



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND /PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
January 08, 2007**

The Community Development/Public Works Committee of the Merriam City Council met on Monday, January 08, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers present included: Chair Gayle Stephens, Councilmember John Crabtree, Councilmember Christine Evans Hands and Councilmember Chad Rowe (via telephone). Staff present included: Quinn Bennion, City Administrator; Stephanie Dawkins, Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk; Scott Crain, City Engineer; Beth Linn, CIP Project Manager; Randy Carroll, Public Works Director; Susan Hayden, Director of Parks and Recreation; Tim Murphy, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation; Dennis Enslinger, Community Development Director; and Judy Devere, Recording Secretary.

Public Items

1. Consider approval of an Interlocal Agreement with Johnson County Wastewater

Stephanie Dawkins, Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk, presented the background on this item stating that although the City has a ROW ordinance, the ordinance specifically provides an exemption for governmental entities, such as WaterOne and Johnson County Wastewater that have entered into interlocal agreements with the City. The interlocal agreement included in the packet provides alternative guidelines and requirements for Wastewater's occupation and use of City ROW.

Ms. Dawkins said that the proposed interlocal agreement follows the provisions and procedures of the ROW ordinance with a few deviations as outlined in the staff report. She said the agreement had been reviewed and modified by Steve Horner, outside legal counsel adding that Mr. Horner assists the City and other Northeast Johnson County cities with franchise agreements and ROW issues.

Chair Stephens asked if there would be any changes in the cost to the City and if the agreement would affect any current projects. Scott Crain said from his understanding of the agreement, the process of getting to a completed and approved project would not change. He said that adjustments, not relocations, of their facilities within the

City ROW for public improvement projects would be covered and would basically be no change.

COUNCILMEMBER HANDS MOVED TO FORWARD A RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON COUNTY WASTEWATER AND PLACE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

2. Discussion of 2007 Overlay Program

Scott Crain, City Engineer, stated that the 2007 Overlay Program had been advertised and a public bid opening would be held on January 10, 2007. He said it is anticipated that staff would bring forward a recommendation to the City Council at their January meeting regarding the preferred contractor and the construction contract and authorizing the Mayor to execute that agreement.

Mr. Crain referred to the map included in the packet and noted there was an additional alternate 4 and it is the mill and overlay of the existing Aquatic Center parking lot as well as the surfacing of the parking lot expansion. Mr. Crain said that there are base bids as well as alternates on the map and said staff is confident that base bid A and base bid B could be funded with budgeted funds and CARS match money for the year. He said there is approximately \$471,000 of City's funds from Special Street and Highway as well as CIP transfer and up to \$125,000 match from the CARS Program for the Shawnee Mission Parkway portion of the base bid. Mr. Crain noted that if the City were to get bids that are significantly less than anticipated, then the City has the ability to start picking up alternates and the way the contract is written, the City can pick whatever alternates the City wants in whatever order the City wants. He said that is the intention of providing alternates and breaking them down into smaller pieces so the City can start picking those up and ultimately turn as much of the budgeted dollars into concrete and asphalt.

Chair Stephens asked if the City is still on a 10-year schedule and Randy Carroll, Public Works Director, replied that it is a 10-year schedule and they are trying to keep the schedule as close to 10-years as possible depending on funding. There was discussion of CARS funding and streetlight matching on CARS eligible routes.

3. Consider approval of an Interlocal Agreement with Unified Government of Wyandotte County-Kansas City, Kansas for 47th Street Project.

Scott Crain, City Engineer, provided the background for this item stating that the City of Merriam has approached the Unified Government of Wyandotte County-Kansas City, Kansas asking that we partner in a public improvement project on 47th Street. He said the project is slated for 2009 and involves the reconstruction of a collector street and will include concrete curb and gutters, asphalt pavement, sidewalk, reforestation, storm sewer improvements and other incidental items. Mr. Crain noted that the City of Merriam will administer and inspect the project. He said the current ILA commits both cities to share in the costs of design and construction.

Mr. Crain said the total estimated cost of the project is \$2,920,000. He said by entering into this agreement, Merriam would fund 50% of the total and the Unified Government would fund 50% of the total based on the amount of the project within each city. Mr. Crain stated that the City of Merriam anticipates that the city's total share of the project will eventually be cut to 25% as a result of additional funding from the Johnson County CARS Program.

Mr. Crain said that it is anticipated that the Unified Government will execute the agreement as their meeting February 1, 2007.

Councilmember Rowe inquired if it is possible to include sidewalks in the Silverwood addition as part of this project. Mr. Crain replied that there is the potential of staff trying to secure CDBG funding in 2009 for that work but have not gotten that far along to suggest that it be combined with this project but hoped to make it as seamless and transparent for the residents as possible even if it is a separate project. Mr. Bennion commented that the current funding for the 47th Street project would not be adequate to fund the streetlights and sidewalks but if the City is able to come up with CDBG funds and City match they could be scheduled the same year and could appear to the residents as one project.

Councilmember Hands asked if the Unified Government is scheduling meetings for the 47th Street project at the same time the City of Merriam is holding their meetings. Mr. Crain replied that staff would be working closely with the Unified Government and that the City of Merriam would be the lead agency for the whole project and would invite Wyandotte County residents to City of Merriam meetings similar to the Lowell Street project with Overland Park. He said that all residents would attend the same set of meetings and hear exactly the same thing.

COUNCILMEMBER ROWE MOVED TO FORWARD A RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL AND PLACE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF WYANDOTTE COUNTY-KANSAS CITY, KANSAS FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TO 47TH STREET. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

4. Consider approval of a Professional Services Agreement with HWS Consulting Group for design services for the 47th Street project.

Scott Crain, City Engineer, said that staff has completed a Request for Proposal and consultant interview process in order to select the best qualified design consultant for recommendation to Council. He said staff is recommending HWS Consulting Group for the design services associated with the 47th Street project.

Mr. Crain said that the contract has been reviewed by the City Attorney. He said it results in an agreement of \$302,794.76 for the design services.

Mr. Bennion asked if the Unified Government was comfortable with the consultant and the amount of the agreement to which Mr. Crain replied that they were. Mr. Crain noted that the Unified Government was invited to sit in on the interviews and

they received proposals from HWS as well as all the other consultants interviewed adding that they have not worked with HWS in the past but did not express any concerns. Mr. Crain commented that the Unified Government has seen the agreement even though they are not party to it and had no concerns.

COUNCILMEMBER ROWE MOVED TO FORWARD TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL AND PLACE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HWS CONSULTING GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$302,794.76 FOR THE DESIGN SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE STREET AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO 47TH STREET. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Mr. Crain noted that he had an update on the speed tables on Hadley north of Johnson Drive that was discussed in November 2006. He said that 50 letters were sent out to all property owners adjacent to Hadley north of Johnson Drive and received 6 positive responses from property owners and 1 opposition which does not come close to the amount of positive input the City was seeking before installation of those tables. He said at this time staff is not recommending moving forward with those installations.

5. CIP Monthly Update

Beth Linn, CIP Project Manager, provided the update for January stating that the first public meeting with residents for the 47th Street and Drainage Improvements including Wyandotte County residents will be held February 20, 2007 at a location and time to be determined.

Ms. Linn stated that the final public meeting with residents for the Farley Street and Drainage Improvements will be held January 9th and the Notice to Proceed is anticipated for January 16, 2007.

Ms. Linn said that the first public meeting with residents for the Residential Streets Group I will be held on January 23rd at City Hall.

6. Consider approval of bid for Chatlain Park swings and safety surfacing.

Tim Murphy, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, provided the background for this item stating that \$21,000 was approved in the 2006 budget from the Special Parks and Recreation fund for the addition of a swing set area close to the current play structure at Chatlain Park adding that anticipated revenues were not received to enable the purchase and installation of the equipment. He said that Special Parks revenues are now sufficient to complete the project and proposals for bids for the swing set and safety surfacing was held on January 5, 2006. Mr. Murphy said that 7 bids were received and staff is recommending the bid from Athco. He handed out bid tab sheets from the 7 bidders that included an option for rubber mulch rather than safety tiles that are less costly and low maintenance. He said that if approved, the installation would be later on in the spring.

COUNCILMEMBER CRABTREE MOVED TO FORWARD A RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL AND PLACE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL OF A BID TO ATHCO IN THE AMOUNT OF PROJECT NOT TO EXCEED \$16,794 FOR SWINGS AND SAFETY SURFACING FOR CHATLAIN PARK. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

7. Discussion regarding Vavra Park tennis/basketball courts

Susan Hayden, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that this is a follow up to a discussion at the December Community Development/Public Works Committee meeting where the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was recommending that the existing tennis courts at Vavra Park be replaced with one full court and two half-court basketball courts. She said at that time committee members requested that additional information be provided for discussion at this meeting. Ms. Hayden handed out an inventory of tennis courts and basketball courts within up to 4.1 miles of the city using the community center as a starting point in Merriam. Ms. Hayden provided an explanation of the inventory to the councilmembers adding that included in the packet is an excerpt from the Merriam Comprehensive Plan that speaks about the National Recreation and Park Association Standards of courts and facilities per number of thousands of people within a community. She noted that on page 8-10 the NRPA Standard would be 8 tennis courts in Merriam and in 2000 there were 5 tennis courts. She said that on page 8-12 it references a survey that was conducted by Direction Finder in 2000 and when residents were surveyed as to their preferences for tennis courts or basketball courts, they were the same at 40%.

Ms. Hayden said that it does not strongly come out in favor of one facility versus another adding that there has been a history of tennis courts in Vavra Park. She said most likely when those tennis courts were built, tennis was in its heyday and courts were in much demand. She said since then the tennis programs have continued to dwindle in registration and staff has to struggle to get tennis clinics to be successful.

Ms. Hayden said that staff and the Park & Recreation Advisory Board suggests that basketball is a more popular sport right now and if the committee is looking for a facility that would be used the most, then basketball courts would be the way to go noting that basketball courts cost less to construct and could utilize the basketball goals that were removed from the city hall court. There was discussion about if this item needed additional approval. It was determined that CD/PW Committee and Parks and Recreation Board recommendation is sufficient to move forward.

COUNCILMEMBER HANDS MOVED TO APPROVE REPLACING THE EXISTING VAVRA PARK TENNIS COURTS WITH ONE FULL LENGTH AND TWO HALF-COURT BASKETBALL COURTS. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

8. Updates – Chair Stephens

Chair Stephens asked for updates on the following:

- Quiet Zone for trains
- Decrease in Sales Tax Portion for Streets
- Permits and Fees
- Merriam Pointe and Merriam Village

Mr. Bennion commended the City Council and staff for their hard work and professional job on the 2007 Budget Book.

With no further business to discuss, Chair Stephens asked for a motion for adjournment.

COUNCILMEMBER CRABTREE MOVED FOR ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Devere, Recording Secretary