

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
February 21, 2023**

The meeting of the Public Works Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Barry Christman. Committee members present in addition to Mr. Christman were Keith Endy, Gene Gabel, and ex-officio member Frank Deery.

Also present were Lorraine Carnes, Mayor; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Bruce Hansley, Street Supervisor; Ralph Schoenly and Alex Eidle, Inframark LLC; and Tom Unger, Systems Design Engineering, Inc.

Mr. Christman called for public comment on the agenda; no comments were forthcoming.

Mr. Christman recognized Mr. Unger who requested authorization to advertise for bids for the 2023 Street Paving Project, and reviewed with the committee the construction cost estimate to repave Spring Street from Reading Avenue to the Borough line; Orchard Hills Drive; Crest Drive; and Sunset Lane. Mr. Unger noted that Colebrookdale Township requests the Borough include the Colebrookdale Township portion of Spring Street in the project. The township will reimburse the Borough for the cost to repave the small section of Spring Street located in the township. The committee agreed to the township's request. Mr. Unger advised that the concrete gutters in the Orchard Hills Development are in good condition and will not be removed with the exception of the concrete aprons within the development intersections. Those aprons are in poor condition and will be removed. Repair of some concrete gutter is required; those repairs will be included in the contract. The projected project cost is \$382,661. The committee agreed to recommend Borough Council approve a motion at the March 6th meeting of Council to authorize Systems Design Engineering, Inc. to advertise the 2023 Street Paving Project for receipt of bids in April.

Mr. Christman made a motion, second by Mr. Gabel, to approve the minutes of the January 24th, 2023 meeting of the committee. The motion was approved.

Street Supervisor Report

Mr. Hansley reviewed the monthly report on the activities of the street department. Discussion on the construction of a salt shed was held. Mr. Unger commented that SDE, Inc. worked with Douglass Berks and Muhlenberg Townships on the construction of a salt shed. Mr. Unger stated that Muhlenberg's shed is 46' x 46' and Douglass Berks is 36' x 36'. Discussion continued and the committee felt a 36' x 36' shed with a lean-to shelter for storage of the front end loader would work for the Borough. Mr. Hansley will work with Mr. Unger on design of a salt shed; further discussion on this subject will be held.

Mr. Hansley advised the committee that the bed of the 1991 dump truck is in very poor condition and has several holes. He reviewed with the committee a quote from Z-Weldco, Inc. to patch areas of the bed at a cost of \$1,200; or to replace the entire bed at a cost of \$4,000. Discussion was held on the general condition of the truck. Mr. Hansley noted that mechanically the truck is in good condition. The primary use of the vehicle is for the annual leaf pick up, and hauling large tree trunks from the park. Following discussion, the committee directed Mr. Hansley to direct Z-Weldco, Inc. to replace the bed. It was noted that Z-Weldco, Inc. will not know the condition of the cross members until the bed floor is removed. Any extra work required will be discussed with Mr. Hansley prior to performing the additional work.

Unfinished Business

MS4 – Rain Garden Project – Mrs. Loder advised the committee that SSM is still reviewing the performance of the rain gardens. They have not yet reached a final conclusion. They are conferring with other engineering firms who have completed rain garden projects. They also plan to observe the gardens during a heavy rain event.

Community Park Bank Stabilization – No change from previous month. Mr. Newhard will provide a stabilization plan to Mrs. Loder.

New Business

2024 Street Paving – List of Properties to be Notified to Replace Curbing – Mrs. Loder reviewed with the committee a list twenty-two property owners who will receive notification of the need to replace their curbing prior to the spring of 2024, and the start of work on the 2024 Street Paving Project. The letter will be mailed shortly with a deadline for replacement of the curbing of March 31st, 2024.

Public Comment

There being no public comment and no further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. was made by Mr. Christman and second by Mr. Endy. The next meeting of the Public Works Committee will be held on Tuesday, March 21st, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Manager