

DATE: August 6, 2004
TO: Michael G. Herring, CA
FROM: Mike Geisel, DPW\CE



SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes, PW\Parks 8/5/04

A meeting of the Public Works/Parks Committee was called to order at 5:37 pm on Thursday, August 5, 2004. Committee members in attendance were Chairperson Dan Hurt (Ward 3), Barry Flachsbart (Ward 1), and Mary Brown (Ward 4). (note: Councilmember Streeter (ward 2) out of town on business) Also in attendance were: Mayor John Nations; Councilmember Bruce Geiger (Ward 2); Mike Herring, City Administrator; Mike Geisel, Director of Public Works/City Engineer; Bonnie Hubert, Superintendent of Engineering; and Darren Dunkle, Superintendent of Parks, Recreation and Arts. Others in attendance are listed on the attendance sheet attached to these minutes.

*** To be discussed at the 8/16/04 meeting of City Council**

Agenda Item #1: Councilmember Flachsbart moved to accept the minutes of the Public Works/Parks Committee meeting of May 25, 2004. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3- 0.

Agenda Item #2a: Mr. Dunkle reviewed his memo of July 19, 2004 concerning the Chesterfield Beautification Committee's proposal to host an "Annual Chesterfield Garden Tour" and requested approval of the Public Works/Parks Committee for the Beautification Committee to proceed. No City staff time or funding would be required for the project. Councilmember Flachsbart moved and Councilmember Hurt seconded to approve the Annual Chesterfield Garden Tour proposal. The motion passed unanimously, 3-0. The Chairman commended the Beautification Committee for their initiative in developing this proposal.

Agenda Item #2b: As a follow up to the presentation that was recently made to City Council about "dog parks", Mr. Dunkle reported on his preliminary research regarding these facilities. Size and costs vary widely. General amenities include a 6 foot fence, shelter, shade, separation of large and small dogs, walking paths, a water source, restrooms, and agility equipment for dogs. After discussion of the need to address liability, access, parking and the advantages and disadvantages of shared use facilities, Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to direct staff to investigate the costs and location for a facility that could be developed in phases, both in terms of size and amenities. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 3-0.

*** Agenda Item #3: Mr. Geisel summarized his memo of July 16, 2004 concerning a proposed memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Great Rivers Greenway District (GRGD), regarding construction of the Chesterfield Levee Trail. The GRGD would fund the entire cost of construction and the City would be responsible for land acquisition as well as contract administration and construction supervision. Staff will prepare a map of potential trails and will provide same to the Committee at the next meeting. Councilmember Flachsbart moved, and Councilmember Brown seconded, to recommend that Council approve the M.O.U. with the**

Great Rivers Greenway District regarding the Chesterfield Levee Trail. The motion passed unanimously, 3-0.

* **Agenda Item #4:** Mr. Geisel made a power point presentation about an opportunity to leverage funding for expansion of facilities at the Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex and construction of a "Miracle Field" for physically disadvantaged children. Mr. Mike Matheny, catcher for the St. Louis Cardinals, has proposed construction of the field and is willing to commit \$200,000 to the project at this time. With commitment of up to \$200,000 of additional funds from fund reserves, the City could apply for a grant of an additional \$200,000 from the Municipal Parks Grant Commission. Mr. Herring reported that he had spoken to Mayor Nations, who expressed his interest and full support for the project. Mr Herring indicated that Mayor Nations further expressed that he believes there is potential to raise additional funds from private sources. In order to meet the grant application deadline, the City must commit the matching funds prior to additional private funding being secured. **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to recommend that City Council authorize Staff to pursue the project and seek funding via the Municipal Parks Grant, and to authorize funding by the City, not to exceed \$200,000 from fund reserves. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brown and passed unanimously, 3-0.**

* **Agenda Item #5:** Mr. Geisel informed the Committee that the Department had completed a sign inventory and by utilizing the Geographic Information System was able to review the placement of signs throughout the City. With the goal of assuring that signs were placed where needed and removing unnecessary signs that clutter the environment and saving additional material and manpower costs, associated with the placement/maintenance of signs, a policy regarding the posting of speed limit signs has been developed and forwarded to the Committee to review.. **Councilmember Flachsbart moved, and Councilmember Brown seconded, to recommend that City Council adopted the proposed policy for posting of speed limit signs. The motion passed unanimously, 3-0.**

* **Agenda Item #6:** Mr. Geisel reported that there were three public streets in a commercial area between Chesterfield Airport Road and Edison Avenue, on which parking should be prohibited. **Councilmember Flachsbart moved, and Councilmember Hurt seconded, to forward a proposed ordinance to City Council for restricting parking on both sides of Chesterfield Commons Drive, RHL Drive and Public Works Drive. The motion passed unanimously, 3-0.**

Agenda Item #7: Mr. Geisel reported that subdivision improvement work in Waverly Place has been completed, the streets now meet City construction standards and requested the Committee's formal approval of the street construction. **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to approve the private street construction in Waverly Place subdivision. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brown and passed unanimously, 3-0.** The Committee noted that the people in the subdivision had been very concerned, but were happy now and commended Staff for their work in getting the improvements completed.

* **Agenda Item #8:** Mr. Geisel summarized his memo of July 20, 2004 regarding identification of critical priority stormwater improvements to fill in a gap in the drainage system along the north side

of Highway 40, between Boone's Crossing and Long Road. Two properties in that area were developed prior to establishment of the current Master Plan for drainage in the area. The Monarch Chesterfield Levee District is responsible for re-grading one of the sites and has agreed to include the drainage channel work, as part of that project, with the understanding that they will be reimbursed for these additional costs. **Councilmember Flachsbart moved, and Councilmember Hurt seconded, to recommend that City Council authorize expenditure of up to \$400,000, from the TIF Special Projects Fund, for the design and construction of storm water drainage facilities adjacent to Chesterfield Power Sports and US Turf, with an interim channel extending westward to provide positive drainage to Long Road. The motion passed unanimously, 3-0.**

Agenda Item #9: Councilmember Geiger informed the Committee that he has previously been supportive of the waste collection services provided by Midwest Waste, but due to an unusually high volume of calls that he has received, over the last 2-3 months, he wanted to bring his concerns to the attention of the Committee. Discussion followed regarding the need to respond to concerns and avoid recurring problems, fluids leaking from trucks, the need for training, the overall neatness of the operation, and the continued need for City staff to provide customer service in assisting residents who have concerns. The Committee commended Mr. Herring and his Administrative Assistant Kelli Krebs, for the excellent job of following up and making sure any problems are corrected. Mr. Herring told the Committee that Midwest Waste is exceptionally responsive. He also noted that he and Ms. Krebs meet, on a regular basis, with Midwest Waste to discuss issues that need to be corrected. **Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to direct Staff to provide a summary of calls for each of the past few calendar years, and to have Midwest Waste report to the Committee at their next meeting about how they will improve their response to calls placed directly to them and provide information on truck maintenance. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hurt and passed unanimously, 3-0.**

Agenda Item #10: Not discussed in meeting due to lack of time.

Agenda Item #11: Staff informed the Committee that, in accordance with City policy, after the last storm event, in addition to tree limbs and debris that fell on right of way, the Department of Public Works also removed any tree limbs that residents placed in the right of way, at the same time the Department was working in the area. Staff reported that a few individuals requested that the City make a special trip back to their house or enter private property to remove debris, but this is not part of the policy, nor is Staff able to address those types of requests. The Committee directed Staff to include information about the policy in the City Newsletter and requested that the article be reviewed with the Committee prior to publication.

New Business: Mr. Dennis Buhr, trustee for the Townes in Thousand Oaks subdivision, informed the Committee of his concerns (and those of his neighbors) about the asphalt patching that is being done on concrete streets in his subdivision. He indicated he had been informed that budgetary constraints require that more repair work be done with asphalt. He stated he came to the meeting to ask Council to make streets a priority, to look at the budget and appropriate necessary funds. General discussion followed. The Committee members indicated that many people have expressed

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similar concerns throughout the City. Mr. Geisel summarized his memo of November 26, 2003, indicating that the budget constraints have necessitated this change in maintenance operations. Mr. Herring noted that revenues had been down for almost three years and that the current budget shortfall was approximately \$1 million. Following additional discussion, the Committee directed staff to address two items: the material, equipment and manpower that would be needed to change our joint maintenance methods from asphalt to concrete; and the type of financial proposal that could be submitted to the voters to implement a capital improvement program to maintain streets at an acceptable level, throughout the City.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Cc: Mayor John Nations
Department Heads/Executive Staff