

**CITY OF INDEPENDENCE
STREETS & SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 11, 2023, AT 4:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CAUCUS ROOM & VIA ZOOM**

Present: Chairman Dale Veverka
Vice Mayor Dave Grendel
Councilperson Chris Walchanowicz

Also Present: Mayor Gregory P. Kurtz
Councilperson John DiGeronimo (left at 5:15 p.m.)
Councilperson Jim Trakas
Service Director Ron McKinley (left at 4:10 p.m.)
City Engineer Don Ramm
Finance Assistant Maggie Osysko
Engineering Program Coordinator Jim Riley

Chairman Dale Veverka called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Welcome everyone to the May 11th Streets & Sidewalks Committee meeting.

Today we have a long agenda, so we are going to hold the Service Director's feet to the fire as far as his time.

Service Director McKinley said for example, the banners and the flags, those are all installed throughout the City.

The Service Department is up and running at full capacity. Crews have washed all the bricks in town and did all the landscape repair jobs that needed to be done.

The City (inaudible), we have been running for about a month now with that, so there are no issues there. Crews are going to continue doing weed control throughout the City, and we are going to start milling out all the winter potholes. We have a list, and then we are going to crack seal all patches after we are done with the potholes.

The yard waste, dumpster rental, tent rental and compost have all started in April. City mulching is complete, and we will continue tree chipping and mailbox repairs.

The mechanics are extremely busy with the PMs, and we are trying to create a universal fleet where it doesn't matter what truck or trailer you hook up to, everything fits, the lighting, the trailers, everything works together.

Councilperson Trakas why are you trying to make sense? Is there a problem here?

Service Director McKinley said these brakes can work with one trailer, and that trailer only fits on that truck.

Mayor Kurtz said uniformity, that is the goal.

Service Director McKinley said even the grease systems on some of the big plows, we are making that universal as well. So, you only have to stock one grease, and it works with all of them.

A few items that are coming up on the agenda this year, (inaudible), jet truck, possibly a sweeper.

Lastly, the plows are being delivered this Friday.

This year we are going to go from Rockside all the way to Sprague, so we are going to do even more than we did last year with the hanging baskets.

What questions can I answer?

Vice Mayor Grendel asked are there going to be hanging baskets on Rockside Woods? There are poles there and everything.

Service Director McKinley said yes, Pleasant Valley.

Chairman Veverka asked, and what budget line does the flowers come from because it sounds like we are substantially higher on the flowers. Where does that come from?

Service Director McKinley said so that, we got three quotes on, and Dennis put the requisition in for that. So, the actual line item for that, I do not know, but we did get three quotes. They were like \$11,000, \$11,700 and \$12,100, somewhere in that number for the flowers.

Councilperson Trakas said Councilperson Walchanowicz has brought up an issue, and I think he has talked to you about it with the pavers that we have on Veterans' Plaza there in front of the memorial which are breaking in pretty good numbers. Do we have it in the Capital budget? I don't remember if we put it in there or not. I was just curious. It seems to me a fairly small amount of money.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I think that was the quote for the marble. I think it was like a little over \$17,000 for everything.

Councilperson Trakas said some of those families are no longer with us, in World War I, World War II, back in the 1980s when we did that. Maybe we ought to take a look at prioritizing that because I think those families deserve it. Maybe we can do some private fundraising to help with the cost of that, put together another campaign; but there's space up there, so maybe we try to undertake that. They are cracking. They might be a danger to people, older people like my mom with a walker walking around up there. If you wouldn't mind taking a look at that, perhaps refreshing that quotation. I think we can put together a fundraising effort with some public dollars. I think people would like to see that done, and it would be a nice tribute to them.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said maybe there are new veterans. Maybe they will want a block up there too.

Vice Mayor Grendel said they just did something downtown at the ballpark outside the plaza. They gave people a weekend to come and dig up their bricks and everything.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said Jimmy was there, I was there.

Vice Mayor Grendel said it was a safety factor and that.

Councilperson Trakas said it would be a nice tribute to do that, and as you said, there's probably more people who would want to buy them. So, maybe we can put together a campaign. Maybe that could defer a good chunk of the cost. I don't know what they were. It certainly would be nice to be able to redo that.

Chairman Veverka asked Chris, do you remember how many?

Councilperson Walchanowicz said it was like 230 or something like that, but there were quite a few of them that are blanks. I think we talked about the base.

Service Director McKinley said we would have to pour a foundation.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said you could take a number of pictures so that the blocks would go back exactly where they have been located.

Chairman Veverka said so, that sounds like something for your Public Lands meeting, the next one.

Any other questions Chris? Vice Mayor? Mr. Mayor?

No one had any questions for the Service Director.

Chairman Veverka said Ron, thank you. Obviously, we are meeting very soon down the road related to the senior snowplowing.

Service Director McKinley said on May 23rd. I look forward to it.

Chairman Veverka said Mr. City Engineer, Mr. Ramm. we are starting off and going to talk about Mannik & Smith, I hope.

City Engineer Ramm said yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. Talking about the Mannik & Smith group, it's a PAVER report update. Due to scheduling conflicts, the two gentlemen representing Mannik aren't able to be here today. I am going to try to handle part of the front-end information on their report, and I do think we will need to invite them back at a follow-up meeting to discuss some of the details of the capital budgeting portion of the model and forecasting. So, I will take you through the front-end stuff here.

They were last in the City doing this report in 2017, and we have been on five year updates. There is about 41.5 City center lane miles, and 8.4 County miles. The report is broken up into sections. When they inspect streets, their sections are broken up into manageable portions that make good sense, whether the pavement changes, type or the use of the pavement, just so they get the best representative samples when they are doing their inspections.

The work history, so for the last five years they haven't been here, so we had to spend a good amount of time with them in the Engineering Department to inform them on all the capital projects that we have been doing and all our maintenance budget; so it helped them to get a better feel before they even went out in the City to reinspect all the streets. It helped them understand where we have been and what sort of work we have been performing on what streets. It helped dial them in.

They went out and did all the inspections to log the distresses and populate the network databases so that they could ultimately populate the pavement condition index for each street, or each section. Here just to reiterate, the State routes were not part of this scope of work. It hasn't been. We rely on NOACA and ODOT to handle Brecksville Road and Granger Road. We don't bother doing double work.

Then finally the unit pricing; so we have given them a lot of our recent public bid history, so all of our recent maintenance projects and infrastructure. Kleber Court, we gave them our bid data so that they could get the most current information as we had for bidding and unit costs, project work, for infrastructure and replacement and maintenance costs. It helps them build their model, and helps them understand how the money is spent and at what unit pricing to do their forecasting.

This is just a slide that represents the goal of this pavement management, asset management. It's to spend good money at the right time and keep good roads good. This is the dollar rehab at this point at the degradation curve. They are just saying that a dollar here costs four or five as the pavement worsens over its service life. So, the goal of these pavement preservation techniques that we have been applying here for the last ten years is to keep our roads up in this section. It's just cost-effective and money better spent than doing that.

This is a nice snapshot, I think a summary of where we have been. Back in 2017 our average PCI of our local roads was 66, in fair condition with the breakdown of the different number of streets in those categories. Based on our budget forecast for five years, the money that we invest in our

roads at the time, they had predicted, the model had predicted that we would come out at 82. This would be done, and this is what we based on their inspections. It's very close to the model. We did actually do better. This is a nice slide that demonstrates that what we have been doing seems to make sense, and the road we have been marching down is something we should be continuing to do with this program, along with this guide. So, it's nice.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked do you know what the failed road is in that?

City Engineer Ramm said we will go into that. There are a handful of them, and most of them are bogus in terms of how they have categorized them. I will discuss that too.

This is the County, so they also do County routes, and this is a little bit less at our control because of how the County spends money. They only come into our City to do major projects. We do get County funding when we spend money for crack seal or resurfacing on some of the County routes. So, this fared not as well as our local roads, but still pretty good. They predicted 80, and we are at 81. It was five years ago at 83, so pretty consistent and did better in the good category. We resurfaced Rockside Road just last year, so that tended to bring something up really into the good section.

So, again I think positive information here.

Chairman Veverka said you mentioned that the County contributes to the maintenance. Was any County money involved when for example the upper, upper Brookside or any of those projects that were re-done?

City Engineer Ramm said you know, the County likes to give us funding for problems that they feel are (inaudible) to the County, Brookside Road, Stone Road, those are old County routes.

Vice Mayor Grendel said it's all in Independence. It starts at Pleasant Valley and works its way to Sprague, but it's still Independence. It doesn't go over any other suburb.

City Engineer Ramm said it's an old County route. Pleasant Valley is a County route.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked what about Sprague?

City Engineer Ramm said Sprague is a County route.

Several people began speaking at once.

Vice Mayor Grendel said Brookside has always been strictly Independence.

Chairman Veverka said quit picking on Brookside.

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said so we have tapped into that County funding, their 50/50 road maintenance. We did that for Rockside resurfacing. We do a lot of crack seal on Pleasant Valley.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that was part of Rockside, east of Brecksville.

City Engineer Ramm said right, east of Brecksville Road.

Then this is their updated road inventory, city-wide, they break these down into eight individual maps, quadrants, going from top to bottom, left or right; and the key takeaway is the colors. They are nice color-coded maps with the goal to be as you peruse through these streets seeing a lot of good blues and greens and the rest are reds and oranges. No real surprises here. You see Kleber and Longano there, poor condition.

Here is one example, Patriot's Way west of Oaktree North is not even a dedicated street; so that runs behind the restaurants, and they picked up that as one of the roads in failed condition. It's failed. We don't disagree.

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said it's not a City street. So, that's one example.

Councilperson Trakas asked is it a private drive?

City Engineer Ramm said it sort of is, yes. It's really a service drive for the restaurants.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked who owns it, the restaurants?

Mayor Kurtz said I don't know if we have an easement. We have to have an easement through there, don't we?

City Engineer Ramm said I don't know that we have any utilities through there to be honest.

Vice Mayor Grendel said we have the McDonald's and Le Chaperone Rouge.

Mayor Kurtz said that is a good question.

City Engineer Ramm said so, Freedom Square is in poor condition. There are a lot of joint repairs that are needed, and I believe that we have that in one of our concrete maintenance contract alternates for the Rockside Road corridor. I think Freedom Square has a good amount of work identified in it to help bring that PCI value up.

Working our way to the south, this is the cemetery roads which we know are in need of some work, and that's been on our radar screen for a while. Again, not too many surprises.

I asked the question again about Brecksville Road, and again that wasn't part of this scope, but they have it in fair condition. I asked that question, and they said they use NOACA or ODOT 2020 PCI values; so at the time, we believe these conditions are much worse than that.

Mayor Kurtz said I think it's scheduled for 2026 or 2027.

City Engineer Ramm replied yes, or 2025 or 2026, Brecksville.

Moving south, here's another one, Meadowbrook, we know that it's a private drive. We do intend to improve it and take it into an easement; but that's an obvious failed roadway there. So, that one is the same sort of category. It wasn't ours, but we don't dispute the condition.

Here too, Hemlock Road, this road is very much abandoned. It's not even there, that counted in that list; but it's not even open.

I will clean these up with Mannik & Smith.

Here's the other section of Meadowbrook out to Brecksville Road.

There are a lot of good colors going south. Again, blues and greens, the yellow being worse. Orange here at the south end of the City. Dalebrook Estates, that actually is showing up as some of the poorest condition streets in the City. If we were to target roads for resurfacing, those would be them.

Mayor Kurtz said that road is not that bad.

City Engineer Ramm said right, and each street, you can see the range from 26 to 55. I will show you some individual sheets further in the slide show that will go by section and by street because numbers could vary, and the number could be poor and be right close to being in fair condition.

Vice Mayor Grendel said, and that was done in 2001, 2002, around that time. I can remember, I was on Council and it was the first road project.

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said it was 21 or 22 years ago, so the pavement is going to be needing some surface attention.

So, this is a graphical representation starting from the failed and then moving through to the different poor and fair and satisfactory. So, these here are four or five of the streets that we talked about that are counting against us.

Vice Mayor Grendel said well we have taken care of Meadowbrook and the cemetery.

City Engineer Ramm said right, so we will be quickly moving these up. That is the goal, and then here is that second tier of streets that are shown to be in poor condition.

Councilperson Trakas said and a lot of these aren't in worse shape than Kleber Court.

Vice Mayor Grendel said if those restaurants, if they own those, they should contribute. It would be more for them to get it repaved and everything. I think it would behoove them to have a road back there too.

Mayor Kurtz said we will have to talk about that.

City Engineer Ramm said so then moving through, and the takeaway is I think you are going to see lots of greens and satisfactory condition, and then sheets and sheets of blues. So, I think it speaks well to the work we have been doing throughout the City.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked where is Wood on there? I was just curious.

City Engineer Ramm said unfortunately this system is not showing Wood.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I just wanted to use it as a comparison. It was done earlier than Dalebrook, and I think it has held up better.

City Engineer Ramm said I don't see it.

Vice Mayor Grendel said there it is, it's an 88. That road was done by, I think Independence Excavating did the job. They did Wood, Sunset and Elmwood, and it has withstood over 20 years. That had to be done in the late 1990s.

Mayor Kurtz said see what happens when you use a local contractor.

Vice Mayor Grendel said the work was extensive. Then Don, you put some of that sealant on there.

City Engineer Ramm said crack seal and mastic surface sealer.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that just shows you, some of them you can get more years out of them.

Chairman Veverka said and those were among the ones that we moved the resurfacing off of and put it on Stone because they were in good shape. That was our plan on that one.

City Engineer Ramm said so this was just wrapping up this whole, this was just reiterating that we have been doing a good job here.

This is the next steps. Again, the budget forecasting, so they go through different scenarios of annual, this is in millions, of our budget and kind of show you the outlay of what these graphs turn into when you go from 22 to 32 over a ten year period.

Vice Mayor Grendel said you know Don, it would be something to see the roads that we have done in the last 10 to 15 years or so, and who the contractors were, and then see how they stand

up. You could probably tell which contractors are better than others. Maybe we would take them into consideration for future bids if you have a road that only lasts 15 years and was done by a certain contractor as opposed to using some other companies, and their roads last 20 or 25 years and beyond.

Mayor Kurtz said the only challenge on that would be how much traffic is on each road.

City Engineer Ramm said and what the original job was. Was it a rehab? A full reconstruction? Or just a maintenance overlay? There are different qualifiers.

Vice Mayor Grendel said ours was a full construction, Wood, Sunset and Elmwood. They were a full rebuild, and Dalebrook was a full rebuild. They were only a couple of years apart, and you can see how, and we have a lot more traffic going down Elmwood, going down Wood and even Sunset because it's a cut-through than you do maybe on Dalebrook. You can see the company that did ours did a lot better job. At least it lasted longer. It would be interesting to see. Independence Excavating hasn't done a road project for us in a long time, but they did quality work.

Chairman Veverka said well, and the only other question might be are we specing out exactly the same type of asphalt each time because that could make a difference. When we go from Independence past Sprague Road, some segments of Brecksville which are in Brecksville seem to be in better shape, and did they use a different material because there was a cost difference to spec that. I don't know the answer.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I thought Brecksville did spend a little extra money to have a better quality asphalt than what we used.

Mayor Kurtz said I never heard of that.

Vice Mayor Grendel said that is what Don Elewski had said. You weren't in office at the time. It was back when Fred was in. They did something above and beyond as far as cost wise. We even mentioned it a couple of years ago. What is happening is ours is starting to have cracks and problems with it; and Brecksville's still seems to be in good shape.

City Engineer Ramm asked what year was it when it was resurfaced?

Vice Mayor Grendel said it had to be in the 2000s. I know Fred was the Mayor at that time. I don't know if you were around. It was the two years you weren't on.

Chairman Veverka said the other thing that might come into play, do they all use the same batching plant?

City Engineer Ramm said not necessarily.

Mayor Kurtz said I don't know.

City Engineer Ramm said I would like to have a small period of time when we can invite the guys from Mannik & Smith back to go over the budget scenarios and talk about finalizing the report.

Mayor Kurtz said to sum it up, our road plan is working. We are ahead of the curve. You look at the graphs from 2017 to 2022, we have made substantial progress. The few roads that are on the top of that list that failed and are in poor conditions, we are addressing those this year and next year. We will look at those private roads to see if we can find out who is responsible for them, and the County and the State will participate in various ways relative to County roads and Route 21; but our program is working.

City Engineer Ramm said very much so.

Mayor Kurtz said we get Kleber and Meadowbrook this year. We do Longano next year, and then we do our cemetery as a comprehensive plan, we will be in really good shape.

Chairman Veverka said okay, do you want to move on to Kleber?

City Engineer Ramm said if you don't mind, I will follow through the agenda, and Kleber is down on 7. I will go to Number 3 real quick.

So, this is the takeaways from the other night We passed this grant. It was on Consent legislation. We did send that legislation down just yesterday, and we expect to hear in September or October from NOACA, the results if our funding application was accepted or not. So, these were just some of the numbers that were in the legislation. There's nothing for me to really speak to unless there were any questions. It is still projected out away, 2027 for construction. We do intend to update our Five-Year plan to account for this project, and it's a viable, valid project regardless of whether we get the funding or not to update and upgrade all our controllers and our traffic signalization on Rockside Road. So, it's going to move forward, I feel it's legitimate either way. We hope to get half the cost paid for with construction with this grant.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked what does the construction consist of?

City Engineer Ramm said it's basically, I think a complete replacement of the cabinetry and everything inside. It's the brains of the signal system, and the communication that it uses to communicate.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked do they do anything to protect the inside of those boxes from all the salt?

City Engineer Ramm said nothing special.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said well we know how old stuff was built, and we know how new stuff is built.

City Engineer Ramm said I think the cabinets have gotten better, and I think weather sealed. When those doors shut, I have heard of no, I know some of those buttons get eaten up at the bases, and sometimes it happens. I don't know to answer your question, anything specific for salt protection.

A couple of follow up answers to the lifecycle of a controller, and our traffic engineer said that ODOT recommends that controllers be replaced every 10 years. It's not to say that they are over, their lifespan is over 10 years, but they like to because of the technology upgrades. So, we do have some controllers out there that have had to be replaced and upgraded. So, we do have controllers that are 20 years and some that are in the 10 to 15 year variety, and when you upgrade a controller, one of the questions the other night was could you just do one at a time to help spread the cost out. The answer is yes you could, but because the new controller is trying to speak to the old controller it's a problem with communication. They use different systems, and the best approach is to do it globally and also from a funding standpoint, NOACA wouldn't fund them on an intersection-by-intersection basis as much as they would the whole entire system. That was just to answer some of the questions from Tuesday. That's really all I wanted to say about that item.

So, the next is the update on the road maintenance contracts. Specialized Construction, the Crack Seal Program, we have a pre-construction meeting tomorrow. We intend to do some partial depth repairs on Rockside, starting the last week of May. That is about a week's worth of work. That will be at night. Then the crack seal will take place starting early in June. It's probably two weeks' worth of work in the contract; and that's throughout the City, different streets. Then the mastic surface sealer, it likes the hot, hot temperatures to help dry that material out, so that's more targeted towards July and August once school is out.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked how many roads do you have this year for the mastic seal?

City Engineer Ramm said I think with the mastic we are targeting the Lafayette subdivision specifically. Every street in that subdivision that we resurfaced a few years back.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked that's three years old right?

City Engineer Ramm said two or three, maybe even four. So, the total contract value is \$295,000.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked do you see doing that eventually on lower Brookside too, around the same time?

City Engineer Ramm said we would have to look at the pavement condition in that and what the recommendation would be there.

Mayor Kurtz said we are going to do the Lafayette project this year. How many years did it take to do that road? How many seasons did it take to actually do the construction?

City Engineer Ramm said the construction, probably two. Well, it bled into a third year because of some rear yard drainage work and some landscaping work; but I think two years.

Mayor Kurtz said two years heavy work, and then the third year was just landscaping.

City Engineer Ramm replied correct. That's my recollection.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and we were trying to coordinate because of the housing development up there, it was a small one; but it never materialized. We were trying to coordinate the construction.

Now as far as the crack seal then, Specialized does the main roads in the City.

City Engineer Ramm said that was the M.O., and we will coordinate with Ron; and if he feels like he needs some because of what he all has going, his guys, we can move into the local neighborhoods as well with Specialized. So, we are not limited. So, we will work through those details here in the next few weeks.

Vice Mayor Grendel said it seems like our staff, they are improving their quality every year as they get more experience.

City Engineer Ramm said moving on, this was the item for Ronyak that was pulled off the agenda, and I thought that we would defray the discussion until we get further down in the agenda and talking about the Fieldhouse relative to the asphalt work. So, I'm bringing it up just to defray.

Here's the 2022 Concrete Road Maintenance. This is what Catts has been up to these last couple of months. They have been working on a lot of curb and gutter in the Montello and Dalebrook and Valley Vista neighborhood, and some random curb ramp replacements that really deteriorated.

Vice Mayor Grendel said the road by Romito's.

City Engineer Ramm said yes.

Vice Mayor Grendel said also the corner of Chestnut.

City Engineer Ramm said so in a couple of months' time we have spent \$220,000 for the contract. This is a snapshot of where we are at financially, and time-wise on the contract. This is the work performed to date on the \$1,175,000, so about 63% of the budget. We had a suspension of the work in December through March, so effectively we only had about six months. We started in August and picked back up in the middle of March. So, we are doing good from a time and budget standpoint. What I am trying to represent here, we had a change order I believe in April for \$523,000; and about \$100,000 of which was designated for Montello and Dalebrook area. We have spent about \$143,000 of that \$523,000, and what I am trying to show is subtract this from there; and we have about \$380,000 of this change order that is kind of

available and that we need to discuss. So, potential work locations are shown down here. One of them is the sidewalks, 196, about \$200,000. Here is another one, the City-wide which is really just like a second-year program of the contract. So, these are the two that I just highlighted from the original bid schedule.

I think it's a good segway into the sidewalk plan. It was the next item on the agenda, the 2023 sidewalk plan. Here is a list. In this alternate for the \$196,000, these are the streets and the number of blocks that were designated that we knew of at the time when we put this out to bid, approximately 606 blocks. Then as the year went on, we got calls for additional streets for sidewalks; so we put them on the list. We didn't necessarily go out and see the number of blocks, but we average so many blocks per street when you divide the money by 33 streets here. I think to try to catch another 12 streets of sidewalks not knowing the amount of blocks, I think we could be looking at needing an additional \$72,000 to catch these additional streets on top of the bid. So, between the \$200,000 and round that up to \$100,000, I am saying that we could spend just in sidewalks, we could spend upward of \$300,000 of the available \$380,000. So, that's one thing I wanted to represent in terms of the finances or what's available and what those sidewalks would cost if there is direction to go fix them. That's really what I wanted to say about sidewalks unless there's open discussion.

Mayor Kurtz asked does anybody object to this to do more sidewalks this year? The streets are in such good shape, let's get the sidewalks done.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I agree.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked are there any additional sidewalks there on Rockside Woods North?

City Engineer Ramm replied yes. That would be next up on the list.

Vice Mayor Grendel said you bring up a good point, that should bring the quality of the sidewalks up to date.

Mayor Kurtz asked Don, what do you need from Council to get this done? Or do you just want the committee to say keep moving?

City Engineer Ramm said that's really all we need because the funding was approved by a change order.

Mayor Kurtz said well we got the funding available, you just need a consensus from the committee that this is the direction we want to take. There are four Councilpersons here right now. Does anybody object to us focusing on this in 2023?

Several people said no.

Mayor Kurtz said if it's okay.

Chairman Veverka asked do you want a motion from the committee?

Moved by Grendel, seconded by Walchanowicz, agreeing to spend the above money for the sidewalks in 2023. Voice Vote: 3 yes/0 no; motion carried.

Mayor Kurtz said Councilperson Trakas is here also.

City Engineer Ramm said great. I will tell Catts to keep moving on the sidewalks.

Mayor Kurtz said and you are going to coordinate that also with Ron so we don't overlap with the Service Department.

Chairman Veverka said the Service Department has stepped away from a lot of that because they found that it was more cost-efficient to go with the contractor. I like the fact that we tried, and we made some progress.

Mayor Kurtz said the only thing I want to do is make sure that they get a list of their own concerns from people. I want to make sure that we blend the list together so that we are comprehensive, and we are not just oh well these people called the Service Department. Let's blend them together so that the maintenance contractor knows when we do a street, we got everybody's feedback before we jump into it. Fair enough? Would you coordinate that Don?

City Engineer Ramm replied yes.

Jim Riley said they should start running that stuff together, the Tyler Program.

Mayor Kurtz said at some point, absolutely; but right now for this year, we can take the Tyler Program, the part of it that is engaged already, and then just give it to Engineering and make sure that they blend it together when your out on the street.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I think in the past years Ron said that they concentrate on the asphalt early in the summer, and then when that work is completed, I think that's when they do pour the concrete. So, maybe we will get our concrete work done first, and then if there's anything left that the City could do on their own, we could finish up the summer doing that. They can take care of that repair work.

City Engineer Ramm said our challenge is going to be every time we go out on the street to get, say on Elmerge, to do the blocks there, invariably the residents see, and they tend to say can't you get this one here, and all of a sudden 12 turns into 24. So, just to be cognizant of that, but we can try to throw contingency money into these contracts to account for those things.

Vice Mayor Grendel said, and then maybe the City Service Department can do some of the other ones.

City Engineer Ramm said so, while we are talking about sidewalks, I thought this was a positive note to update Council on that the City was successful. Jessica submitted an ARPA grant to the County for this sidewalk project that we had already bid out and authorized for funding. It's the

Rockside Woods Blvd. North, the west sidewalk from Embassy to Rockside Road. That whole cost was nearly \$300,000. The County awarded us a grant of \$186,000, and that's pretty much official. It's been approved by the County, the Board; and it's on a reimbursement basis. So, we are going to march forward with Catts to do this and get reimbursed that amount of money. I am just making a note here, plant the seed, when that money does come back, it will be I think a nice thing to dump it back into this contract by a change order. This way, we can do more work.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked when do you foresee that project starting?

City Engineer Ramm said it could start real soon. We are actually holding them up, holding Catts up because wanting to see if this grant, the 'i's got dotted and the 't's crossed on the legislation and authorization.

Vice mayor Grendel asked so, we will have a sidewalk from the new CBIZ building all the way up to Brecksville Road?

City Engineer Ramm said to Rockside. This goes from Embassy to Rockside on the west side. We did bid an alternate to put sidewalks on this side to get it all the way from the CBIZ building on the east side.

Vice Mayor Grendel said because you put some sidewalk in I noticed.

City Engineer Ramm said they were obligated to put it across their frontage, so that is in.

Vice Mayor Grendel said because I noticed that has been in.

City Engineer Ramm said so our alternate would be to pick it up from where they stopped and bring it all the way. That wasn't funded this last year, but it's in the queue.

Chairman Veverka asked is there enough space there?

City Engineer Ramm said it's a tight area.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked did we decide what width they are going to do on that?

City Engineer Ramm said these are six-foot wide sidewalks.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked now can you do six-foot on the other side too?

City Engineer Ramm said yes, that's what we bid it out for.

The next item is the Fieldhouse parking lot, and this was an item that Mr. Chairman you had added to the list. Here is a scenario of the parking lot, and you can see that it's in pretty bad shape. This aerial is old and dated. You can see that it doesn't represent the work that the school did in front of the high school, and you could see some of these. There's a lot of base fillers in this asphalt lot.

Vice Mayor Grendel said you can see the road coming in off of Selig.

City Engineer Ramm said the drive coming in is very distressed. So, when you look at costs for, we have used our unit prices for the Civic Center, and there were no bad areas of base that you had to do, the mill and fill quick project would cost you probably \$350,000 without addressing any of the base areas which wouldn't be prudent. It wouldn't be money well spent because it would fail very quickly. So, we looked at some options to do more of a rehabilitation and do some full depth work, and the project gets expensive quickly. That \$350,000 could go to \$600,000 pretty fast when they are just trying to catch all the bad areas. We looked at the base areas, and there is a lot of them. The percent of the base failure, the failed areas as a percentage of the overall area is nearly 40%. It's nearly half. So, you get to those sort of numbers, and it becomes more a candidate for a complete reconstruction, removal and replacement. It probably wasn't built to the standards that it maybe should have been or could have been; although it's been 20 years. Is that accurate?

Several people said yes.

City Engineer Ramm said at the time when we were talking about the Civic Center parking lot, and the potential to maybe package it and rebid it and get better unit prices, I talked to Director Walchanowicz and the condition of that lot is pretty good. It probably doesn't need a full-scale improvement, but for one spot that needs some immediate attention to get it up to a standard of the rest of it. So, I am just bringing it up because that was, the Ronyak change order was to do this whole lot and something at the cemetery. So, that's no longer the plan. It's a good opportunity to kind of assess, and now knowing and seeing what Mannik said, we can kind of circle the wagons and figure out a strategy, how to spend the \$425,000 that is allocated for 2023, or defray a year and package it with another, get into the millions next year. Or figure out doing some smaller work and maybe doing something at the Fieldhouse.

Mayor Kurtz asked what is the timing, if you know, if you don't do research, on the next phase of the cemetery road?

City Engineer Ramm asked the brand new?

Mayor Kurtz replied yes.

City Engineer Ramm said we have that preliminarily designed. If we worked hard on it, we could probably have something ready for bid later this year. Now we intend to do some storm sewers and have to mass grade the area. Whether or not we would be able to make the paving season this year, being that it's already the middle of May.

Mayor Kurtz asked could you put together an estimated cost for that, for that new section because we want to get that done. What it does is two things, the columbarium walls will be done in the next couple of months, but if we could put that road in, we will have now plotted enough, we will not be strapped in terms of cemetery plots then, the next phase that ties into Brecksville Road to the cul-de-sac.

City Engineer Ramm said we will focus on getting that, and you are saying then we can allocate, potentially use this funding.

Mayor Kurtz said it's up to Council, but one concept would be we would have that money available to put that road in. Then at least we would have the cemetery, and then we could upgrade the other portions of the cemetery. We would be set for the next decade.

City Engineer Ramm said that would be from a pavement and a grave standpoint.

Mayor Kurtz said right.

Chairman Veverka said that would need a total base, a total build. Is that better to do that in concrete than asphalt? The new road segment that goes around.

City Engineer Ramm said well, we could look at both.

Mayor Kurtz said well, look at both and see which pricing is better.

Chairman Veverka said because what I thought I understood was the other streets in the cemetery, there are some concerns about the base for those. So, it probably makes more sense, if we are going to do this from scratch, to do concrete for that other section.

Mayor Kurtz said the pricing has been pretty competitive, so if it's competitive, then we put concrete in.

City Engineer Ramm said the road that is there is concrete.

Mayor Kurtz said so it ties concrete into concrete.

Chairman Veverka said, and that road won't get the use of any typical road anyways, so that should last very long.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked will the schools be liable for any of the funding for the Fieldhouse parking lot?

Mayor Kurtz said very good question Councilperson. Actually, it's their responsibility. I am under the impression that it's their responsibility, and they don't have adequate funding to upgrade it how it should. So, we have to sit with them, but first we have to come up with a cost, so we know what we are doing. Then we can sit with the school and find out what their intentions are to fix that up; and then we can determine what role we are going to play. I think those are the steps we should take Don, get the cost, get some various options and then lock that cost down. Meanwhile, we will go to the school and confirm that they are responsible for that technically based on the contract, and then we can determine how we would craft a strategy to solve their problem but also make sure that everybody understands that this is a support mechanism, we aren't just going to do it. There has to be some balance to all of that.

Chairman Veverka said well the work that was done in front of the Fieldhouse, that was the City's responsibility. That's what I understand, that there; but the parking lot is the school's.

Mayor Kurtz said the cul-de-sac.

Chairman Veverka said and then we reworked it and made it that much better for the drop-off and everything else.

City Engineer Ramm said this area, the turnaround.

Chairman Veverka said yes.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said theoretically that's the road.

Mayor Kurtz said that was our responsibility. The parking lot and the road is their responsibility. So, let's get the information. Once we know the numbers, we can talk to them and find out what their strategy is, how they intend to solve the problem. Then you have to reallocate some funds.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked is that a joint effort, we would assist them?

Mayor Kurtz said they are responsible for it, but I have to really sit with them and talk with them. So, we will try to see if we can understand what the status is, and then we can bring it back to Council and say here's facts and how do you want to proceed.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I would be willing to put forth some funding towards it. I wouldn't be open to paying for the whole thing.

Vice Mayor Grendel said the Fieldhouse and all the soccer matches and things, it's busy.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said I just think we need to at least have this issue on the table so that we are addressing it rather than just waiting for them to address it. As it reflects, it's on us.

Chairman Veverka asked what about the road off of Selig that takes you up to the Fieldhouse?

Mayor Kurtz said that needs repaired.

Chairman Veverka said that's what I'm saying is does it make sense to deal with that and maybe look at that particular piece and deal with that because that is more of us. Would that make sense? How much of the base is bad on that roadway would you say?

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said it's pretty bad. This is an old aerial.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I was just there Monday, it's terribly bad.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked how about the road on the other side that leads behind the football field?

Councilperson Walchanowicz said that road looks great.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I don't usually use it.

City Engineer Ramm said it's got a lot of crack sealant.

Mayor Kurtz said let's get some answers, and we will bring them back to Council.

Chairman Veverka said even separating that out, looking at that might be an idea too.

Vice Mayor Grendel said, even Mayor if we could invite a School Board representative to come to one of our meetings here to discuss it.

Mayor Kurtz said okay we will work on that.

City Engineer Ramm said okay, Kleber update. So, we had a second resident meeting on April 10th, and we shared a lot of good information. The May to September is the general schedule that we are still on track for. We also adopted an ordinance the other night to appropriate some right-of-way at the east end of the project. I do believe we are securing a right-of-entry amicably with the property owner which will allow us immediate access to that property while they negotiate. It doesn't hold us up, and I don't believe they were ever opposed to our use of the property.

Chairman Veverka said they just didn't like the number.

City Engineer Ramm said correct. So, I think it's good news.

Vice Mayor Grendel said you had mentioned like we did on Oakwood.

City Engineer Ramm asked as far as the cul-de-sac?

Vice Mayor Grendel said right. So, it's not going to be extraordinarily large.

City Engineer Ramm said it's what we feel is the minimum that we need to make it legitimate.

Chairman Veverka said you said like 70 feet.

City Engineer Ramm said 72 feet.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said they are going from nothing to over 70 feet.

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said, so work is set to begin this month. We do believe with some tree removals and some gas service relocations, and then start hard in early June.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked and the streetlights as far as what you talked about?

City Engineer Ramm said I will just resurrect that. This was the slide that we feel like the fiberglass might be the best approach and the best option, just reminding Council that the alternate bid for the decorative lights were very expensive. The fiberglass lights, we feel this is a heavy number, we think it will be much less than that, but it's less than half.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked what do they look like?

City Engineer Ramm said they are right here. We sort of did a photoshop. That's what we had in the neighborhoods.

Mayor Kurtz said the only thing is they have to tell us if they want them because they will be closer to the houses.

Chairman Veverka said it's on the south side. Is it outside of the sidewalk Don?

City Engineer Ramm said yes. It's right behind the sidewalk, but still within the right-of-way.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and that would be in line with what we have on Brecksville Road, the design?

Mayor Kurtz said no.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I mean as far as the design, not the light.

City Engineer Ramm said a similar look to what we have in the City.

Mayor Kurtz said similar to what we have in other parts of the City.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Chairman Veverka said the lights there Don, from the telephone poles, and the conversation was whether to add one additional light or look at the decorative.

Vice Mayor Grendel said we would be looking at it for Longano too.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked is it going to be a concrete road or are we doing it in asphalt?

City Engineer Ramm said concrete. So, the photoshop is trying to show you what it's going to look like, concrete and concrete sidewalks on the south side only.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said you can't put sidewalks in Claudia's side yard there.

City Engineer Ramm said so now would be the time to coordinate this work with First Energy, especially since this project is ramping up. We don't want to perform work, and then have to do re-work because we didn't think of something.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked so where are we going from current width to finished width?

City Engineer Ramm said so, this width I think is 23 feet from back-of-curb to back-of-curb, which our minimum for residential is 26. So, this is 26.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said so, we are adding three feet.

City Engineer Ramm said I do believe we are pushing for the most part that three feet is being pushed on the north side because of and in respect of the sidewalks' impact. We are trying to balance the impacts on both residents.

Chairman Veverka asked by pushing the road north, is there a problem with the grade for the driveways?

City Engineer Ramm said it's all been worked out. It's all been designed and engineered. We don't feel that there are any challenges that we can't make work.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked would it be proper to make a motion as far as the fiberglass lighting option and to approve the plan?

Mayor Kurtz said we will have to have Council approve that.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I will make that motion.

Mayor Kurtz said if I know that I have four votes for this, then we can at least keep moving.

Vice Mayor Grendel said at least give the residents the option.

Mayor Kurtz said that's what we want to do.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I know a couple were for it.

Councilperson Trakas asked fiberglass lighting, what is that?

City Engineer Ramm said it's on the slide. It's what we have on Dora.

Councilperson Trakas asked, and what are the other ones, just the wood?

Several people began speaking at once again.

Councilperson Trakas asked do we have any other fiberglass lights?

Mayor Kurtz said the only other ones we have are on Route 21, the black ornamental.

Councilperson Trakas asked how long does that last for, the fiberglass?

City Engineer Ramm said they last a long time.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said First Energy does maintain them. They are responsible for them.

Vice Mayor Grendel said by Dora and Elmarge, those are fiberglass, and that's been a long time.

Mayor Kurtz said the people appreciate them. They look good. They are also protection for the neighborhood.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I don't see a negative too, as long as the residents would want them.

Mayor Kurtz said you have to approve them before we go out and have the residents approve them.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Chairman Veverka said but the only question, remember your setback is bigger than some of those houses. That's my point you will be able to read your newspaper at a couple of houses possibly.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I think the lighting would make it safer.

City Engineer Ramm said just being mindful that the \$60,000 was an estimate. The actual cost, this is going to be designed by First Energy, and their costs, and when we receive their work up, but we feel that's a high number and it will be under that.

Moved by Grendel, seconded by Walchanowicz, to recommend the fiberglass lighting on Kleber Court if the residents would agree to it. Voice Vote: 3 yes/0 no; motion carried.

Mayor Kurtz said let the record reflect that Councilperson Trakas also supports it. Thanks Jim. The residents will make that decision.

City Engineer Ramm said the Longano Drive update. You know we had hired both engineers at the same time for Kleber and Longano. They were different engineering firms, but our goal at

the time was to think that we could have these on the same track and design them together and eventually bid them together, and for a variety of reasons that I am going to speak to, this project has gotten a little bit delayed.

So, we hired Osborn late last fall. We were contending with a number of different moving parts and dynamics that have prevented us from really pinning down some things that we need to pin down before we finalize a design and go out to bid, and I will speak to those things. In summary, the Cornerstone of Hope has been talking about an expansion for some time for additional parking. So, we have some challenges to coordinate with that in terms of a new curb cut and access point to Longano.

The Brecksville Road project, we talk about some widening, and so of course that intersection, having some challenge of pinning that project down as it might be being moved and shifted.

We talked about a boulevard entrance for some past years, and we have been pursuing some preliminary design work there, and then some rear yard drainage easements. So, we intend to share a lot of that information with the residents, but I am sharing with you here.

These were some concepts that when we heard a while back when we were talking about some parking lot expansions at Longano, this property wasn't owned by them at that time, but they have since secured that parcel. It makes for some partnership and cooperation, and we can really do a nice job.

Mayor Kurtz said they are going to have to give us some right-of-way, correct, and show them some relief in terms of, and then adding two lanes there. The right turn lanes, a continuous lane and a left turn lane.

Councilperson Trakas asked how many people live on Longano?

City Engineer Ramm said 25 homes maybe.

Councilperson Trakas asked why do they need a boulevard? Has it been a problem for us?

Mayor Kurtz said a boulevard is just aesthetics as much as anything, recognizing it's a residential street. We would maintain the character of a residential street and give some identification, similar like Dalebrook. We just wanted to give them a presence that Longano Drive is important.

Chairman Veverka said I believe we have a couple Longano residents here. Does anybody wish to comment while we are on the topic?

One of the Longano residents said if that sign is one of the things that's holding it up from this year.

Mayor Kurtz said no, let's be clear about something. It's not going to get done this year. So, let's be clear. I told you personally. I sent you a correspondence. The fact of the matter is I have been consistent. We are going to do this right. This isn't something we want to do piecemeal. We

have to make sure, we have a water line situation which we are right now trying to engineer so that we can keep that water line active while we put a new one in. We have to keep a separation between, we have to tear up the one lane, put the new one in. We have that situation. We have to get easements to make sure because there are some rear yard drainage issues; and it's not something we are going to rush through. I think we talked about, Don said in the next couple of months we will have enough information to meet with all the residents like we did on Kleber, and then you could tell us the additional issues that you have brought to our attention like some of the drainage that traverses across some of the aprons and some of the water problems coming down the hill. We know there are some water issues around the back, and trying to get an easement to discharge the water. We know there is a problem with some of the properties between Cornerstone and the properties on the west side.

It's an exciting project, and it's a tremendous opportunity, long overdue; but my thought was that we had success with meeting with the residents on Kleber, it's a much shorter project, less complicated. They are receptive to how we are going to cut one lane and make it move back and forth with one lane and traffic management which is critical. This is a little more challenging because you can't see everything. The road goes down and makes a turn, so we have to have some provisions to make sure that the residents for safety and in the way we do the project. It's just complicated because the utilities. If the sanitary or storm sewer has to be replaced?

City Engineer Ramm said the one storm sewer is going to be upgraded on the south side of the street, the segment that runs east and west.

Mayor Kurtz said so we have the east/west side has to be upgraded. My thought was we were going to take all the information we have, we are going to bring it to you, just like we did with the other residential projects. You can then share with us the different nuances or issues that you have so we make sure the elevations are right, make sure there's enough drainage in your yards, make sure everything is going to be done the way you want it. You want different configurations of the sidewalk and different configurations of the cul-de-sac that we will be sharing with you.

There's just a lot of things that go into the master planning for these projects. So, we haven't forgotten, we just want to make sure we do it right; and so expect the first meeting in the next couple of months.

A resident asked before summer's over?

Mayor Kurtz said yes because as soon as we have something, we need to get to you because we have heard some of the issues, the water coming down the road and going across the driveways and settling in because of some of the elevation and negative grades. We want to make sure we do it right. We are doing it right so we might as well lay it out and do it right for you, and if there are issues you want to get done while we are doing this, let's see how we can accommodate as many as possible. I think it's going to be a great upgrade when it's done.

Mr. Jim DeMarco said I can live with what you are saying. You know Greg, next year, next year.

Mayor Kurtz said Jim, I am telling you that we have committed, Council has committed to get this project done. As a matter of fact, Don if we can start some of the utilities over the winter.

Mr. DeMarco said in my opinion because I don't understand any of that drainage stuff, if I can see something that's getting done, then I know it's gong to get done.

Mayor Kurtz asked what's your address?

Mr. DeMarco replied 5915 Longano.

Mayor Kurtz asked can we send a backhoe down there?

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said believe me, you have been so respectful and understanding, if I fail you on this one, I quit. Fair enough?

Mr. Jones said a couple of things. One, the sign looks like it's for a shopping area. Two, are we going to get cement because it's almost the same price as asphalt?

Mayor Kurtz asked do you want cement?

Mr. Jones said I'm not paying for it though.

Mayor Kurtz said you just put the ball back in the City's hands. How much are you paying for this?

Several people began speaking at once again.

A resident said at the top of the street I thought there were protected wetlands. There were flags up there last year.

Mayor Kurtz said if they were, it was deciding who, they bought that corner lot; and I am glad they did because for somebody to try and put a house on there would have been absolutely ridiculous. For them to buy that, so we need some right-of-way. They need an access point, so let's work together to get that done.

Vice Mayor Grendel said Mayor and Mark Tripodi committed at the Planning Commission that he would work with the City for a donation of the land.

Mayor Kurtz said that's good. In terms of the sign, you will help us decide on that because there's nothing etched in stone right now.

A resident said there's still flags there now.

Mayor Kurtz said we will do something nice, something classy for that area. I want to make sure people recognize that it's still a residential street, not being dismissed as it's just another street. Do you know what I mean? So, we are trying to put all that together to do it right, understanding some of the engineering issues have been a challenge, but until we figure out as we are, we don't want to do the water line now. We want to keep the water line open rather than like when we were on Lafayette and had to shut it down. You saw that line sticking about the ground. It took two and a half years for that project by the way. This project, our goal is to get everything done in one contract and get the underground going and get that done in one season and finish up the landscaping next fall. That is our goal.

Chairman Veverka asked Don, does the water main have to go in the same spot?

City Engineer Ramm said no, we would prefer it to go in a different spot so that it can be maintained live, and you don't need the bypass.

Chairman Veverka said then you don't have to do what you had to do on Brookside where you had to have that extra pipe down the side and attached to everybody's house because that took Brookside and stretched it way out.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said we are trying to avoid having to do that, and we think that we can stay within the parameters of Cleveland Water and can stay within one lane and do the water line and leave the other one active, so we aren't having to do that temporary stuff and it just becomes chaotic for the residents. Then when we are transferred over, boom everything will be all connected, and then we just plug it in, plug and play rather than having to tear it all apart and put it back together three or four times. So, that's the goal, and we think we have come up with an engineering solution to do that.

A resident asked are you going to do the water line on the whole street?

Mayor Kurtz answered the whole street.

Chairman Veverka said because that's tired water line, and it doesn't make sense not to do the water main, do the storm sewer, do the drainage issues, do everything at once.

Mayor Kurtz said do everything at once, and then we find out individual issues that people have, drainage, the grades, their yard drainage, the wet parts of their property. When we have our first meeting, that's when we start extracting information from you that we haven't already been made aware of. We have been made aware of a lot of information already.

Chairman Veverka asked and Don do we still need to acquire a little space on that curve, that was a conversation.

City Engineer Ramm said we are looking into that, utility poles and things; so we are already widening the pavement from 23 feet to 26 feet. So, that's going to help tighten that 90 degree curve. We are maximizing it with the space that we have for sure.

Chairman Veverka said right, so that's another piece that comes into play here it's not just going on exactly the same course as we did before, but the arc of the curve may be a little different so that it would make it better for plowing.

Mayor Kurtz said plow trucks coming around, cars coming around.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said three feet is huge when it comes to safety.

Councilperson Trakas asked, and Don, is the intent here with this boulevard to start getting traffic for Cornerstone to go off of Longano instead of Brecksville?

City Engineer Ramm said so in their master plan, and when they thought about looking at safety. In their parking lot expansion, they felt from a safety standpoint that it would be best to allow people in but force them out at the traffic light because it's a controlled, safe green light scenario versus, I think it had some challenges and accidents with motorists coming out just north of the light that's there. That made this, hence why they represented a specific left and right turn lane coming out of Longano because of their peak events where there's a lot of activity and people coming out, and so as not to impact residents trying to also come out at the same time; we felt like one lane, a left and right lane coming out would be most efficient to evacuate the traffic. Then we kind of married it up with the boulevard and started to plan holistically what that would all look like, and so they recognized their impact, and they being Cornerstone has agreed to give us some space, an additional ten feet at a minimum that they are going to give us in a road dedication. That with this preliminary drawing to accommodate all the extra space that is needed for what we want to accomplish there with the lanes and boulevard. So, we do have some plans, they are about halfway done, and they are still preliminary; but we are making good progress. They are real engineered drawings.

Mr. DeMarco asked is Cornerstone then, their drive, is going to come out next to the house that they moved?

Mayor Kurtz replied yes.

Mr. DeMarco said okay, so then people will be able to get out either on Brecksville Road or there will be an entrance or whatever you want to call it next to house that they moved, and they will come out on Longano.

Mayor Kurtz replied yes.

City Engineer Ramm replied right.

Mr. Bodnar asked where are the headlights coming out?

Mayor Kurtz said in that lot, where there are two houses. That's where they will come out; so it won't be right in somebody's house. You see that extra area in between there, between those two lots right there. So, it's not going to be hitting somebody's house.

Chairman Veverka asked can I ask the residents that are here to identify themselves for the Clerk that has to try to attribute some voices to who had some things to say? Would you identify yourselves with your addresses please?

Jim DeMarco of 5915 Longano Drive, Dave Jones of 5905 Longano Drive, and John Bodnar of 7403 Longano Drive identified themselves.

Chairman Veverka said and one other question, one of you, I don't remember who, you were mentioning about a sign like you had before. Just a little feedback on that one. Is that your concern that calling attention might be a negative thing? I am just curious.

One of the residents said the other one was gawdy.

Mayor Kurtz asked the concept you mean?

The resident said yes.

Mayor Kurtz said you will weigh in on that, that's not it. It will be nice.

Mr. Bodnar said I have lived on the street forever there, originally at the bottom of the hill as you are coming down it was the same as at the end of the street. There was an island in there with trees; and then it went around in front of the house.

Mayor Kurtz said the original street was similar to Kleber where it stopped, made a cul-de-sac, that was the street. Then when DiGeronimo sold their property, they were able to develop it. I think Sam may have been the one responsible for it.

Mr. Bodnar said originally there was an island down at the bottom of the hill.

Mayor Kurtz said it was a straight street, and then they extended it. They went further north.

Mr. Bodnar said then when they went further north, that's when they took out the island.

Mayor Kurtz said right, but we are going to soften that turn, get the three feet to make sure that it's just safer for everybody to make that turn.

Vice Mayor Grendel said a cul-de-sac then at the north end there, that's pretty wide.

City Engineer Ramm said we will take out the donut and the tree because it needs to all be pavement.

Chairman Veverka said right because I have had a number of people Don, at that end that were unhappy with how it was maintained, and it's not big enough either. Plus, with something in the middle, it makes it even more complicated.

Vice Mayor Grendel said so these things are just all concrete, and Don when do you anticipate?

Councilperson Walchanowicz said all concrete except for Mr. Jones' front yard, his is asphalt.

Several people started speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said ideally we would like to get it out to bid towards the end of the year so that we can award a bid over the winter, and get going. It would be one long season.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said you can knock that out in one season.

City Engineer Ramm said so, we have a good start on some of the engineering work. You can see we spent some time at the intersection here. This is what we were looking at. This kind of represents how those turnouts are going to be set back at least a couple of feet from the curb line that we think is going to be adjusted.

Mr. DeMarco asked so then there will be an island at the top of our street?

City Engineer Ramm said well, this is the boulevard that we are trying to represent, the island boulevard and then the dual turn lanes, one left and one right.

Mayor Kurtz said I think it will soften it and make it look good.

City Engineer Ramm said so, giving you an idea, and so this we talked about rear yard drainage at the north end of the cul-de-sac in the back. So, here's Cornerstone's detention basin is up here, and it's a hard slope coming down to these backyards. It's all very wet because it's a low area, and the water tries to drain out this way towards the ravine; and we are proposing to extend the sewer in the backyards and catch that water, making a nice drainage improvement. Hence, we have to secure some easements from the residents who we think will be happy to accommodate the work.

Vice Mayor Grendel said so that will be part of the original bid. That won't be an alternate.

City Engineer Ramm said we will put this in the bid. We have yet to meet with the residents, but we have to do that and talk through it with them and help them understand what we want to do. I think they will be happy to hear it.

Vice Mayor Grendel said the residential meeting with the Kleber folks really went very well.

City Engineer Ramm said our main storm sewer comes through an easement now and outlets to the ravine, and we have a lot of work to do because there is some significant erosion, and the

headwall that used to be there is gone. We are going to pick it up here, and extend this west and run back. So, this will all be new easement, new pipe work.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked how many yards do you have to pick up, just the two?

City Engineer Ramm replied yes, pretty much these two, but this property (inaudible). They have a significant easement already right behind their house. Look how close it is to the corner of their house right there. It's a pretty big pipe, 24 to 30 inches.

Chairman Veverka said and the other plus is the possibility of arranging with the center for some of the parking. I know we had to send the Kleber people across to AAA. There's a potential there to help them out.

Mayor Kurtz said there will be some timeframes where, I am not sure whether we will have to use the parking lot, the campus. With this it might be a little different, and so we have to accommodate. We would have to park in the neighbor's yard or something like that to work with each other because of the paving process; and then we flip it over and do the opposite, and then we come back in when the paving's done, and then we start cleaning everything up and working our way out. Then we come back and landscape.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I know John would charge for neighbors, \$5.00 a night.

Several people began speaking at once again?

Mayor Kurtz said we will let them work it out. Anything else Don?

City Engineer Ramm said that's all I had for this. So, we are going to try to pin a lot of these moving parts down and finalize the design and make some good decisions.

Mayor Kurtz said so later this summer we have to have our first meeting. Whenever you are ready and have enough visual aids to show each property owner, and we will get that first meeting with them.

City Engineer Ramm said okay. Sounds good.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked will there be somebody from Osborn there?

City Engineer Ramm said yes, we can have somebody.

Vice Mayor Grendel said so, they will know firsthand.

Chairman Veverka said hopefully that helps so that it kind of clarifies.

Mr. DeMarco said then in my mind that's progress.

Chairman Veverka said we thought you just liked those stakes.

Mr. Bodnar said speaking of stakes, can they come out?

Mayor Kurtz replied no.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mr. DeMarco asked so, those stakes can come out or not?

Mayor Kurtz replied no.

Mr. DeMarco said my landscaper took mine.

Chairman Veverka said talk to your landscaper.

City Engineer Ramm said I will confirm that.

Several people began speaking at once again.

A resident asked does anybody know what the green flags are for?

City Engineer Ramm said it might be sewer connections, storm or sanitary, underground, marking the location underground. We televise and that probably was what that was, or clean out locations.

Mayor Kurtz said okay, now you heard it here first.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Chairman Veverka said okay, we move on.

City Engineer Ramm said Meadowbrook, Council authorized \$227,000 last July to replace this pavement. It was pretty much pulling out the asphalt and putting in nice new concrete, seven inches thick and meeting our residential minimum for thickness. The target construction, we want to do that in July and August of this year when it's going to be nice and hot. We think it's the most opportune time. That bridge is about done. I think it is done. We still have a stockpile of soil back here because of the temporary gravel drive, but that's going to be on Catts on their way out to knock that pile back down, regrade it.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked they weren't going to go back to using that when they were doing the road?

City Engineer Ramm said that's why they left it.

There have been some ongoing discussions with the property owner. We did have an idea, our desire was to build a cul-de-sac while we are here, spending over \$200,000. We want to make a

nice glorified turnaround, something that we can get garbage trucks and fire trucks turned around. So, this was a preliminary plan that we had shared with Mr. Hovater, the owner of both this parcel and the other parcel. There have been some ongoing discussion, different ideas, things that may impact the design and impact the budget. So, it kind of got us a little bit in a holding pattern.

Mayor Kurtz said the rest of the people keep calling us about when is it going to be paved. So, we are between a bit of a rock and hard place. We appropriated the money. Everybody on that street understood the design when we bought into it. Everybody said that they agreed with it. All we want to do is make sure we are on track. Council has authorized the money, and we have enough money to do it the way it was configured.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked did he have a change of heart?

City Engineer Ramm said no, just a couple of nuances, some things, trying to bring these up to standard.

Several people began speaking at once again.

The residents from Longano left the meeting.

Chairman Veverka asked what's the pavement width going into there now going to be?

City Engineer Ramm said I believe 14 feet is going to be the standard, and that varies from, it could be, it's pretty narrow here, it's not even 12 feet through here. Then it gets wider than the 14 feet.

Chairman Veverka said I'm not looking at your wider. Is that going to widen where the curve is?

City Engineer Ramm said not necessarily where the curve is, but at the end.

Chairman Veverka said I know where the cul-de-sac, I'm just looking at where the tracks are, and where they are off the edge.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said that corner right there.

City Engineer Ramm said Mark George.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I was back there the other day to go over by Patacca, and the way that shrubbery is right there, you can't even see when you are making the turn.

City Engineer Ramm said right, it's tight up against the pavement. So, we are still working on it.

Mayor Kurtz said we are going to keep going. We want to get this project paved. At this late hour, we can't reinvent the wheel.

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said everything went nice with the bridge job, and we wanted to come in behind it and get this knocked out.

Mayor Kurtz said we want them to consider (inaudible), or consider the fact that we stopped the project. They want to get in and get done and get out. So, we are going to stay the course. Hopefully, everybody is happy.

City Engineer Ramm said so we will keep having discussions with Mr. Hovater.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked will it be done before Home Days or probably after Home Days?

City Engineer Ramm said we would love to do it. When is Home Days, the first week of August. I don't know.

Vice Mayor Grendel said there will be things going on in the park as far as them working.

City Engineer Ramm said we will see what we can do.

The last one is McDonald's drive and Pleasant Valley. I don't have much to say other than this was adopted last year, and it was DLZ that did some design work. They did all the survey work, it's been completed for both sites.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked, they did their work now as far as their internal?

Councilperson Trakas asked what is the Pleasant Valley turn lane?

City Engineer Ramm said so, that was westbound Pleasant Valley at 21.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said with all the traffic coming up the road, one car sits there, and you can't turn left.

City Engineer Ramm said one wants to kind of keep going west to I-77.

Mayor Kurtz said one car wants to keep going straight to get onto I-77 north, they usually get to the curb lane, and they sit there. You can back five cars up in the lane, and you can back cars up in the turn lane. We are looking at adding a lane like we did on 21.

City Engineer Ramm said it becomes a dedicated right turn.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Chairman Veverka said you are talking about under I-77.

Vice Mayor Grendel said under the bridge.

City Engineer Ramm said just west of it. So, we are working on this. I think DLZ has some preliminary layouts. I just haven't had time to look at the plans and review it and give them some feedback. So, it's kind of stuck on my desk for right now. They have done their job with the work they have done so far, and I thought it could be discussed and show their work from it at an upcoming meeting.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said on Pleasant Valley, remember what we talked about removing the curb for the I-77 south.

Several people began speaking at once.

Councilperson Walchanowicz asked are we still going through with that?

City Engineer Ramm said we have an alternate bid, I don't remember what the cost was; but that was to remove the island and raise the median probably three to five more car lengths for this left turn storage. That's still within our bailiwick to do is authorize the funding. Maybe when we get that reimbursement from the County and kick it in and authorize that.

So, any other matters?

Chairman Veverka asked how much property do we need to have for that right turn Pleasant Valley because that house is very close?

City Engineer Ramm said I would have to look at the drawings and see if that was part of their scope of work to show the impact.

Chairman Veverka said there's a whole lot of utilities there.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Chairman Veverka said I guess I'm curious during the Obama time is when they redid that intersection. I wonder why they wouldn't have included something like that at the time.

City Engineer Ramm said that project included those right turn lanes for Brecksville Road, northbound and southbound.

Chairman Veverka replied correct.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said you know, in my opinion, if this is something we are going to do, doing that project while they are reconstructing those bridges and that road is not going to have half of the traffic on it would probably be a good time to do that.

City Engineer Ramm asked what's that?

Councilperson Walchanowicz said the right turn lane, when they are going to be widening those bridges.

Mayor Kurtz said well, we will see. I would like to see their report and see what they say we have to do.

Chairman Veverka asked and there's no ability to do any shifting there to avoid the lane, if there's enough room in that intersection to shift the traffic over to the turn lane without?

City Engineer Ramm said it's pretty tight.

Chairman Veverka said I figured it might be difficult, but I figured I would ask the question.

Mayor Kurtz said especially with the number of people we have working on Pleasant Valley, you want to make sure we are keeping them happy too.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said all we are trying to do is create a vision that supports some of the things we have heard from people, from our customers; and that customer base is huge.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said you know we are spending the money on Rockside to get people on and off of Rockside as quickly as possible, and we have to look the same way on Pleasant Valley.

Vice Mayor Grendel said so that ordinance that we removed from the agenda, we are going to approve it at the workshop in a couple of weeks as far as Ronyak. Is that how we left it?

City Engineer Ramm said it's a little bit open-ended.

Vice Mayor Grendel said because we haven't decided as far as the money goes.

City Engineer Ramm said if we want to reserve it for the cemetery road that we bid out this year.

Vice Mayor Grendel said or what we are going to do with the Fieldhouse.

City Engineer Ramm said it seems like it's a little bit open-ended right now.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I don't foresee the Fieldhouse being done.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked when would we have to approve that to get it on this contract?

City Engineer Ramm said there's no rush I believe, it's just I just wanted to make sure that the City would have a mechanism.

Vice Mayor Grendel said the pricing stays the same.

City Engineer Ramm said this contract expires in August.

Vice Mayor Grendel said so, then we have plenty of time. So, we don't have to address that.

City Engineer Ramm said unless you wanted to go do something.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked are there any other roads?

Mayor Kurtz said well, we are going to look at a few things. We are going to look at our contract relative to Patriot's Way, that section, who is responsible and what obligation do they have.

Vice Mayor Grendel said if we could do something for that.

Mayor Kurtz said then make them go in and fix it. We are going to look at our contract for the Cavalier Way. If that's our road, then there is some work that needs to be done on that road, that concrete road that goes into the Cavs' facility. That is ours.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said I was back there the other day, and it does need some tender loving care. The joints are all spalled. We have to find out who is responsible for that road.

City Engineer Ramm said there was an agreement similar to the Fieldhouse for the Cavs' facility.

Mayor Kurtz said if we own it, I don't recall the nuances of who is responsible for maintaining that road. Greg O'Brien will get the contract out. You call him, or I will call him. We will see because if not, if we are responsible, then we should maybe put some maintenance dollars in that road because they are a very large taxpayer.

Chairman Veverka said timing out the Pleasant Valley/Midland light. It's substantially long. I had an 80-plus-year-old lady call and said I get so tired of sitting there that I look and take off. That's similar to what I heard about, this is northbound, and I heard some discussion related to people coming out southbound out of Independence Estates, and it seemed like it was okay for a while, and we also shut off the walk lights for a while. So, hopefully we are getting that up to walkability and timing.

City Engineer Ramm asked for the weekend?

Chairman Veverka said for all the time.

City Engineer Ramm said we took it off the flash, and now it operates all week from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Chairman Veverka said, and the other piece would be of course would be how fast we can manage to trigger it to get people out of there. There's a whole lot of houses on the north end, and there's a whole lot of people cutting through. Well, you know, you are from that part.

City Engineer Ramm asked was there a specific time of day? Was it a week day? A weekend? What time of day? Do you happen to know?

Chairman Veverka said she did not tell me.

City Engineer Ramm said during the peak rush hours, it's set for a maximum time for Pleasant Valley which is where all the traffic is.

Chairman Veverka asked and rush hour is up until when? I know myself, we sat there for a couple of minutes waiting to pull through. If we have to go Pleasant Valley, we are starting to go Parkland to avoid Brookside's timing because we are sitting on Brookside when alleged rush hour is, and there's nobody there. You are still waiting 90 seconds, and then you go to Pleasant Valley and waiting there.

City Engineer Ramm said they are definitely prioritized for the main routes, so the side streets tend to get snubbed a little bit, but we will look at the times when it comes in and out of peak because they can cheat it down, especially if the peaks aren't as long as they used to be.

Chairman Veverka said because some people, their impatience can be a problem, and that's the biggest concern.

The other thing would be about the timing.

Anybody else have anything else? Dave? Chris? Mr. Mayor?

Vice Mayor Grendel said it would be nice maybe to schedule another meeting maybe towards the end of June just to keep on target.

Chairman Veverka said I would agree with that.

Mayor Kurtz asked the legislation, we are going to pass it on May 23rd?

Councilperson Walchanowicz said Tom won't be here.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked which one?

Mayor Kurtz said for the road maintenance, the one we just pulled off the agenda.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I asked Don.

Councilperson Trakas said we should be able to get it done.

City Engineer Ramm said the only question I would have is the funding, it was over \$700,000 comprised of \$425,000 and \$350,000 for the Civic Center.

Several people began speaking at once again.

City Engineer Ramm said at a minimum \$425,000 then.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said we could always amend it later if we need a little bit more for something.

Mayor Kurtz said so we agree that we are going to pass this on May 23rd.

City Engineer Ramm said for \$425,000 at least.

Chairman Veverka said, and the last question was related to the County and those bridges. I thought there was conversation that the County was going to do the Pleasant Valley bridges last year, or this year. When is it on? Do we have a clue?

Mayor Kurtz said they had a company go in, and they are doing their research right now on the bridges, and I think it's next year or in two years. So, they are going to shut it down.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said well, they cleared the trees on the one side.

City Engineer Ramm said, and they did a lot of utility relocation, Valley View.

Mayor Kurtz said they are getting everything ready.

Chairman Veverka asked so more like next year?

Mayor Kurtz said I would say.

Chairman Veverka said there's nothing to deal with this year, that's the main thing.

Vice Mayor Grendel said remember years ago we approved lighting for the Valley View bridge. Dr. Asseff used to complain about that. Is that, are they going to do that?

Several people began speaking at once again.

Vice Mayor Grendel said we agreed to pay so much, right Don?

Councilperson Trakas said it was a County road.

Vice Mayor Grendel said Don, we approved years ago the lighting project in Valley View it was on Rockside Road. I remember Dr. Asseff used to complain what are we paying for things for development in Valley View. So, is that still?

City Engineer Ramm said it's still a project, but the County, initially that was the priority, the Rockside bridges instead of Pleasant Valley. So, that's why those were advanced. It will be after the Pleasant Valley bridges.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I think it has probably gone up.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Chairman Veverka said I will entertain a motion.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I have one last question. The project with the Army Corps of Engineering, we had the grant, is that going to go through or no?

Mayor Kurtz said we had a meeting. They came back and discussed. There is a disconnect between the Army Corps and FEMA. As a result, they need to have additional bypass through Stone Road which means some underground tunnels underneath to get the water moved faster north of Stone Road. So, I think they were going to meet with the Mayor of Valley View and discuss that with him; and once they got done with that, then we know if it's going to be a viable project or not.

Several people began speaking at once again.

Mayor Kurtz said well they were against it because it was going to impact the residents. According to, at least in our discussion, this modification would actually improve the situation for the people on that area, the residential people, south of Stone Road because it keeps the water out of that area faster because the only place for that water to dam right now is the Stone Road bridge. It comes in and runs backwards. So, they were going to talk, and if I misspeak correct me, to the Mayor of Valley View and see what they are interested in, what they want to do. Then they are going to come back to us and tell us what their strategy is.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked didn't we have that with Congressman Joyce was there.

Councilperson Trakas said it was a big to-do.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said you should see how many people raised their homes over there on Charles.

Mayor Kurtz said before this last wrinkle, it was all done, moving forward; and then all of a sudden FEMA and the Army Corps calculated things differently, and in order to get some understanding, they talked about getting that water moved more to Stone Road; and if that's the case, they had to talk to Valley View first. I think they were going to meet with Valley View.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked how much money, that was a waste of money.

Chairman Veverka said I'm looking for a motion again.

Moved by Grendel, seconded by Walchanowicz, to adjourn the Streets & Sidewalks meeting of May 11, 2023. Voice Vote: 3 yes/0 no; motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Debra J. Beal, Clerk of Council
Minutes Unapproved at Time of Release 05/15/23