

**Minutes
PW Committee
May 2, 2016
6:00 PM
1st committee meeting**

Members present were Chairman Larry Goodson, Council members Dale Black and Scott Crosby. City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.

1. Call to order.- Chairman Goodson

A new turbine company is moving to Mauldin. Veterans run the company and it is ethics based. 6 employees are coming down from Vermont with more hires to come.

2. Public Comment
3. Reading and approval of minutes- February 1, 2016- Councilman Black made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Crosby seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).
4. Reports or communications from city officers- None
 - a. Budget report
5. Unfinished business.
6. New business.
 - a. GCLDTC participation agreement for road paving- Council previous approved \$129,000, but not the participation agreement. There is a change in the appropriation formula, so it is less than we normally have. It is s 50/50 match. Council previously approved in fall the paving list as well. This is in addition to the million dollar match in previous years. Chairman Goodson asked if we could sit down with the state to get some state roads repaved. He is getting comments thanking him for repaving local neighborhood roads, but Butler and other roads are bad.

Councilman Black made a motion to send this agreement to council with Councilman Crosby seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

- b. Storm drainage study from Forrester Woods- This area has drainage problems. Water is going into the streets and private yards because of a pipe that is failing. Goodwyn Mills Caywood did a council authorized

study. John Raiford presented the study. The metal pipe is rotting and caused this problem. The pipeline is outside the city right of way. There are several ways to fix the problem. The first way to fix the problem is to fix the pipe in place. Second way is a new public line in the right of way, the third way is trenchless technology, and the last way is a blend of alternatives. The current pipe is 18-24" and should be 24-36" to handle the flow.

If the pipe is fixed, 13 private easements will be needed to fix the problem. There will be no traffic hindrance, because the work will be done in people yards. If a new public line is put in the road, there will be traffic issues, the current utilities will have to be moved. This way will take a long time and have high public impact, but it will be done correctly and there will be no more sinkholes. The trenchless technology pulls the old pipe into new pipe. Nothing would be dug, you just pull the pipe through. This also requires 13 easements. The blended option requires 5 easements. There will be some traffic disruption, but it would give more bang for the buck. The blended alternative is recommended. New pipe would be put in where need be. There would be some traffic disruption. The cost would be about \$360,000 for the blended option.

Councilman Crosby asked about the easements. Do you have to have all thirteen or all five? If you don't get one, is the project dead? Mr. Raiford said it would have to be all. It can't all be fixed unless you have everyone agreed. Chairman Goodson said he would like guidelines and budgeted money to work on drainage projects like this all over the City. We could treat it just like the paving list. There are other issues. Councilman Black said he thinks council should go into executive session some time to discuss all this with the city attorney and staff. Committee doesn't have the authority to make a decision like this. Chairman Goodson said we do need a policy. Councilman Black said the easements are a question mark and then we need to discuss how to pay for this. Chairman Goodson said a policy could guide us through these kinds of decisions. Councilman Crosby said he likes the idea of a policy as well.

Trey said he can get some model policies and draft something at least by June committee meetings.

Councilman Black made a motion to send this item to council with the understanding that Trey will start pulling some information together to discuss this item. Councilman Crosby seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (3-0).

Trey thanked Murray and John from Goodwyn, Mills and Caywood. They have done a good job on the study. Trey will start some researching policy options and talk to John Duggan.

7. Public Comment

- a. Why would this go to executive session? Chairman Goodson said executive sessions cover contract, legal or personnel matters.

Has the city attorney been contacted on this? Councilman Black said Mr. Duggan has spoken on this matter before when we started talking about it. When was this brought to the city's attention? Chairman Goodson said he could remember 5-6 years ago. The resident said obviously time is not of the essence. Is another 6 years acceptable? Chairman Goodson said we know the area floods and it is sad. The resident said she wants this fixed. Another resident- These people have been waiting six years to get to this point and now you are saying, let's get other things done before we make a commitment to get these other things fixed.

Female resident: How long is this going to take? What is the time line? If you are going in to executive council..

Chairman Goodson: We are not doing that now. Everything is going to be out in the open and advertised unless we need to get legal advice...

Female resident: How long?

Chairman Goodson: I honestly can't answer that.

Male Resident: I understand this and you are putting into motion other things.

Chairman Goodson: I am very passionate about this. We have had other

areas and houses that have flooded five times.

Male resident: We have come to several meetings and now you hired a firm to check our problem. We are here for us. Now you seem to want to fix other things. In other words, let's put Crepe Myrtle in a pile and fix it all.

Chairman Goodson: We need a policy. We are not saying that.

Male resident: Would you have been wanting a policy if we hadn't come here?

Chairman Goodson: Yes. This has been a goal of mine since we had that flooding three years ago. There are houses down there that are still empty.

Bankruptcy. We have an obligation to address all the problems, not just one street.

Male resident: We are getting put off and put off and you finally hired someone...

Chairman Goodson: What should we do? What should this committee do?

Male resident: Maybe they should get together and come to a meeting.

Chairman Goodson: They have. Hundreds of people.

Female resident: Why wasn't anything done then? Three years? We are here. We are willing to have you come on our property.

Chairman Goodson: The first project sets a precedent. It has to be perfect.

Male resident: Why can't ours be perfect? These guys have come to look at our problem...

Chairman Goodson: Did we make a mistake in picking your project to look at? Did we?

Male resident: No, but this has been going on for five years. We finally got here and now it is like you want to fix everyone else's stuff. Our problem is still there. We have five 8 foot holes, sink holes. We all came here for this to get you to do a job.

Chairman Goodson: When we agreed to do this, I went on record and said I wanted a policy. This is private property.

Female resident: We are getting to the point where we might want to leave and downsize. Do you think we can sell our house with the sink hole?

Male resident: We have crime scene tape there. The question is whose storm drain is this?

Trey Eubanks: The city attorney will say it is not ours. We didn't put it in or inspect it. A policy will cover city wide, but this is the first study done. The City ever since July 2013 when we had all the rain and problems and lost some homes. The City did a number of things including applying for FEMA money. The work done here is to provide some options, and the next step is a city-wide policy.

Leo Joyce: Talking about road paving, is DOT responsible for Butler Road? Take property from the homeowners near the high school, but they won't improve anything. Why are we letting DOT touch anything in the City of Mauldin.

Resident: Is this a prescribed easement?

John Raiford: That is a city question. The developer put this drain in and never deeded it to the City.

Resident: Is there a 10 foot tributary?

Trey Eubanks: The map identifies a storm drain, but no easement.

Male resident: We pay Mauldin and Greenville taxes. If they take responsibility for the subdivision, doesn't that include anything in the subdivision? If the City is taking our tax money, is that part of taking the subdivision into the City?

Trey Eubanks: We are not obligated to do a thing on private property, but to your question, this council has demonstrated that they do think we need to step in and do some things, but from a legal standpoint, we don't have to do this. What happens when other pipes fail? We need a policy to go forward. I think, though, this study shows council's commitment to its residents.

Male resident: The first answer we got is it is not our problem.

Trey Eubanks: I take exception to that. The city's first answer was to deal with the previous property owner. He did everything he could to drag it in to the court system, so we had to get legal advice.

Male resident: We were told if it was more than 15-20 feet from the curb, the City is not responsible for it.

Councilman Black: This should be part of the deed as part of the utility easement. They legally can do that, but I don't know if it is 25 feet from center, or whatever.

Female resident: We need to work with you on this.

Chairman Goodson: I appreciate this. This is very frustrating. We have drainage problems. You are concerned with one street. We are concerned about 40 streets. There will be no executive stuff unless we need to. We will let you know what is going on. This is the first step. Just give us an opportunity.

Councilman Crosby: Two things that have not been talked about. One is the budget, these projects have to be funded. Getting the easements is obviously cheaper. The number one thing is to start getting the easements. Make sure people are willing to do this. If we get 12 and can't get the last one, this won't work. Getting people to sign things is sometimes the hardest part.

8. Committee concerns.
9. Adjournment.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk