

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Rossford Committee of the Whole Meeting

Held June 25, 2018

6:00PM

Due to the absence of Mr. Oberdorf the clerk of council called the meeting to order and took roll call.

ROLL CALL: Staczek, Marquette, Ruse, Heban, and Densic all present.

Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Heban seconded the motion to appoint Mr. Marquette as chairperson due to the absence of President of Council Oberdorf. Vote on the motion all ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Marquette said the purpose of this meeting was to discuss crosswalks, parking on the tree lawn, and the water issue and Mr. Ruse said based on the time constraint we would probably not get to the water issue and suggested we start with the crosswalks.

CROSSWALKS

Mr. Ruse said this has been discussed by the public works committee and that currently the four strips of concrete in the boulevard are not legal. To create crosswalks in the middle of the boulevard would require signage, handicap accessibility at each curb cut, and probably cost one parking spot on each side of the boulevard. He said IPS has requested a crosswalk with signs, marking, and lights which are what led public works to discuss the four strips in the boulevard close to Moe's Place. *Mrs. Eckel entered the meeting at this time.* Mr. Ruse said this needs to be decided quickly before the SR65 project is completed. Mr. Heban asked how much a crosswalk would cost and Mr. Ruse said from \$25,000 to \$50,000 each. He said handicap ramps on the corners cost about \$500 to \$600. Mr. Marquette asked if we could just make jaywalking legal as people will cross wherever they park anyhow. Mr. Densic said that if we do crosswalks in the boulevard that they must be ADA accessible and five foot wide and the option now would be to do Maple and Walnut streets at the corners inexpensively. Mr. Ruse said based on landscaping, parking, etc. it takes a little more effort to do mid-block crosswalks. Mr. Marquette said if we were to put in a mid-block crosswalk by Moe's and not enforce people crossing in other spots it is just a waste of money. Chief Goss said doing a crosswalk would probably reduce the amount of jaywalking. Mr. Staczek said in the real world people will cross at the closest point and enforcing jaywalking after 40-50 years of allowing would result in push back. Mr. Ruse suggested we look at design for IPS now and look at doing another one after the schools final layout is determined. He said the difference in grade between the two sides of the boulevard will be a problem as ADA limits how much the incline can be. Rex Huffman indicated he has made the Wood County Commissioners aware of the need for a crosswalk for IPS and thinks can go back to them for the money. Mr. Ruse said another possibility is looking to ODOT and making the cost part of the curb project for SR65 past Rite Aid. Mrs. Eckel said she agrees with the plan of attack to do IPS as quickly as possible. Mr. Marquette said this issue needs to go to the public safety and public works committees. Mr. Ruse said we need to give the go ahead for the Walnut and Maple St. crosswalks immediately.

TREE LAWNS

Mr. Marquette said there are currently about twelve streets that have people parking on the tree lawn. Mrs. Eckel said paving the tree lawn is not allowed and we should not replace these illegally paved areas with asphalt after storm/sewer work takes place. Mr. Staczek noted the mud hole created by tree lawn parking at the corner of Eagle Point/Colony Rd. Mr. Densic said this could be looked at as a public safety issue due to road width. Chief Goss used Hillside Dr. as a reference saying putting curbs in eliminated the problem. Mr. Ruse said that ideally curbing the roads and making them wider solves the problem but does not address the current issue and right now what is happening in the tree lawns looks awful. He noted

several properties on SR65 that have their entire front area as parking and if we don't put curbs in we are in effect encouraging what they have done. Mrs. Eckel thinks as this project goes on we need to follow the 25% limit even though for the last thirty years it has been ignored. Mr. Marquette said until we get new roads with curbs it is stupid to have a law not allowing parking on the tree lawn when we do not enforce it. Mr. Densic said this should be a public safety issue and we can set a minimum road width needed and thus stop parking on one side or altogether if we have to. He prefers tree lawns be covered with stone and we need an impervious surface to reduce storm water drainage. He said this issue should be sent to the public safety committee. Mr. Staczek agrees with Mr. Densic and thinks we need to leave the tree lawns alone until we improve the streets involved. Mr. Ruse said this goes to safety committee to define the minimum width and will they determine the parameters for parking in the tree lawn and why don't we just enforce our ordinance for not allowing parking in the tree lawn and we are not really addressing the issue. He asked what we are going to do when we do utility projects and what will we require people to do when parking in the tree lawn. Mr. Marquette is for allowing parking in the tree lawns until the street is improved with guidelines for paving tree lawns in the interim. Mrs. Eckel said she agrees with Mr. Marquette. Mr. Ruse is still concerned what we are going to do with the properties on SR65 and whether we shrink their approach. Mr. Densic said we need to make the homeowners aware of this. Mr. Heban said the problem is that at least one of these homes applied for and received a variance from the BZA

Mr. Staczek moved and Mr. Heban seconded the motion to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

Greg Marquette

Robert P. Watrol
Clerk of Council