

DATE: September 30, 2002

TO: Michael G. Herring, CA

FROM: Brian McGownd, DDPW\ACE



SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes, PW\Parks 9/25/02

A meeting of the Public Works/Parks Committee began at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25, 2002. Councilmembers in attendance were Chairperson Barry Flachsbart (Ward 1), Bruce Geiger (Ward 2), Mike Casey (Ward 3) and Connie Fults (Ward 4). Also in attendance were, Mike Herring – City Administrator, Brian McGownd - Deputy Director of Public Works\Assistant City Engineer, Darren Dunkle - Superintendent of Parks, Recreation and Arts.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Item #1: Councilmember Casey motioned to accept the meeting minutes of the PW\Parks Committee from July 24, 2002, as submitted. Councilmember Fults seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 4 – 0.

Agenda Item #2: Councilmember Casey summarized the discussion regarding the solid waste contract and the performance of Midwest Waste, which was held at the recent City Council meeting. Mr. Herring stated that per the contract, if a miss occurred, Midwest Waste is required to pick up the miss within 24 hours. He said the contract required Midwest Waste to pay, to the City, a penalty equal to the contract price, for each miss. He said that the City never has collected a penalty, but insists that Midwest Waste credit the homeowner's account for the miss. He went on to explain that the City typically receives 30 to 40 complaint calls per month. However, the City received approximately 100 calls during the months of July and August. He told the Committee that Midwest Waste had lost their route supervisor for Chesterfield, and that this was the main reason for the increase in complaints for those two months. He then introduced Mr. Tony Lamantia and Mr. Greg Rothberg, both representatives of Midwest Waste. He said that Mr. Rothberg is the new route supervisor for Chesterfield, and that Mr. Rothberg has previous experience with the City, when he acted as the route supervisor a few years ago. Mr. Herring stated that Mr. Rothberg has been on board for two weeks, and that last week the City received 4 complaint calls, and so far this week, the City has not received any calls. Chairperson Flachsbart asked Mr. Lamantia how many complaint calls Midwest Waste receives a month. Mr. Lamantia replied that they typically receive 40 to 50 calls per month, and that they had received 150 calls in both August and July. Chairperson Flachsbart asked if all of the calls are logged, including the names and addresses. Mr. Lamantia replied that yes, they logged this information. Mr. Herring stated that Midwest Waste makes approximately 30,000 stops per month. This includes, trash, yard waste, and recycling. He stated that he strongly believes that Midwest Waste performs at a higher level than any other hauler in the area. Councilmember Casey stated that he believes that every hauler experiences these similar problems, and that the problems have been brought to Midwest Waste's attention, and that they now can work to correcting the problems and eliminate the calls. Councilmember Fults stated that she does not receive many complaints from Ward 4, but when she does, they are in regards to yard waste pickup and trash pickups that occur the day after a holiday. Councilmember Geiger stated the both he and Councilmember Streeter had not received a complaint in several months. He asked Mr. Herring how the complaints were handled once the City receives them. Mr. Herring stated that either he, or his administrative assistant, Jennifer Mesz, relays the complaint to Midwest Waste, and that each complaint is followed up with personal discussions with both Midwest Waste and the resident. Mr. Herring discussed the possibility of Midwest Waste establishing an e-mail

address so that residents can e-mail Midwest Waste directly with a complaint. Mr. Lamantia said that he will supply the City with an e-mail address that can be placed on the City's website for this purpose. Following a brief discussion, the Committee unanimously agreed to allow the Midwest "logo" to be placed on the City's website, along with this e-mail address, to allow residents to process questions/concerns/complaints, via e-mail. Chairperson Flachsbart requested that Midwest Waste perform a "sample survey" of those residents who complained back in July and August, to see if their complaints/concerns have been adequately addressed. Mr. Lamantia said that he will have the survey performed and will provide the City with the results. Mr. Herring said that the results, once they are received, will be shared with the Committee.

Agenda Item #3: Ms. Stacey Morse, Executive Director of Chesterfield Arts gave a power point presentation entitled "Enriching our Community Through the Arts". After Ms. Morse's presentation the Committee discussed creative funding mechanisms for the arts, and how the City could encourage developers to include art in their proposed developments. The Committee directed Mr. Herring to discuss this matter with the City Attorney, and to have Mr. Beach develop language that the Planning Commission could use during the development process.

Agenda Item #10: Councilmember Fults stated that she has received several calls from residents requesting that the City develop a park for skateboarders. Councilmember Geiger also stated that he had received a similar request from several residents. Mr. Arthur Lueking, Jr. addressed the Committee. He told the Committee about other skateboard parks in the area that he was familiar with, and described the various ramps and equipment that would typically be found at a skateboard park. Mr. Dunkle stated that Florissant and St. Charles had developed skateboard parks, and that St. Louis County and Maryland Heights were partnering in the development of a park. After some additional discussion, **Councilmember Fults motioned to direct Staff to research the cost associated to construct a fully equipped skateboard park of various sizes and to forward the information to City Council, at the Special City Council planning session, planned for December 14. Councilmember Geiger seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 4 - 0.**

Agenda Item #5: Mr. Dunkle briefly summarized the residential recycling grant. Ms. Darcy Capstick, Co-Chairman of the Chesterfield Citizens for the Environment, provided additional information regarding the grant. **Councilmember Casey motioned to authorize the CCE to apply for the 2002 Residential Recycling Mini-Grant, recognizing that there will be no direct cost to the City. Councilmember Fults seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 4 - 0. As is the case with all other grants, if the CCE is successful in obtaining this grant, it must be brought back to this Committee for a formal vote to accept the grant.**

Agenda Item #4: Mr. Dunkle summarized the proposed grant application to light additional fields, add landscaping, and construct ADA accessible sidewalks and bleacher pads at the CVAC. He stated that these improvements would cost between \$300,000 and \$350,000. He suggested that the City offer approximately \$138,000 as a local match, to be funded from funds contained within the Wetland Mitigation Fund, although no local match was required. Councilmember Geiger asked what happens if a grant of only \$50,000 was received? Would the City be committed to making up the difference in order to complete the project? Mr. Dunkle stated that the project could be scaled back. Discussion

ensued regarding the City's previous grant application, and how the applications were reviewed and scored. Mr. Herring stated that the City is not required to provide a local match, however, by doing so, the City shows its commitment to the project and, as a result, hopefully enhances its chances for funding. **Councilmember Casey motioned to direct Staff to pursue the Municipal Parks Grant, as outlined in Mr. Dunkle's memo dated September 16, 2002, and to indicate in the application that the City will provide a local match of \$100,000, with the "local match" coming from funds already collected and contained within the Wetlands Mitigation Fund.** Mr. Herring reminded the Committee that, if the City is successful in obtaining these grant funds, the Committee will be asked to formally approve acceptance. **Councilmember Fults seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 4 - 0.**

Agenda Item #6: Chairperson Flachsbart stated that he did not believe that the speed study, re: Highway 141/Woods Mill Road, was valid because the traffic signals along this section of Woods Mill were not synchronized properly. After some discussion, **Chairperson Flachsbart motioned to direct Staff to send a letter to the Missouri Department of Transportation requesting that they review the existing traffic signals on Woods Mill Road, from St. Luke's Hospital Drive to South Outer Forty Road, in order to determine if the signals are synchronized properly, and if they are found to be out of sync, to perform the necessary work to synchronize them, and to then perform the speed study again after the signals have been synchronized.** **Councilmember Fults seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 4 - 0.**

Agenda Item #7: Chairperson Flachsbart stated that the policy regarding City Hall rental/use was still confusing, and suggested that a table be made that would clearly show which groups would be allowed free use of the building, and at what times, and on which days. Councilmember Geiger told the Committee that, per the information he received from Mr. McGownd, the extra building attendant that would be hired to allow for the building to be staffed seven days a week would cost \$42,000 per year. He said that he did not feel that it is necessary to hire another full time staff member for this purpose, and believed that the building could be staffed on Sundays, as necessary, with current staff or possibly with part-time help. Mr. McGownd stated that he did not believe that this could be accomplished with the current staffing level, due to vacations and sick leave. Councilmember Fults reminded the Committee that this very issue was discussed at the last Committee meeting, and that Staff was directed to include an additional building attendant position in the 2003 budget. Councilmember Casey asked if it was necessary to make the building available on Sundays. After some discussion, **Councilmember Casey motioned to revise the policy to reflect that the building will be closed on Sundays. Councilmember Geiger seconded the motion.** Additional discussion ensued regarding the use of the building on Sundays. **The motion failed on a vote of 2-2, with Councilmember Casey and Councilmember Geiger voting aye, and Chairperson Flachsbart and Councilmember Fults voting nay.** **Chairperson Flachsbart directed that this item be added to the next Committee agenda, for further discussion.**

Agenda Item #8: Chairperson Flachsbart stated that he had a problem with the wording of the second paragraph of the policy regarding "street creep". In particular, he has concerns regarding the portion that dealt with the City Engineer consenting to the replacement of the apron. He said the current wording does not allow the City Engineer to review the complaint and make a determination whether

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or not the apron actually needs to be replaced. Mr. McGownd stated that when the Public Works Department receives a street creep complaint, the Department replaces the apron. He said that the Department receives 5 to 10 complaints a year. He said he believes that on a couple of occasions, based on the review of the complaint by the Street Division, the City did not replace the apron. Discussion ensued regarding the wording of the policy. The Committee requested that Staff discuss this matter with the City Attorney, and to report back to the Committee at the next scheduled meeting.

Agenda Item #9.: Mr. McGownd briefly summarized the school zone policy. **Councilmember Geiger motioned to recommend approval of the School Zone Policy and to forward the policy to City Council for further consideration. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 4 - 0.**

Agenda Item #11: Mr. Herring told the Committee that according to the City Clerk, it would cost \$5,000 to purchase plants, and approximately \$250 per month to maintain and care for the plants. He stated, at this time, he was not in a position to recommend that the City move forward with obtaining plants to be displayed at City Hall. After some discussion, **Chairperson Flachsbart motioned to send this issue back to Staff for further study. Councilmember Casey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 4- 0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

The next meeting of the PW/Parks Committee is scheduled for November 20, 2002, at 5:30 p.m. in Conference Room No. 101 located at City Hall.

cc: Mayor John Nations
Department Heads/Executive Staff