

PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, March 5, 2018 – 5:00pm
Wastewater Treatment Plant – 26729 98th Drive NW
MINUTES

Attendance:

Councilmembers:	Rob Johnson, Tim Pearce, Judy Williams
City Staff:	Kevin Hushagen, Shawn Smith, Lisa Sokolik
Other:	Steve Shepro

The full meeting agenda packet with detailed information can be found on the City's website at www.ci.stanwood.wa.us

1. 90th Ave and Viking Way Project Discussion

This was a discussion item, Citizen Steve Shepro attended the Public Works Committee meeting, he had questions and concerns regarding the 90th Ave and Viking Way Project; questions and answers are attached to these minutes as attachment A.

The City Engineer answered Mr. Shepro's questions with more detail and discussed the positives that the project will have for Stanwood residents and visitors. The City Engineer went over the breakdown of the project construction cost estimate (see table in the agenda) and explained that the city would have to pay back all the grant money that has already been spent on the design and ROW.

2. Cedarhome Elementary Safe Routes to School, Final Acceptance

The City's final cost for the SRTS project was \$7,613 over the contract amount of \$585,154. Staff explained to the Committee that this was a minimal amount and was mainly for non-construction items, e.g. advertising.

This item will be brought to the full Council on Thursday, March 8, 2018 with the recommendation to accept the project as being complete.

Discussion Items:

- **Les Schwab Floor Tear-up Agreement**

The City Attorney has reviewed the request to remove the Floor Tear-up Agreement and the Water Line Easement. If the Tear-up Agreement and Water Line Easement were entered into for the benefit of Les Schwab then the city could proceed with the request to relinquish both, but if they were set up to benefit the citizens then the request should be denied pending more in-depth review.

Staff has reviewed all documents; plans, deeds, water system map and have determined that there is no benefit to Stanwood Citizens to keep the agreement and easement in place.

This item will be brought to the full council with the recommendation to relinquish the Tear-up Agreement and the Water Line Easement at the cost of Les Schwab.

Mr. Hushagen,

Thank you for addressing my concerns regarding the Viking Way/91st extension. In many regards, you have confirmed the point I was trying to make. The information you've provided rationalizes the project from a "public works" perspective. However, the original reasons stated for this project were to stimulate retail development. Upgrading drainage, water lines, sewer lines and lighting were not part of the expressed original goals.

I agree that the utility upgrades are with merit. But, I fail to see how a Viking Way extension will expand retail development in Stanwood. The report speaks of reducing the need to travel on 271st Street (Main Street). Existing businesses on 271st Street do not benefit by reducing traffic on 271st. They may experience reduced business. Businesses located in the Historic East Stanwood Downtown, will experience less vehicular traffic passing the fronts of their stores. The same goes for the area around the Country Store. The True Value owners are not in favor of the Viking Way extension either. The question becomes, who will benefit?

As for safety benefits, the staff report states that the improvements will provide for safer pedestrian use in the area. The owners of one major retail store and the pastor of a local church believe pedestrian will be of great concern. They believe that STOP signs and crosswalks should be incorporated if this plan is going to proceed.

If there is to be a benefit of greater safety and traffic flow, by aligning Viking Way with the QFC entrance, when will that alignment happen? I was told it could be 10 years or more. I understand that this future alignment (Alignment A) in various reports, will require a traffic signal at the intersection of Viking Way and 92nd Ave. A two way stop will control traffic in the interim. The roadway installed by the developer of Petco/Grocery Outlet will no longer be necessary if Alignment A becomes constructed.

Once again, the August 21, 2013 Viking Way Alignment Analysis only mentions road construction and traffic analysis. There is no mention of addressing drainage, water lines, sewer lines or lighting. Your email includes \$1,302,000 for these four items.

I am also confused by the varying amounts of grant funding being mentioned. The February 6 email from Mr. Hushagen states the \$1,426,250 construction grant is pending. The March 5 staff report, from Shawn Smith, states that it has already been received.

February 6, 2018

Mr. Shepro,

Thank you for your e-mail and concern with the Viking Way project. I would like to address the concerns and offer the following information regarding the project.

The City received a \$140,000 grant to aid in the design of the project. This would likely need to be paid back if the project were to be scrapped.

The City received a \$350,000 grant to aid in the purchase of right-of-way (ROW). This would likely need to be paid back if the project were scrapped.

The City has a pending \$1,426,250 grant to aid in the construction of the project. That money would go away if the project were scrapped.

The estimated project cost of \$2,864,000 not only constructs the street, but also addresses drainage in the area \$235,000, upgraded waterlines \$498,000, upgraded sewer lines \$169,000 and lighting \$400,000.

We have already required the developer of the Petco/Grocery Outlet property to install a portion of this roadway and dedicate it to the City, so this would establish the connection.

The project makes a private lot/driving lane public. Currently the driveway from 88th Avenue to 90th Avenue is used like a local street, when actually this is private property that can be shut off at the owner's discretion.

When the City obtains the PUD property on the west end of Viking Way, the current access into the Petco/Grocery Outlet off of 92nd Avenue will be eliminated and the alignment between Viking Way and the access to QFC will be straight across from each other and make this area much safer.

Also, when events like the parade, car show and art festival take place this road will allow for citizens to travel through the area and not be in conflict with the event taking place on 271st St.

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