

MINUTES

COUNCIL-MANAGER BRIEFING

JULY 13, 2009

The Council-Manager Briefing was called to order by Vice Mayor Mike Oler at 6:00 p.m. at the Fairfield Municipal Building, 5350 Pleasant Avenue, with the following Councilmembers present Marty Judd, Mitch Rhodus, Tim Meyers, Mike Snyder, Mike Oler. Also present: Art Pizzano, Dennis Stuckey, Dena Morsch, Dave Butsch, Ben Strickler, Carol Mayhall, John Clemmons, and Dave Crouch.

New Traffic Signal Update

City Engineer Ben Mann briefly overviewed the purpose and benefit of the central traffic system which includes replacement of aging signal equipment, updating and standardizing controllers and upgrading traffic and pedestrian signals from incandescent to LED. He discussed the plan to utilize existing poles and fiber optic cable for better communication. He explained how the fiber could be used once it is has been ran to all the signals as a backbone or bridge to the city's own communication system. He further discussed the ability to tie in some remote areas. Mr. Mann explained the fiber system's ability to give remote alerts if a signal goes out or on flash. He further discussed the ability for the City and Wagner Smith to monitor remotely in order to save costs on service calls. He explained we will convert to a centrally-controlled software package. Mr. Mann noted there will be an update to the remaining non-compliant handicap ramps at intersections to ADA standard. He explained there will be 54 signals tied in and he pointed out other cities with central systems. Mr. Mann discussed the monitoring stations which will be located at Public Works and at the Justice Center. He explained there will also be cameras to monitor traffic when needed. Mr. Mann explained they are looking into safeguards to prevent other individuals of tapping into the system. Mr. Mann explained the Police Department will have the ability to record, but it has not yet been decided if they will use this function. He noted that Public Works they will not have the ability to record. Mr. Mann clarified that the video detection cameras do not record and are for stop bar detection. He further clarified we have traffic monitoring cameras and we have cameras for stop bar detection, we do not have red light cameras and have no plans to change over to that type. He briefly discussed the project will upgrade or add pedestrian pushbuttons at most intersections. He explained the key benefits including standardization of equipment, upgrade on aged equipment, allow for instant communication of traffic signals, ability to observe intersections remotely with use of PTZ cameras and make necessary adjustments. He further explained the estimated energy savings of about 50% or \$20,000 annually and a 5- 10 times the life expectancy of signal lamps, thereby reducing maintenance and labor costs. Mr. Mann discussed the timetable for the project noting completion is expected on July 31, 2010. He stated the project will be inspected by an ODOT inspector. Mr. Mann discussed the possibility of a newsletter article to inform residents. He briefly discussed the other signal and the controller items. He explained there will only be a few signals not included on this system. Mr. Mann explained some individual signals have been programmed by the City and the more complex signals have been programmed by LJB or someone like that who specializes in this type of thing. Councilmember Oler stated this is an item the public should see and brought up that these types of meetings should be televised.

River Road Project Update

Public Works Director Dave Butsch discussed the River Road Bridge replacement, noting the bridge was constructed in 1959 and is being replaced with a concrete box beam bridge. He explained the existing bridge was 22 feet wide and the new one will be 40 feet wide and will accommodate two 12 foot lanes and a 10 foot bike lane and will be four feet from the edge line. He stated the engineering was split between Butler County Engineers and the City. He commented the design was complete last year with Butler County Engineers Office taking lead on the project and handling the inspection. He stated WG Stang the contractor received the project at just under \$550,000. He further stated 65% will be paid by the OPWC funds with the city contributing 17.5%. Mr. Butsch explained when the beams were uncovered they found they were deteriorated and were worse than originally thought. He briefly commented on the status of the bridge project.

Mr. Butsch discussed the River Road realignment project which was a result of slippage along the bank over the last four years. He commented in 2005, part of the road was falling into the river causing the City to close the road for about six months and costing more than \$400,000. He commented again in 2007 another portion of the failed, but that did not impact the road that much, but nonetheless that showed the instability of the bank. In March of 2008, another smaller area started to slide and since then it was stabilized with over 100 tons of rock as more of a temporary fix. He stated the realignment of the road is to protect ourselves from the failures experienced over the last four years by pushing the road about 14 feet to the east towards the Bolton Plant to accommodate two twelve foot lanes with a 10 foot wide future bike lane and a two foot shoulder on the Bolton side.

Page Two
Minutes
Council-Manager Briefing
July 13, 2009

Mr. Butsch commented the City of Cincinnati has worked well to give us the work agreement to complete the work. He noted the low bidder was Mount Pleasant Blacktopping at under \$300,000. He explained the completion date for the bridge is September 25th and is going to take longer than the road project. Mr. Butsch briefly discussed the road overlays.

Annual Paving Program Criteria

Mr. Butsch discussed the assessment points for determining the scheduling of maintenance on the street, including age, condition of the street and area, problematic areas, and curb condition. He further discussed the yearly evaluation which includes all main roads, in which they look at the oldest residential and commercial streets, and any known problem areas that surfaced. He explained the three year plan that is developed in which streets can be moved up or back depending on the condition. Councilmember Rhodus discussed the possibility of changing the requirements for replacing curbs and sidewalks when we need to cut costs. Mr. Butsch briefly discussed the Pavement Condition Rating Form being put out by ODOT that is currently being tried to see if it fits and could be adopted in the future. He further discussed the current life expectancies for commercial and residential streets and the goal with the methods they are using to hopefully add to the life expectancies. Mr. Butsch discussed the lane miles resurfaced or reconstructed and the current schedule. Mr. Butsch discussed several methods being used to extend the pavement life including using the most appropriate asphalt for the road type, use of an interlayer and use of an asphalt rejuvenator. Mr. Butsch further discussed items used in determining large reconstruction or improvement projects.

Adjournment

The Council/Manager Briefing adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Johns
Deputy Clerk of Council