



SHAKER HEIGHTS

**SAFETY AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2020
8:00 AM
VIA ZOOM MEETING**

Members Present: Robert Zimmerman, Council Chairperson
Sean Malone, Council Member
Carmella Williams, Council Member
Earl Williams, Council Member
Jonathan Hren, Citizen Member
Kimberly Harris, Citizen Member
Patricia Speese, Director Public Works
Patrick Sweeney, Chief of Fire
Jeffrey DeMuth, Chief of Police

Others Present: Mayor David E. Weiss
Jeri Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer
Joyce Braverman, Director of Planning
Kara O'Donnell, Senior Planner
Kelly Baker, Recording Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Robert Zimmerman at 8:02 am.

APPROVAL OF JULY 10, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Council Chair Zimmerman asked if there were any questions, changes or additions to the July 10, 2020, Safety and Public Works Committee minutes. The Mayor made mention of one correction and with that noted a motion was made by Council Member Malone, it was seconded, and the minutes were approved.

WARRENSVILLE CENTER ROAD (WCR) STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION/INSPECTION SERVICES CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Joyce Braverman, Director of Planning

Director Braverman stated the construction management and inspection services for the WCR path is currently about 98% complete. She mentioned that one of the subcontractors, Trafftech, is having difficulty getting parts needed for some pedestrian signals due to COVID-19 which is delaying construction. The construction inspection company, GPI, has asked for a small increase, to account for the extra time, in the amount of \$8,589 which would bring their contract total to \$242,533. There are funds in the capital budget that have been appropriated previously that can be used for this additional cost. Director Braverman stated that this is an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) job and would be reimbursed at 80%.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked for questions or comments, there being none a motion was made by Council Member Carmella Williams, it was seconded and the motion passed.

**ODOT HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HSIP) GRANT –
WARRENSVILLE CENTER ROAD – SOUTH WOODLAND ROAD INTERSECTION**

Joyce Braverman, Director of Planning

Director Braverman asked for authorization to apply for an ODOT safety grant, known as HSIP. She stated that this is for the WCR/South Woodland Road intersection based on the 2018 signal study for the Warrensville Corridor. A few months ago the city received the same safety grant for the Shaker Blvd/WCR intersection. The attention is now turned to WCR/South Woodland Road intersection that has received many complaints and has had several serious accidents.

Director Braverman stated the idea is to improve the pedestrian and traffic at the intersection, reduce the cycle length, have some curb changes, and improve turn signal timing. The application to the safety fund will be in the amount of \$275,000 to include all construction and engineering. It does not include the inspections services which are estimated at \$12,500. There is a city match for this fund of \$27,500 (10%). The request from the capital budget would be \$40,000 to cover the cost of the city's match and the inspection services. Director Braverman stated they would like to submit the application in early September under the small project fund.

Council Member Zimmerman mentioned that this was a last minute addition to the agenda and pointed out that the recommendation was for a \$40,000 match, but the monies would be the match and inspection services cost. Director Braverman stated they would change the wording from match to contribution. She stated that it will be clear in the memo to council.

Council Member Zimmerman than asked if there were any questions or comments and the Mayor mentioned that this was the last of the four intersections that were part of the original study based on statistics and resident concerns. He stated that Lynnfield Road and Chagrin Blvd improvement is currently underway as well as WCR and Shaker Blvd. Citizen Member Hren asked since the WCR project is being resurfaced should the WCR/South Woodland Road intersection be modified. Director Braverman stated that it is a conversation that she will have with Director Speese and Chief DeMuth to coordinate the timing with the resurfacing. Council Member Malone asked for clarification about completing the WCR/Shaker Blvd project this year. Joyce explained that the WCR/Shaker Blvd project will be completed in 2021 with the resurfacing. Council Member Malone also wanted to know what the 1.5 million balance was referencing. CAO Chaikin stated that it is referring to unallocated dollars in the general fund.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked if there were any other questions. There being none a motion was made by Council Member Earl Williams, it was seconded and the motion passed.

**RECOMMENDATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH KIMBLE
TRANSFER & RECYCLING FOR PROCESSING OF RECYCLABLES**

Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works

Director Speese stated that in May of this year the Committee and Council approved the City's participation in the recycling consortium through the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District (CCSWD). This year we knew that we would have to pay to process recyclables. She stated that the best way to get the best deal and to limit our liability financially, is to go out for a two year bid with the option of two additional 1 year renewals rather than the 5 year bid we typically participate in. So

if the recycling market has recovered then we will be able to end the contract and rebid in hopes of getting a better deal. Director Speese mentioned that there are two communities in the consortium that continue to recycle by using the blue bags at the curb. We have learned that blue bags are a huge contamination issue and they jam up the sorting machines at the recycling facility. Because the City of Shaker Heights uses the recycling buckets, we have a very pure recycling stream and Kimble (our current recycling facility) has come out to see what our process was due to the quality of recycling coming from our city. Director Speese stated that it would not be fair if everyone got penalized because of two communities that still use the blue bags. They asked for a separate bid for those communities. There were only two companies that bid on the recyclables. The dollar amounts were quite different, but also when it came to the difference between blue bags versus non blue bag, there was a significant savings.

Director Speese stated that Kimble Transfer & Recycling has been our recycling processor for the past 5 years and they are only using USA companies to recycle, which was a great positive for the consortium. Director Speese is recommending that the city award the contract to Kimble. She stated that the current contract expires in September this year and \$30,000 was budgeted for the last third of this year. For the following years, she stated we will need to budget about \$90,000 a year to process recyclables.

Council Member Malone commented that this is a challenging environment and it is interesting to note the differences in the blue bag pricing. He believes this is as good as it gets because of how the recycling market has changed.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked about residents that occasionally use blue bags. Director Speese stated using blue bags was considered contamination. The Public Works crews pick through the recycling at the transfer station and try to remove as much contaminates as they can without going through every blue bag. She stated there is a large difference when it's sporadic versus all-encompassing, like the communities mentioned. Director Speese also mentioned that with the influx of home deliveries, the market for cardboard has gone up considerably.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked if there were any other questions. There being none a motion was made by Council Member Malone, it was seconded and the motion passed.

RECOMMENDATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CUYAHOGA COUNTY FOR THE EMGENCY REPAIR OF SOUTH WOODLAND ROAD CULVERT NO.3

Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works

Director Speese stated that earlier in the spring a large sinkhole was noticed by a public works employee on South Woodland Road, just east of Green Road. After an investigation it was determined the culvert at that location had failed. The location is on a city property that looked like a wooded lot and is part of the Millcreek Watershed which only about 5% of the Millcreek is located in the city. Director Speese mentioned that a lot of trees needed to be removed to do a thorough investigation and for this repair to take place. However, because of the Indian Bat being an endangered species making certain trees unable to be removed from March through October we had to move fast in the removal of those trees. Director Speese indicated that she reached out to the county for funding of this repair because South Woodland Road is a county road. They reviewed the culvert and decided they will contribute 50% up to \$100,000 for the replacement of the culvert.

Director Speese explained that the bids for this project came in within the engineer's estimate of \$251,416.55. She is requesting to enter into the agreement with Cuyahoga County for the emergency repair of the South Woodland Road Culvert No. 3 at a contribution rate of 50% up to a maximum of \$100,000.

Council Member Earl Williams asked if there would be a wait to get the piece of equipment from overseas as we did with the culvert on Eaton Road. Director Speese stated this would not be the case.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked if there were any questions or comments. Citizen Member Hren asked if part of the culvert was being repaired and Director Speese stated the whole culvert was in need of replacement. Council Member Malone asked to clarify the funding. Director Speese stated that every year she sets aside money for emergency repairs in the sewer fund and that the remaining balance, after the county's contribution, will come out of those funds.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked if there were any other questions. There being none a motion was made by Council Member Earl Williams, it was seconded and the motion passed.

ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT – COVID-19 SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAM

Patrick Sweeney, Chief of Fire

Chief Sweeney discussed the challenges of getting Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during the pandemic and the impact it has had on the departments operations. This impact was recognized at a federal level and in an effort to provide assistance to the fire departments FEMA offered an Assistance to Firefighters Grant- Covid-19 Supplemental Program. We have applied for this grant for numerous items over the years, but this year they added the supplemental program in early May. A total of 33 community Fire Departments entered into a regional partnership to make one application for this grant so that there was a higher likelihood of being approved for funding. Chief Sweeney said that when applying as a partnership one agency has to take the lead and be the administrator. This agency will be responsible for writing the grant as well as acting as the fiduciary for any awarded funds. With administration's approval we will act as the fiduciary for this grant. He stated they reviewed the PPE needed for all 33 participating communities and it equated to the amount of \$195,236.45. The program requires a 10% match from the communities. With the assistance of the Law Department a Memorandum of Understanding was created that outlined the process for every city. All cities have been entered into the Munis system so that gives us the ability to invoice and take receipt of their match. The City of Shaker Heights will be receiving \$8,683.34 of PPE so our match would be \$868.34.

Chief Sweeney recommends that the committee accept the awarded \$177,487.68 in FEMA funds. Additionally he is requesting to appropriate the total project cost of \$195,236.45 to the Fire Department operating budget to allow the procurement process of PPE as expeditiously as possible. All of this appropriation request will be reimbursed to the city with the exception of our portion of the match totaling \$868.34.

Council Member Earl Williams stated that the dollar amount seems low for 33 communities considering how expensive these materials cost. Chief Sweeney stated that the amount is for enough equipment to sustain operations for 6 months. He felt that this was a reasonable request that he hoped the supply chain could fill. Council Member Earl Williams agreed that a year would have

been too much. Citizen Member Hren asked if the amount equated to about \$6,000 per community. Chief Sweeney stated that they put a formula together to determine the need of PPE for a time period of six months for each community. He stated as an example that Cleveland Heights needing about \$14,000 of equipment versus Gates Mill that would only require about \$514. Council Member Malone expressed concern over the administrative time and remembered when the Police disbursed funds and what a burden on manpower that was. Chief Sweeney stated that although the grant does not allow funds for administrative work he believes the work will be minimal and that he felt the Fire Departments are all in this together and they are doing this for the greater good.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked if there were other questions and there being none a motion was moved by Council Member Carmella Williams, it was seconded and it passed.

Council Chair Zimmerman thanked everyone for participating.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 am.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Zimmerman" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert Zimmerman, Council Chairperson
Safety & Public Works Committee