

# Council Minutes

**February 26, 2001**

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF THE ZION CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2001, AT 4:35 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, ZION, ILLINOIS

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On call of the roll, the following answered present: Commissioners Bennett, Monk, Taylor and Mayor Harrison. Commissioner Rogers arrived at 4:40 p.m.

Also present: Attorney Robert Rolek Brian Usher John Jones John Stark

## **Five Year Maintenance Program**

Brian Usher presented the Five Year Maintenance Program which is a comprehensive street paving plan consisting of two major segments - 1) reconstruction which will entail the removal of the street surface and major portions of the roadway base in order to address base failure, exaggerated crowning, and similar problems at an estimated cost of \$750,000 per mile of street, and 2) resurfacing which will consist of spot repairs to the street base, grinding the surface where necessary, and adding a new pavement surface at an estimated cost of \$200,000 per mile of street. It is anticipated that street resurfacing will be the backbone of the program. Crack sealing is an important component of the program. It seals out moisture and helps eliminate potholes and rough street surfaces. The estimated cost of crack sealing on an average street is \$8,000 to \$10,000. It is most cost effective to contract out crack sealing. Staff currently has no street history or condition data available. They have done a window survey of the street conditions and have identified those that are in the worst condition. Public Works has purchased a pavement management software program which will allow them to evaluate pavements based on current conditions. It will take two years to implement. It is hoped that a college intern can be hired to assist with pavement inspection and data collection.

## **FIVE YEAR STREET MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**

Brian Usher stated that staff has developed a five year plan which will return the streets to a maintainable, driveable condition at an estimated cost of \$25,000,000 based on a five year program. The program is predicated on an annual funding level of \$5,000,000. 90% of the 70 miles of City streets would be reconstructed or repaved by the end of 2005. It was noted that the longer the City waits to address the situation, the worse it will get and the cost will actually increase as streets currently in need of

only resurfacing would more than likely require a total reconstruction. Mr. Usher also stated that the City must also be prepared to provide continued funding support for a maintenance program after the five year program is completed so the streets do not return to their current condition. Annual maintenance program costs are estimated at 2.5 million dollars. Mr. Usher presented a map of the City with overlays showing which streets would be resurfaced and reconstructed in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005. Mr. Usher stated that in the next few weeks, he will ask permission from the Council to 1) engage a geotechnical team for study of planned areas for years 2001 & 2002 2) seek proposals for engineering for the 2001 & 2002 seasons 3) enter into an internship program with Marquette University for a two year period to gather required street data 4) adopt and fund the street maintenance program Several methods of funding the program were discussed.

John Stark stated that the City received \$500,000 annually in MFT funds which is 2.5 million dollars over the five-year period.

Attorney Rolek stated that a dedicated independent source is needed to repay the funds. He suggested setting aside the current repaving budget funds or at least a portion of them. He suggested imposing an entertainment tax or raising fees such as vehicle stickers. Mr. Rolek suggested creating a Special Service Area which are easier and less expensive to administer than in years past, however, it was the consensus that a SSA would not be well received by the public.

Mayor Harrison suggested not allowing any departmental budget requests for capital purchases for one year. Mayor Harrison suggested a bond issue. He stated that the City's bonding power will drop with the EAV due to the ComEd situation and current interest rates are low making it a favorable time to borrow money. He believes the City will see an increase in tipping fees as Onyx has the potential for an increase in revenue sources in the near future. Mayor Harrison also stated the City has the potential of receiving 2 million dollars annually if the venture west of Green Bay Road and north of Rt. 173 materializes. These two sources combined could total 2.5 million dollars.

Attorney Rolek stated that it could take two to three months to complete a bond issue.

Commissioner Bennett suggested investigating funding sources for the first two years of the street maintenance program only.

Commissioner Taylor recommended that he, John Stark, Bob Rolek, and Brian Usher meet to discuss funding possibilities.

A meeting was scheduled for March 5, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall. Commissioner Monk left the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 5:55 p.m. Motion carried.