

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
June 4, 2018
East Conference Room

Present: Councilmembers Rader, Anderson, Bullock (6:15 p.m.)

Also Present: Dean Dilzell, Public Works Director Beno

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Resolution 9002-18 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an easement agreement with JLL Properties Ltd relative to a parcel located at Erie Cliff Drive...

Director Beno brought a diagram of the property and easement under consideration. The owner of the parcel is seeking to have the existing storm sewer relocated, at his own expense, in order to make room for a house to potentially be built upon the parcel. The current owner of the parcel is looking to sell the parcel but has not yet done so. The owner is having this work done in anticipation of a sale.

The existing sewer does not have an easement. The Resolution authorizes the easement, not the work.

Director Beno clarified that the neighboring property will not be affected. In response to Councilmember questions he reported that the storm sewer is not a combined sewer overflow and is about 100 years old. He reassured Council that the City will be inspecting the work, the property owner is not allowed to change the project plans, and that the City Engineer has been partnering on this project for many months.

Mr. Rader expressed support for the proposed project and a desire to keep it moving forward.

The Committee discussed the possibility of the property owner not following through and what would happen at that point. The City would seek its own easement since one should be in place regardless so that the City has authority to access its own sewer pipes that run through the properties. The estimated expense to the property owner is \$50,000 - \$100,000. The City will incur some minor expense by installing one manhole and repairing the end of the pipe.

Mr. Bullock mentioned that neighbors of the property have complained about the condition of the property.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend adoption of Resolution 9002-18 to Council. All members voted yea.

Herbicide Use in parks

Director Beno explained the City's use of herbicides in different areas:

- Good Nature Lawns is contracted to care for all of the athletic fields. They use organic herbicides.
- City contracts with Best Green for large areas such as along I-90. Best Green uses Round Up
- City has two Parks Department employees licensed to use herbicides. These employees use Round Up on small areas.

Director Beno stated that Round Up is only applied as directed, on sunny days with winds less than 10mph. Once the chemical dries it will not wash into the water.

In response to Council questions he explained that use of herbicides is more efficient and effective than other methods such as weed whacking.

Councilmembers expressed interest in understanding what products other cities use, if there is an organic version of Round Up, and what the latest research says about the safety of Round Up. Mr. Rader committed to looking into these questions.

Public Works Committee adjourned at 6:37 p.m.