

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

EMERGENCY MEETING

OCTOBER 12, 2005

An emergency meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, October 12, 2005 at 6:45 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

- Mayor Bernard A. Streeter presided.

Members of the Committee present:

Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman Robert A. Dion
Alderman Kathryn D. Vitale

Members not in Attendance: Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich, Vice-Chair
Alderman Robert Shaw

Also in Attendance: Steve Dookran, City Engineer
Jeanne Walker, Waste Water Project Engineer

Mayor Streeter

I have called this special emergency meeting of the Finance Committee for this evening on very late notice because it involves the emergency repair to a sanitary sewer line on Ash Street, which has collapsed. A second sinkhole has occurred in the last day or so, and it was decided that we need to proceed with construction. The street has been quartered off. I will have a representative of the Division of Public Works give you better detail. That is the reason for the emergency meeting of the Finance Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Steve Dookran, P.E., City Engineer
Re: Emergency Repairs to Ash Street Sanitary Sewer

MOTION BY ALDERMAN VITALE TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO TDD EARTH TECH IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN ACCOUNT #802-59230-8330-8700

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Streeter

I would ask Steve Dookran to come forward with his associate.

Steve Dookran

Thank you Mr. Mayor. I would ask my associated, Ms. Walker, to explain the situation to the Board.

Mayor Streeter

I would also explain that the Division Director is away this week, and you are Acting Director.

Steve Dookran

That is correct. I am taking care of some of the emergencies that have occurred because of the recent high rainfall.

Jeanne Walker

Basically what has happened is that we have a sewer on Ash Street – In July we had a collapse on the sewer. They replaced approximately 40 feet of it, and in our long-term plans we were looking at replacing the entire sewer between Kinsley Street and Lovewell. As we were looking at including that into our long term plans a second sink hole occurred on the other side of the man hole from the original sink hole, but only approximately 40-50 feet away from the previous – basically we fixed something so we were hoping to get the plans out and get the contract awarded, but due to the rains and everything that occurred this weekend, the sink hole enlarged and the flow that we were doing our best to maintain, which had been reduced due to the collapsed pipe, has been further reduced. IN consideration that there is more rain coming it was determined that we should go in and fix this section of pipe.

We called and received two quotes. TDD Earthtech is available to start the work tomorrow morning, and to do the repairs so that we can get the system back in operating order. We will, however, still work towards bidding and awarding this contract as soon as we can get the construction plans together.

Alderman Dion

My concern is with the residents living in that area on Ash Street. Are there any restrictions as to them being able to get to their homes with their automobiles? Are they shut off? What is it?

Jeanne Walker

-
The sinkhole that is in the street – the sewerage runs down the center of the street – the homeowners can still get into the street, but it is really not for through traffic. In the center of the street there is a steel plate over the sinkhole itself and some barricades and cones. No one will drive over it.

Alderman Dion

The reason I say that is because I just went by Kinsley Street on my way here and Ash Street is blocked off from Kinsley Street. Now you say this goes all the way to Lake Street. Is it blocked off on Lake Street also?

Jeanne Walker

-
It is only blocked to Lovewell.

Alderman Dion

-
If it is blocked between Lovewell and Kinsley how are these people that live between Lovewell and Kinsley supposed to get home or drive their automobile home?

Jeanne Walker

-
The barrels that block the roadway – there is a section that they could go in.

Alderman Dion

It was blocked off completely when I went by there. Kinsley Street was blocked off completely. Now my question is, is Lovewell Street that intersects Ash Street blocked off also? If that is the case then the houses between Lovewell and Kinsley cannot be reached by automobile.

Alderman Deane

I am wondering if they can put a sign up that says street opened to residents only – no through traffic...

Steve Dookran

I will check on that as soon as we leave here. I had given instructions to the Traffic Department this morning to set up a traffic detour, but they usually go by a standard traffic detour, which allows local residents good access. I was promised that was taken care of. I didn't realize the situation. No one has called during the course of the day. This was put in place early this morning. If there was a serious problem with people getting in I certainly would have received calls, but I will check on it after we leave the meeting.

Mayor Streeter

We would appreciate that Steve.

Alderman Dion

The only reason I brought that up is because I am concerned about the residents being able to get to their homes. I know Lovewell Street I believe there is no parking on Lovewell because it is a narrow street. Even if they wanted to park their cars on Lovewell and walk to their homes they couldn't do it. I hope that you take care of that situation. Thank you.

Alderman Tollner

Basically you are just asking us to approve \$25,000 in an emergency situation – this should be taken care of and patched up within a day or two. If you take into consideration the comments from Alderman Dion and Alderman Deane we should be all set.

Alderman Dion

My other question is where is the \$25,000 coming from Steve?

Steve Dookran

This is coming from the wastewater funding. We have a section called sewer maintenance that we use the funds for this very purpose.

-
Alderman Dion

Thank you.

Mayor Streeter

Is there any further discussion? Before I call for a vote I want to thank you all for coming out on such short notice, and for you Steve to be ready to start the process tomorrow. We had an emergency meeting of the Board of Public Works this afternoon, and they unanimously approved this as well.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DION TO ADJOURN MOTION CARRIED

The Finance Committee emergency meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Alderman Kathryn D. Vitale
Committee Clerk Pro Tem