member Hren asked since the State is charging more per ton, are they providing more services?

Director Speese stated that it is more expensive due to all the licensing requirements, but the State does not offer more services.

Chair Moore stated that the record should show that there is a sense of the Committee to support or ratify this plan and will recommend it to Council.

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2019 – 2021 Construction Inspection Services
Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works

Chair Moore introduced the above topic as a request to enter into a one year contract with options to renew in 2020 and 2021. These inspection services would not include projects that are receiving Federal funding due to special requirements.

Director Speese explained every year Public Works hires Construction Inspection companies to inspect work while it is being performed throughout the City. The general scope of work includes construction inspection for road resurfacing, waterline replacement, sewer improvements and other projects as requested by the City. She added that with every project, Public Works has to send out RFPs, review proposals and determine which company is best to hire. It is a tremendous amount of administrative paperwork and a burden on other departments as well. This year it was decided that Public Works would seek proposals for all inspection needs except for Federal projects. This should also facilitate better pricing as there is a guarantee of inspection work for projects throughout the year. Proposals were sent out to six companies. The City's Consulting Engineer was not included as they will be designing some of the projects. Three proposals were received and great pricing was also received. Solar Testing was the lowest price at \$50.00 per hour. This firm was invited to come to the City so that Public Works staff could meet and interview their inspectors. They were found to be very qualified with a lot of experience. They scored the highest, but they also had the lowest hourly rate. Their hourly rate came in lower that what was anticipated as all other inspection services were usually about \$56.00 per hour. They will inspect projects for this year, 2019, such as the following:

- 2019 Street Resurfacing
- Fernway VA9 SSO Modification

- Huntington Waterline Replacement
- Huntington V1BX SSO
- Avalon & Strathavon Waterline Replacement

Director Speese noted the cost for the above services are included in the various capital improvement projects appropriation. The City will be reimbursed for construction inspection services by the Cleveland Water Department on the Huntington, Avalon and Strathavon waterline replacement projects. Additionally, fifty percent of the construction inspection services on the Huntington and Fernway SSO projects are reimbursable through the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District MCIP grants.

Director Speese added it will be wonderful to have the same point person for all of the projects. The inspection company will get to understand what the City of Shaker Heights expects. There will be one year of renewable services for the subsequent two years. Therefore, if for some reason we find them to be inadequate this year (2019), we are not committed to use them in 2020 and 2021.

In summary, Public Works is requesting approval to use the team from Solar Testing Laboratories, Inc. based on their interview, understanding of the City's expectations and their fee proposal. Additionally, Public Works would like to enter into a contract with Solar Testing Laboratories, Inc. for 2019 Construction Inspection Services at an estimated cost of \$73,625.00 or \$50.00 per hour with the option to renew in 2020 and 2021.

A Citizen Member asked what firm did the inspection work previously.

Director Speese added that each year it is a different company. It was always hired out. No one from the City did the inspections.

Chair Moore asked that of these projects listed in 2019, is the only one not covered through reimbursement in part or in full, the 2019 street resurfacing?

Director Speese responded affirmatively and added that there are various sewer projects throughout the City. Solar may be asked to inspect a sewer project that will take place on Claythorne that is part of the northeast quadrant, which would be City funded.

Chair Moore asked if the same individual would be inspecting within Solar to do the inspecting in the City on a regular basis—vacations notwithstanding.

Director Speese stated that they would. She added Public works would expect the same inspector to be on street resurfacing, the same inspector to be on waterline inspection, etc. Public Works expects consistency and continuity within the projects.

Chair Moore asked if this is the first time the City has worked with Solar.

Director Speese said it is, but they have done a tremendous amount of work for the NEORS and they were very helpful during the Green Lake dredging. Their testing services have been used in the past, but not for inspections.

Chair Moore stated that Director Speese has written a very clear memo and what she is looking for is a sense of the Committee for a recommendation to support this contract. The sense of the Committee was that they were agreeable to entering into a contract with Solar.

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Ohio Department of Public Safety Division of EMS Grant
Patrick Sweeney, Chief of Fire

Chair Moore stated that the next item requests approval to apply for and accept grant funds from 2019-2020 Ohio Department of Public Safety-Division of EMS Grant. We have seen this same item come across the Committee in previous years.

Chief of Fire Patrick Sweeney explained that this grant is applied for every year from the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services, and is used to improve and enhance EMS and trauma patient care in Ohio through the provision of grant funding for equipment, training and research. The funding source for the grant program is fines levied by the State of Ohio for seat belt violations. The State then gathers the money and puts it out to EMS agencies to offset EMS care. He added that this same grant was applied for last year and approximately \$3,900 was received. The amount granted depends on how many fire departments apply for the grant monies. Last year not many in our area applied for it. In summary, Chief Sweeney stated that the Shaker Heights Fire Department would like to apply for this grant and, if accepted, the Fire Department may come back to the Committee to appropriate the funds. There is no City match to this grant.

Chair Moore asked if there were any questions.

Citizen Member Hren asked if the number decreased in seatbelt violations.

Chief of Fire Sweeney stated that he did not know; he did not have the data. He added that the amount of money received each year has slightly grown each year.

Chair Moore stated that she observed an affirmative sense of the Committee to go forward to apply for the grant money issued from the Ohio Department of Public Safety-Division of EMS Grant. She added that the Committee's sense is supportive.

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Chair Moore stated that the last item concluded the agenda and she asked if the Committee members would like to ask anything specific from the Chief of Fire, Chief of Police or the Director of Public Works.

Citizen Member McGuan asked Director Speese if the work on the Larchmere parking lot was complete.

Director Speese stated that it is finished. She added that she is meeting with the Larchmere Porch Fest Committee as they wish to use it.

Chair Moore stated that the entire project took a very long time, included much effort and deserves a Facebook picture post.

Director Speese added that the parking lot has been done and used for a few months. The sign just went up recently.

Citizen Member McGuan asked if there was any deviation from the original project.

Director Speese stated that the NEORSD contributed more than double of what was initially thought they would contribute. There was a deviation--we went from asphalt to concrete. There were savings in other areas to cover the additional cost.

With regard to streets, Director Speese mentioned that this winter has been horrible for street conditions due to the freeze/thaw and constant rain. If you know anything about roads, water infiltration is the worst for roadways. We put down cold patch, the only material that can be used in the winter, and ended up doing Courtland three times in one day because the cold patch would just pop out. There were also many waterline breaks.

Chair Moore stated that there was a lot of action around the High School yesterday and at Aldersyde at Lee Road. There was also some congestion today she asked if Chief DeMuth would comment on why that was.

Chief Jeffrey DeMuth stated that Aldersyde at Lee entailed an incident that initiated in Cleveland Heights. It was a traffic stop that was originated by the Cleveland Heights Police Department. The driver ended up taking off and the Cleveland Heights Police Department started a pursuit. The driver then lost control and hit a pole that closed the roadway, as the vehicle started to burn. The roadway was closed for approximately eight hours. The only thing Chief DeMuth knew about the high school was that they had one or two squad calls for a student(s), but nothing related to the Police Department.

Chair Moore ask Chief Sweeney if a cause was determined for the Lytle Road house fire.

Chief Sweeney explained that they have not put out an official cause of the fire on Lytle Road. There was work being done in the house (not hot works). The Fire Department feels strongly that the cause will be due to actions of the contractor doing work in the home. The homeowner's insurance company and the contractor's insurance company will be meeting at the home on March 6th. After this meeting, we will discuss it more, as we do not want to mention anything that would sway them one way or another. The house is a total loss and an order was issued to demolish the property.

Chair Moore stated that everyone is very appreciative of the Fire Department. The only regret is that the house could not be saved.

Chief Sweeney stated it was a tough night. There were heavy winds and it was snowing hard. He added that the fire was blowing right onto the house next door and there were significant challenges.

Chair Moore thanked the Committee.

Citizen Member McGuan asked if the demolition derby guy was caught that hit all the cars behind Sherwin Williams in the parking lot.

Chief DeMuth stated that he was caught; he was identified through the investigation.

Chair Moore asked if it was an outrage incident.

Chief DeMuth answered that definitively it is not known why, but it is assumed that he was intoxicated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 AM. The next meeting will be held on April 5, 2019, at 8:00 AM, unless the Committee is notified of a time change.

Debra R. Messing, Sr. Administrative Assistant
Safety and Public Works Committee