

**CITY OF INDEPENDENCE
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
DECEMBER 10, 2020 3:30 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM**

Present: Chairman Vice Mayor Dave Grendel
Councilperson Kenn Synek
Councilperson Dale Veverka

Also Present: Mayor Gregory P. Kurtz
Councilperson Kathleen Kapusta
Councilperson Tom Narduzzi
Councilperson Jim Trakas (arrived at 4:17 p.m., left at 6:31 p.m.)
Councilperson Chris Walchanowicz
Finance Director Vern Blaze
City Engineer Don Ramm
Procurement Coordinator Dennis Zdolshek

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see we have Don Ramm, and you are going to be our main guest today, along with the Mayor and Vern, to help give us a better, and to me this is the exciting part, I know Dale likes it, and when Jim gets here too because it has the big plans, the ones that everybody can see what the City has accomplished like the road projects, the sewer projects and that.

Councilperson Synek said a point of order before we get into the meat of the presentation here. Have the presentation materials been made available to the public? Are they able to see what we are seeing somehow?

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Debi has provided the information for the attendees.

Councilperson Synek said I might mention if any attendees do need that, perhaps they could e-mail Debi and she could e-mail that to them during the presentation just in case. I want to do all we can to make sure the attendees who have taken their time to participate are able to follow our discussion as well.

The Clerk said Councilperson Synek it's actually on the website now under the agenda for today's meeting.

Councilperson Synek said very good.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I believe Vern the new information you provided does have yesterday's date on it, 12/09/20.

Finance Director Blaze said we are trying to give you the information you want, and I know there have been so many versions of this; so as we give you updated versions, you can get rid of the older versions.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said to me that's most valuable because we get so many versions of both the appropriations and also the Five-Year Capital Plan that it's hard to see if you have the most recent versions.

Finance Director Blaze said if we would stop having meetings, we wouldn't have so many versions.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said one thing is for sure, nobody can accuse us of not working hard at our jobs here and everything. I think you provided us then with Pages 20 through 29.

Finance Director Blaze said yes, and also the first page. We will start on Page 20, and we will just see how far we get.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good, and you gave us a new first page too that was a summary because the old one didn't have the figures in from the maintenance contracts. So, I guess we will start Committee and Council on Page 20, and that's with the maintenance contracts. I believe Don that's what you have.

City Engineer Ramm said yes Vice Mayor.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I will get rid of the old ones. I will let you start in with Page 20 which is under Engineering Department, the maintenance contracts.

City Engineer Ramm said and if you notice the Finance Department, Maggie and Vern, also show the current encumbered P.O.'s much like we talked about last time about these projects. The first one we start off with is the 2019 contract, and then the projection of \$400,000 throughout the five years. There is still some money in open and available, but we are using that I believe with Ronyak up there on Schaaf, and we need to pay some retainage; so that's part of the \$118,000 is kind of spoken for, some of it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked on that Vern do you think, since we are not going to approve this until the January meeting, that figure can be updated, the outstanding P.O.'s.

Finance Director Blaze said for sure. Some of it will be depending especially with Don's stuff today on billing, when we receive billings and invoices from contractors. If they kind of go into the quasi shutdown mode the last couple of weeks, and they take some time off; we might not be getting too many invoices. We certainly will update anything as it happens on our end for sure.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said this way it will give us an idea if we have any money left over from 2019 contracts that we can use some of that here in 2021 actually; so, some of these open P.O.'s are from 2019 as well as 2020.

Finance Director Blaze said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said go ahead Don.

City Engineer Ramm said if there are no questions about the asphalt, we can move to the 2020 concrete. One point though regarding East Schaaf; so Ronyak, the concrete work is finishing up right now; and honestly the weather, we don't feel it's prudent to push forward, even though the plants are still open, to try to put the top down on that road up there. It's really nice and smooth as it is, and we think we are going to be able to survive through the winter and put the top surface inch and a half of surface asphalt on in the spring.

Mayor Kurtz said that's a good idea Don. I was there the other day, and that's a smart plan.

City Engineer Ramm said the key for us was we had committed to do that final surface course on a Saturday because of the significant amount of trucks during the day would have really impacted the quality of that surface mat, and so to do that it would necessitate a Saturday; and the Saturday or two before or around Thanksgiving, the weather was not conducive. We weren't ready anyway with the concrete work. I think it will be fine over the winter.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. We waited long enough for that, so waiting through winter is not going to hurt. It's been decades.

City Engineer Ramm said so transitioning to the 2020 concrete, that \$379,000 current P.O. for 2020; that is the very work I am speaking of with Catts. We reallocated their maintenance contract over to East Schaaf, and that \$379,000 is specifically for the work that has been done to date and is occurring right now with Catts with the curbing, the drive aprons, catch basin repairs; that is their component of that East Schaaf project. We are working right now on an invoice for them. To date, they have not submitted an invoice for any of that work that's been performed up there, but we will bite into that here real soon in the next week or two.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said hey Don I have a question. Like when you are planning a Saturday asphalt because of traffic and stuff, do they charge us significantly more for a Saturday pour?

City Engineer Ramm said you know if it's late in the season, they already kind of program for Saturday work, so I do believe the plants might have a premium on the asphalt material; and even the guys, if they have already worked 40 hours, they would be into some overtime wages. So, that's the balance. We have to get an idea up front what that extra cost of premium would cost; so there is some aspect of some additional cost.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked so Don you expect on that \$379,000 we have, that's all going to be used up with Schaaf Road?

City Engineer Ramm said yeah we think so. We had some contingency dollars in there. The job has been going along pretty smoothly, but we are running into some conditions with some of the basins and are eating into the contingency a little bit, but I think we will be okay with that value.

Councilperson Narduzzi said so Don I was down there today, and it looks like they are doing something in front of Precision there right before the bend. It's farther east than we figured.

City Engineer Ramm said that's a separate, that's work under the creek maintenance contract. They are doing some drainage improvements near Old Brecksville and that intersection.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked is that Fuhrmeyer?

City Engineer Ramm said yes. It's really not associated with the Schaaf Road job, but it looks like it is because Catts is the same.

Councilperson Narduzzi said I saw Catts' trucks there.

City Engineer Ramm said it's a little bit different, pulling from two different pots of money there.

Councilperson Narduzzi said okay.

City Engineer Ramm said that's a fair question.

But real quick while we are talking, I think we had spoken with Catts earlier when we decided to reallocate the funds, they talked about committing to honor the 2020 pricing for 2021. So, we do always have that one year clause extension option, and they are certainly willing to extend the contract pricing if we would be willing to issue a change order to move that work, that 400,000 and reallocate it with the pricing that was submitted for 2020. It's something we could talk about or consider in January at the Council meeting or anytime in the spring. It's not really a rush since we are not going to be doing much concrete work in the winter.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and this way Don you can examine and see if the prices have gone up considerably. It might be a good deal to hold it until 2020 prices then and take that extension.

City Engineer Ramm said it's something we will definitely look into.

Councilperson Narduzzi said so Don with fuel prices coming way down, does the blacktop get a little cheaper?

City Engineer Ramm said that industry is kind of controlled by some conglomerate that sets that pricing. They are quick to go up, but very slow to go down.

Councilperson Narduzzi said they never go down.

City Engineer Ramm said that's what we were told when the question was asked earlier on this summer when the prices seemed quite low, the gas prices.

Moving along, 2020 Crack Seal Program, right now we are starting to pull together that contract document, try to bid it out here over the winter. We think this upcoming program will be a lot of that mastic surface seal potentially with some of our recent subdivision streets that were recently resurfaced. So, that contract is hopefully going to get out early this season.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked Don that \$50,000 that's in the open P.O., is that available then for 2021 or are we going to reallocate that? I see there's \$50,000 left over there.

City Engineer Ramm said yeah I don't recall being that far under budget; some of that might be retainage money that is owed to Specialized Construction. I will have to check that out.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said in the future, our Service Department of course does part of the Crack Seal Program too; but that hasn't impacted too much what we spend on that. Are you able to allocate more to that other program that you have for the roads? I don't think any of it was used last year for that treatment that you put on our roads?

City Engineer Ramm said no, this past year was going back to the original with crack seal. I don't believe one single road with the mastic surface was done. It kind of goes in cycles, but I think we will get more into that this coming season.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said you can use some of that even on some of our newer roads I think. In the past you put that mastic seal even after a road was done like a year or two prior to that.

Councilperson Kapusta asked what differentiates the decision on mastic versus the other one?

City Engineer Ramm said I think it's really kind of what's coming up on the cycle; so for instance, the projects that I have my eye on for this coming season for that mastic treatment would be for sure Hemoga, Cherry, Greenwood, the whole neighborhood that was resurfaced a couple of years ago. I think that would be, the asphalt is in great condition; and it's starting to oxidize a little bit. That would be a good time to get in there. That subdivision is ideal in that it's very low volume traffic, mostly passenger cars. It's a perfect candidate for this treatment. That's one example.

In that same year when we did that subdivision, we did Cheryl Ann Drive; that asphalt is performing well. We might hit that road, and just roads like that which have been recently resurfaced.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that will extend the life of that pavement right then as far as hitting early like that.

City Engineer Ramm said correct. Oakwood is another one that comes to mind. I think that was resurfaced in 2015 or 2016, and it's still in nice shape; and we might go in there and mastic that road.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good.

City Engineer Ramm said moving on if there's no more questions.

Finance Director Blaze said Don, before we move down to Creek, Utility, Infrastructure, we should note that for the asphalt, concrete and crack seal we are proposing dollar amounts that are consistent over the next five years; but then you and the Mayor can talk about the next few contracts about how the dollar amounts going down if the proposed Water and Sewer Department gets developed, and the amount being asked for to be appropriated in these next two contracts will be decreasing over time.

City Engineer Ramm said definitely. That's basically what a lot of the discussion was at the last committee meeting; so moving into 2020, the creek is set up for \$400,000 because we figured that it would take us a good part of the year to ramp up if that got authorized, got approved to hire new people and have them brought on line. It would probably be prudent to keep the current funding designation for 2021 at the current levels before we started to peel back year to year to scale down, depending on how much we could get done with that offsetting program.

Councilperson Veverka said Don, so what you are saying is after five years of potential gain to start this particular farming out is only going to be a \$100,000 savings against the cost of the new department?

City Engineer Ramm asked are you speaking with the creek in particular?

Councilperson Veverka replied yes.

City Engineer Ramm said well I think in year five it looks like it's down.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said \$175,000.

City Engineer Ramm said right.

Mayor Kurtz said because there are two components to that Councilperson Veverka; there's the productivity and the amount we accomplish, well actually it's Councilperson Trakas that's more of a focus, but you will be part of that because a lot of the work will either be street or sewer related. So, we are going to phase one out, phase one in; but there's an overlap. So, it's going to be something that's going to take some time.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think Mayor there will always be a need if there's a special because we won't have the expertise probably to handle each and every problem that might arise. We will have to have at least somebody on retainer there to handle some of those tough projects.

Mayor Kurtz said absolutely.

Councilperson Veverka said and definitely special equipment involved and actually getting at the creeks.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think an example would probably be that one on Pleasant Valley, shoring up the wall. We have the expert equipment to do something like that.

Mayor Kurtz said that's a fact. That's a good point, yes.

City Engineer Ramm said and I think too this is a plan with the understanding that it's a living document, and we will learn as we go year-to-year. This was a first attempt to kind of represent the downsizing of the contract over time; similarly, in the storm and sanitary sewer maintenance, kind of the same logic there.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and I see Don in both of those, there is still quite a bit outstanding P.O.'s, are they going to come down probably, we haven't been billed for some of the projects done in 2020?

City Engineer Ramm said yes, between invoicing, and we have been challenged to get out into the neighborhoods and do some work. Joe in my office kind of takes a lot of vacation here this month, so we are challenged to manage the job and keep them active; but they have been out. They have spent some time in the Dalebrook neighborhood. I probably have to believe that a lot of those invoicing for that work hasn't come through yet, and it's still active. We are still having them up there based on the conditions that are there. So, we still intend to burn through these contracts and likely would be looking to continue them for another season potentially with that contract extension, and/or just to keep them working under the same funding authorization.

Mayor Kurtz said and Don I am assuming that in January or the first quarter, we will have a nice summary to be able to go through Streets and go through Utilities to show them all the projects we were able to accomplish.

City Engineer Ramm said yes.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said both of these maintenance contracts were split this year between two companies, both with the creek, utility and infrastructure, that was Catts and Geotech; and then the sanitary and storm sewer was C&K and United Survey. Have you had enough time to evaluate that Don? Is that a good way to go having two different companies to choose from, or do you think the old way of just having one company was better?

City Engineer Ramm said I think the two has been beneficial. That's what my experience has been. For instance, we have had some unique projects that came up with some major culvert collapses, as you know Patriot's Way and the one on East Pleasant Valley, 4902; and we got pricing from both vendors on those contracts so it was competitive.

Mayor Kurtz he saved a lot of money by allowing each of them to submit pricing on individual projects, we saved tens of thousands of dollars in my opinion.

City Engineer Ramm said yes, and also we have currently both working. So, right now Geotech is out working on that soil nail wall over there by the CSA Corp. at East Pleasant Valley; and we also have Catts working at the north end on Fuhrmeyer on some drainage improvements. So, even right now it's a good example of both are working due to the demand and the workload and the availability of the crews. I think it's been a positive thing.

Similar, the same thing, for availability of the crews; you just have a little bit more flexibility and latitude on anything you need to get done throughout the City.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked how would that work like we have some carryover to the following year? Say that there is a job that one company was better equipped to do it or maybe lower price and everything; but we have hardly anything left in their budget, yet there's quite a bit left in the other company's budget, how do you go about? Do we switch that?

Mayor Kurtz said you could quickly be able to give, especially now with (inaudible).

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I would like to if we have an opportunity to get the less expensive and switch the money over to have them handle that.

Mayor Kurtz said Vice Mayor I would say that would be the protocol we would follow. If we got some pricing, but the one didn't have money and the other one did, we could easily come to you and say there's an opportunity to save some money and still have some quality work and get it done on a timely basis.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Thank you Mayor.

Councilperson Veverka said Don, a question. We have money from four different years that's sitting there. Am I correct? I wonder why aren't some of the P.O.'s used up and then disappear. How does that work?

City Engineer Ramm said we always attempt to when invoices come through, we try to pull from the oldest P.O.'s to kind of get them off the books, use up the old money so to speak. So, we try to do that particularly with United Survey; those are the ones that you are referring to.

Councilperson Veverka asked so we have \$270,000 we anticipated, and we have that much money that we are carrying over that we haven't had work done?

City Engineer Ramm said well it's hard to say. Maybe some of that will go for some invoicing that hasn't come through yet and/or work we still want to do the rest of this month would all speak towards that amount.

Councilperson Veverka said because I remember we recently got bids on a multitude of small projects. The one I think about is the Highland Midland area; but I remember there were

probably a dozen of those small contracts. Is there some specific reason why we are not moving forward and getting those picked off while we have the money available?

City Engineer Ramm said well those projects Councilperson Veverka, I think you are speaking to the alternate bids, I think that was in the creek maintenance program. This here is the sewer. It's more televising and trenchless technology is what C&K and United Survey would be performing. The work you are referring to, I call them backyard drainage projects are more of the infrastructure, the creek utility and infrastructure contracts.

Councilperson Veverka asked so this is more cameraing and does it include replacement of existing?

City Engineer Ramm said no, that would fall under excavation, but if we did some trenchless rehabilitation like cured in place, lining, it would be this contract.

Councilperson Veverka said okay.

Councilperson Synek said so this may be a question more for the Finance Director than Mr. Ramm, but so I am looking at that sanitary and storm sewer category; and Ordinance 2020-79 and Ordinance 2020-81, the 2020 Ordinances, but the purchase order dates are 2019, 2017. Help me connect dots with that. How do we have a 2020 Ordinance and yet these purchase orders are preceding that ordinance?

Finance Director Blaze said let me put Maggie on.

Maggie Osysko said so in the past with the previous Finance Director, if we opened up a P.O. for a job, and there was money left on that job, it was just left opened and then repurposed for some other project which gets a little confusing after a point. So, this year after talking our financial advisor too, there's no reason why after a job is done we can't close the P.O.'s and just open up new ones when they are approved. So, as time goes on, you will see those not happening like that. I talked to Vern about it, and he kind of agreed with that too that it would be easier to keep track of what the money is being used for and not have to change the descriptions on the P.O.'s and things like that. You will see those for this year maybe, a little bit just to use them up since they are already in the process of being used up for different things; but after this bunch of contracts or a project is done, the P.O. will be closed, the money just goes back into the fund that we were using it out of.

Councilperson Synek said perfect. Thank you for that explanation.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said okay Don, I think are we down to the water main breaks? That's relatively new. We just started that about two or three years ago, setting money aside for these water main breaks so that we can repair and then seek reimbursement from the City of Cleveland for at least partial reimbursement.

City Engineer Ramm said correct. It's been working out well. It's really a fund that we pull money out when these repairs get made to the road and/or sewers that get damaged as a result of

the water mains that break. It's a nice mechanism, but ultimately we always reach out to our contractors that already are under contract with us, typically under the creek maintenance contracts; so when things come up, we need done relative to water main breaks, we reach out typically to Catts and/or Geotech. The work that they do, and the invoices they submit for that work gets paid for out of these P.O.'s because that's what the work pertains to.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and we have been reimbursed at a faster rate than we had back in the past I believe too because I know at one time it seemed like we were really slow on getting, maybe Cleveland was slow on reimbursing us for some of these costs. They have done a better job. That was the purpose of changing to a fund and taking care of it right away and billing Cleveland right away I think.

City Engineer Ramm said correct. I think Dennis our Purchasing Coordinator does a nice job following up, packaging those reimbursement requests and getting them turned around much quicker than in years past.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good.

Councilperson Veverka said Don before we turn the page, was Grandview one of the potentials for the mastic sealer besides the other ones you mentioned? You gave us two examples.

City Engineer Ramm said yeah that one, I think if I'm not mistaken, we did that once.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think you did Don.

Councilperson Veverka said I thought we moved this up from Beverly Drive; so Beverly Drive got done. That street seems to have a few more issues than some of the other ones we have done unfortunately.

City Engineer Ramm said I thought we did it once, but if we didn't do it once, we could certainly do it. I think it's a candidate for sure. The road is still in nice shape, relatively new; and even if we did once before, I think it wouldn't hurt to circle back and do it again.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said check your records because I think I remember it being done shortly after the construction was done, like the following year.

Councilperson Veverka said I thought we moved the money from Beverly Drive to do it once, but it seems to have more issues than most of the other recently paved areas unfortunately.

City Engineer Ramm said okay, we'll make a note of that.

Real quick before we leave the water main, we have a batch of invoices coming through; and right now we have Catts out on West Creek. There was a hydrant valve that was leaking. Cleveland Water came in and punched up a couple panels of pavement, the new road that we just paved a couple of years back. Unfortunately, it has to have some repair work done to it already.

Councilperson Synek said one of my employees lost a tire on that job there too. They did a pretty poor job of filling in the hole.

City Engineer Ramm said yeah, they backfilled it with some loose 57 limestone and probably a couple of cars on it probably spun it out. They put barrels out there so it definitely probably was a road hazard condition for a short time.

Mayor Kurtz said I think his employer probably could have reimbursed.

Councilperson Synek said I told him to call the City, call the Mayor.

Mayor Kurtz said join the crowd, everybody else does.

City Engineer Ramm said so those panels will be repaired, they should be poured in tomorrow. That's just a case in point; so that invoice will come through in another week or two, and it will be pulling down off of what appears to be some funding that's still available for the balance.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I imagine you will probably be approving sometime in January or February another \$100,000 for that to keep that. You like to keep sufficient funds there, and I know that this is the time for water main breaks coming up, especially in January and February when the weather really gets cold.

City Engineer Ramm said yes, that's a good point. I definitely should probably have that on my list for legislative requests on the January agenda.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good.

Okay, anything else on Page 20? Any questions of Don before we move on to Page 21?

Don, we will move over to current residential street projects, and these all have, the ones that we are finishing up or have finished up, and the outstanding amounts that are left in the P.O.'s.

City Engineer Ramm said the Brookside/Bramley, we looked at that. That number kind of shocked me the other day when we were looking at it internally. It does seem awfully high. I don't believe that things are that rosy, that we have that much money available that we are "giving back", but I do believe there's some outstanding invoices. Some of the design engineering work for sure, I think we will be able to turn some money back in; so the \$104,000 sitting there for the GPD Group. If you recall over the number of months this past season, I have been reporting on some of those aspects of the work, both construction and some of the engineering management inspection contracts; and I do believe that \$104,000, there will be some available. A lot of the construction money I think is in process of being invoiced. There's a significant amount of retainage.

Vern and Maggie, just for your knowledge, DiGioia had made a mistake on a retainage amount. Normally, we use 8% of the first 50%; they were withholding a full 8% as opposed to 4%. That equated to a couple hundred thousand that they were kind of artificially holding back. So, they

just received an invoice for that amount of money. Some of that is where that \$974,000 seems like it's awfully high.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked how much do you think we can expect out of this, then like \$400,000 maybe or \$500,000?

City Engineer Ramm said GPD has done a nice job managing the construction. That project, DiGioia's current construction project is kind of on suspension. It's going to be resumed in the spring for tree planting; and I think we are going to be right close to the budget once we get the trees planted. I will be speaking a little bit later here on this page relative to the landscaping components. I think that job will hopefully be at the breakeven point; although to look at the number you would never think that.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said well things will stay until that job is completely all boxes have been checked and everything has been done.

City Engineer Ramm said there will be more invoices in the spring once the work resumes, and the trees get planted. We have a good feel for where the job is tracking, and then when you project out the work that's yet to be done; I think we are going to be real close.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said the only one positive would be the GPD Group, that line there might have money left over because of their work.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, yes. At least that's what I am looking at right now unless I am missing or neglecting to consider something. It does seem awfully high. Normally, they are behind a month to two months on the invoicing, so right now in December they are working on invoicing for November; although it's been pretty quiet out there the last month. So, I don't anticipate a significant amount of invoicing, but something just doesn't seem right with that amount of available funds.

Councilperson Synek said obviously I drive down Brookside, I see all the work that's been done; I find it hard to believe that this has been hanging out there for almost a million dollars; maybe they are. It just highlights the importance of truing up these purchase orders because when we get to the end of this capital improvement process, looking at the total open purchase orders plus the 2021 kind of gives the idea of how much we are expecting to spend in the next 12 months for capital improvements; and if it's got numbers in there that aren't real, I just ask you to sharpen the pencil before December 31st and give us real numbers, especially on big line items like this one. We are only going to have a half a million dollars owed to DiGioia then let's true this up to make it reflect the real economic value. That's a big number in this overall budget; so \$10,000 here, \$10,000 there, it doesn't matter, but a million dollars for projects like this one, let's make sure that they are reflective of the true projection of what it's going to take to finish that project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked Don what was the total cost again of that project? How many millions?

City Engineer Ramm said that was I want to say \$5,400,000.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so you have about 20%, a little less than 20% of it that hasn't been paid out yet.

City Engineer Ramm said well I added a change order for the Dania I think recently, just a month or two ago. I don't recall the dollar value. So, the \$5,400,000 was the original contract.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we have that Ordinance 2019 for Alternate D1 and D2 with Dania; but I don't see anything more recent on that. I know that we did approve to have that done here in 2020.

City Engineer Ramm said right.

Mayor Kurtz said we added Dania for that project too. You know, we are sometimes only effective as the contractor. I can't believe people, I've seen it; but I can't believe they still don't want to get paid.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said DiGioia, they better look at their front office and see why they are so slow.

Mayor Kurtz said I talk to contractors, and some of them are going belly up, and it's like, not these contractors, they are pretty good. I still scratch my head, but when you take \$200,000 on a loan, that's a lot of money to be sitting out there.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said hopefully we will have it up to date when we are approving this in January. Any questions of Don regarding Brookside/Bramley and North Bramley?

We will move on to Lafayette.

City Engineer Ramm said there's another one I think we have been tracking pretty well on the budget for this project. We have asked for two or three separate change orders as work request came through; and in each one we were kind of putting some contingency in there. So, I do believe some of this number is actual, puts us in a good position to consider additional work. I think this is what I reference when we discussed authorizing the additional drainage work in the rear yards on the south side of Lafayette between Daisy and Latonia.

Mayor Kurtz said which was authorizing here.

City Engineer Ramm said this is where that money was going to be spent from, and that work got delayed internally in my office with some access agreements and just being able to facilitate it; but we still have plans to do that work, and it's going to get paid out of this available funding.

Mayor Kurtz said that won't be done until the earliest spring of 2021.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked you have gotten all the approvals or agreements from the residents on that Don?

City Engineer Ramm said we have a lot of them, and one or two key ones that I still need, and I just need to dot some i's and cross some t's on some language. I couldn't quite get to it in time that would have helped us get it done here this fall.

Councilperson Narduzzi said they still have landscaping and trees to do on Lafayette too, correct?

City Engineer Ramm said that's another item of work, correct. So, there is still some outstanding work. Here's another one too where Catts had a lot of work this past summer, and some of the invoicing, now's the time when the smoke settles and people start looking hard, even the invoices that were submitted, checking quantities and coming up with any sort of discrepancies and resubmitting or thinking that there was some mistakes that might have been made or quantities weren't billed to the fullest extent, paperwork to shuffle through and get checked. So, that process is going on right now between Catts and our project manager with CT Consultants.

Mayor Kurtz said we form a budget. We authorize the money. We get our consultant to monitor it. The contractor monitors it, the City monitors it; so through those checks and balances, when we finish that drainage, which is expensive, next spring, we will be in a position to see what's left.

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked we won't have to allocate any more money on this right? We should have sufficient funds in there?

City Engineer Ramm said right now we don't think so. We think we will be in good shape.

Councilperson Narduzzi said you're pretty good at saying that, yeah I think we're pretty good. It keeps a smile on our faces for a while at least.

City Engineer Ramm said when Councilperson Synek, and I don't disagree with what the comment was about sharpening the pencil and making these more accurate; I get a little uneasy with that because when I feel like there's a little bit of flexibility or latitude and then you take it away, and then all of a sudden the smoke settles and I come back to you needing more money; and then you ask me the same question, why didn't you account for it? It's kind of a double edged sword a little bit. Like you said, when talking \$10,000 to \$20,000 versus \$250,000 to \$500,000; that's a different number altogether.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked any other questions regarding Lafayette before we move on?

I guess we will move on to Upper Brookside.

City Engineer Ramm said yes, the Upper Brookside, that number in bold already accounts for the piece of legislation that was adopted; so that's where the majority of that amount is. We do still

think we are tracking to be on or under budget with the current Catts construction project, which there to, we are in a position of we had some landscaping work to be done that we weren't able to get to. We were thinking the spring would be an opportune time to finish that work up. It was not glorious, the landscaping component of that project; and that kind of rolls me into at the bottom of this page, knowing that these three or four active construction projects and the wrapping up. There wasn't a heavy component for landscaping. Typically our policy is from our simple engineering mentality is we take a tree down, we plant a tree for a resident. It's really just putting back what was taken down. It has not been very grandiose. It doesn't raise the bar in anyway in the neighborhood, and because of all the work was done, how nice these roads look, we set a new standard out there. The thought was that we really should put the finishing touches on it with some nice landscape treatments; and therefore, I was hoping to request to add a line item just for infrastructure projects with a couple hundred thousand dollars to cover all the active projects from 2020 as well as anything we have in the queue if there's anything available left over to work on the 2021 projects. It's nothing that's on your sheet, but it's something I'm requesting to be considered if we are in the mode of still editing the document.

Finance Director Blaze asked what was that dollar amount Don?

City Engineer Ramm said a couple of hundred thousand dollars.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked and who would be doing the work Don on this landscaping, the contractor that has that particular job?

City Engineer Ramm said it could be, yes. Like I said, we do have some bid items for tree replacements, shrubbery, anything that's in the job that we impacted, damaged; it could be an opportunity to just add more of those certain species and/or just additional funding to expand the work. Or we can move in a different direction and look at hiring landscape companies to come in there with a landscape plan that may or may not be developed for a whole neighborhood. So, there are different ways that we could potentially access the funds and perform the work.

Councilperson Veverka said Don you were talking about initially tree replacement, how far beyond that do we go? I know that we ran into a problem on Hillside Road related to landscaping along between the gas station and the liquor store. So, what extent would we be landscaping?

City Engineer Ramm said I think for certain trees, but it could be groupings and clusters of trees with some things that would fill in. So, this live material, but then there's also treatments in tree lawns with fancy decorative tree wells or perhaps some pavers, signage. We could bring in some elements of, I think all kinds, small, decorative retaining walls. It would run the gambit.

Mayor Kurtz said some of them are practical, necessary functional items such as retaining walls on some of the radiuses like on Bramley. We lowered the elevation of the road; but we need to ensure safety so having those elements are a safety component as well as aesthetics.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked would it make sense Don to have a particular landscaping company that will do these that specialize in doing it or are these companies adequate?

Mayor Kurtz said some of it may be our tree contractor, removal of some of the existing trees that have been ravaged by the power companies and things of that nature. We will put a game plan together to try to get the best value out of each contractor.

Councilperson Veverka asked are there specific areas Don that you had in mind?

City Engineer Ramm said I just think every project that we invest the millions of dollars in the neighborhoods, they are all kind of sitting poised I think for some nice finishing touches. So, nothing in particular; but I think all of them are candidates.

Councilperson Veverka said I would comment related to the word pavers. As we note the amount of maintenance needed on Brecksville Road where they have to kill weeds and do all the other stuff with them. We have gotten away from pavers in most areas now as far as application. I am apprehensive when you say the word paver.

City Engineer Ramm said I think what I'm thinking of is more, something to break up the look or feel of long expansive narrow strips of grass. It certainly wouldn't be a full scale pavers. I agree, we are getting away from those. I am talking about just some aesthetic treatment strategically located and done in the right way that would really enhance the look.

Councilperson Veverka asked so on the area for example the area of Brookside, the Upper Brookside between Eastview and Lake Charles, you are talking about on the side of the street without the sidewalk or the side with the sidewalk? Do we want to get into (inaudible) the trees under the wires in the tree lawn which we were trying to stay away from? Talk to me.

City Engineer Ramm said I think it's all of it. Taking into consideration all of those things; we don't have a specific plan or strategy right now. I think a global strategy would be certainly not to make the same mistakes we have made in the years past and prudent with whatever we propose to locate and plant and install sort of these landscape treatments; but that's just a broad brush statement. I think we have to look at each roadway, each project.

Councilperson Veverka said Mr. Chairman as far as landscape and a big amount; I think it would make more sense to target an amount for a specific project rather than just kind of put a big pile of money out there. What are your thoughts?

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I agree, and it's probably good to have a different company. Again, an example that you brought up is that these trees were planted, even like on our street, that look nice initially for the first five, six, seven years. All of a sudden when they start to mature, you are having them chopped up by the Illuminating Company; and they look horrific. Sunset is an example too. You can see what they've done; some of the trees along Chestnut too and everything. You need to have maybe an expert that can advise what are the best possible trees in this situation; it might be a little bit more expensive initially, but they will have a longevity that some of these other trees won't have or maybe not the problems that these other trees create.

Mayor Kurtz said well we will put that together.

Councilperson Veverka said and particularly the idea where we know we have power lines above, there are definitely trees that are dwarf varieties that only go a certain height. It kind of restricts that need for us to have these trees that look like they were attacked. I don't know how to describe it. It just looks sad.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I don't know if you need to have an arborist or somebody who is on staff there Don that can recommend to the City what the proper way of doing some of landscaping that you are talking about and everything. Who implements that, whether it be a landscaping company or the contractor itself? That's a decision for you to make as our Engineer.

Councilperson Trakas said sorry to be late, I had a client in from Los Angeles who is on Los Angeles time, and 1:00 p.m. means a different time to them; so my apologies. I like the concept, but I think a little bit like the Sewer Department, I think we should go out and get a specific proposal before we start funding some of these ideas. We can keep money in the budget generically, but like let's get something nailed down and everybody agree to it and formalize it. Then we can start funding these types of things; but I completely agree with the concept here, not just for aesthetics; but I think really you are talking about the permeable, you are talking about really important issues on the tree issue. We do have a Tree Commission that we can staff with people who were volunteers; and as you said Dave an arborist who can make these recommendations. It really should be based on neighborhoods and based on the soil that's involved so that the trees live properly and everything else. I think it's a terrific idea, I would just like to flush all of these things out and formalize them before we just throw them in the budget. That would be my take on the whole thing.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked what other communities, do other communities like Westlake or that, how do they handle those kind of situations? Are you familiar with what other suburbs might do?

City Engineer Ramm said no, not specifically.

Mayor Kurtz said some have horticulturists, an arborist who work in concert with their engineering group to manage erosion issues, to manage placement issues with trees, to manage softening for different highways. There are a variety of need or reasons; and we will drill down on this and come back to Council with something.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we don't have to recreate the wheel there.

Mayor Kurtz said we will put that together for you.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said thank you Mayor.

Councilperson Veverka said and Don when we put out the contracts, part of the contract is related to tree replacement. Is there other landscaping involved in that figure?

City Engineer Ramm said no. Some of the projects that have come out of our office here recently, no we kind of keep it simple and just keep it to the trees that we have taken down. We

have tried to get a little bit more of a variety of some of the species; so that's the extent of anything that comes out of the Engineering Department's office.

Councilperson Veverka said well I mean I personally would feel more comfortable specifically if you do target \$15,000 or \$20,000 or whatever on that project for landscaping beyond the trees would make sense to me. I am not really comfortable with a kind of a couple hundred dollars as a catch-all. I would be concerned about that. I would rather know specifically where it's targeted to. I don't know how anybody else feels.

Mayor Kurtz said well \$15,000 won't get you much.

Councilperson Veverka said obviously, but a \$200,000 landscaping catch-all, I am not real comfortable with that. I understand better that you want an additional \$40,000 on a contract for a road project because you are going to do landscaping; that makes a lot more sense than just sitting out there as a figure.

Mayor Kurtz said we are talking about Brookside, Upper, Lower, Bramley; we are talking Lafayette. We are talking about some of our more major streets; it will add up really fast.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said with the landscaping, I think each project would be a different figure on landscaping. If Don requested \$20,000 for one specific guy, that just means he's going to come back to us for it to allocate more funds for the landscaping for those projects. Does that make sense?

Mayor Kurtz said we will put something together. I can see both sides. We will put it together and work through this together.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said maybe we can even do it with the Upper Brookside; we have Fabrizi's contract there, we need someone, an expert who would look at it. That's a small area, we might be able to use that as trial project on how we get that landscaping.

Mayor Kurtz said we will put together a plan because all those projects you mentioned earlier, whether it be Lafayette or Brookside, Upper, Lower, Bramley, Dania, all of those need to be addressed to finalize, finish these out. We will have to go through it step-by-step to make sure we are all comfortable.

Councilperson Veverka said Dave I like that idea particularly kind of targeting that one project, that way it's a little bit of a feel for what landscaping, additional landscaping might be so that we can make sure that we kind of match the landscaping with the specific project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think that would be a good area. Don, you can have your experts or whatever checking to see, making recommendations on what vegetation, what trees for that part, and then we can use that maybe as a template.

Mayor Kurtz said we have roughly four months to get ourselves organized because when April hits that's when they will want to be planting. We will get something together.

City Engineer Ramm said Vice Mayor, just to give you context of that dollar value, \$200,000 does seem high, just the projects listed on the sheet; you quickly get to \$10,000,000 in contract value. So, \$200,000 over \$10,000,000 is 2% for landscaping is really kind of, to put it in context, it's not a significant amount compared to the overall investment.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked what do you think we do now on an average on these contracts just planting the grass and stuff like that? How much is spent?

City Engineer Ramm said oh as far as that component of just planting the grass. It's hard to say. I don't think it's a significant cost, but I would have to dig that out of each contract.

Councilperson Narduzzi said so Don instead of putting a figure of \$100,000 or \$200,000, what if you put a figure of 2% of the total cost of that job for excess landscaping or something in there as an automatic every time we bid these jobs, we throw in that 2%. I know it won't happen on these jobs now; but on future jobs, if you put in your bid that we allocate money of 2% of the total cost of the job.

City Engineer Ramm said an allowance so to speak.

Mayor Kurtz said we will put together and navigate through it.

Councilperson Veverka said Tom, that sounds like a good way to do it.

Councilperson Kapusta said it gives it a more holistic perspective of our total expenditures.

Mayor Kurtz said once we know the percentage that we can accurately define for Council, then we will be in a better position to formalize something.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Are we ready to move on to Page 22?

Finance Director Blaze said let me just clarify with Engineer Ramm. Don, do we need to add \$100,000 for construction management and inspection for Upper Brookside or should we be able to cover that cost within that \$1,384,000?

City Engineer Ramm said you are referring to the contract that we just authorized the other night. That dollar was for construction only, and didn't account for; I think I was requesting the potential for \$50,000 for inspection and/or another \$50,000. So, another \$100,000 you could throw in there. We would like to try; if we are able to hire, if we get authorized to hire additional staff, we may be able to use our own people internally on this very project as one out of the gate in 2021. If not, and depending on how timing happens, it might be prudent to allocate some funding now and then not need it or not use it versus not allocating it and needing it later.

Mayor Kurtz asked what are you recommending Don?

City Engineer Ramm said I was asking I think initially \$100,000 to be set aside.

Mayor Kurtz asked that would be for what?

City Engineer Ramm said that would be for construction management and/or inspection for Upper Brookside, Phase 2, the Fabrizi contract.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked so you need that approved maybe at the Special meeting next week or could you wait until January?

City Engineer Ramm said just allocating it now. I think we have a month or two to get wrapped up with the contract work. It gives me a little bit of time.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked now Don do you think that if we go forward with the expanding your department and bringing in new people and everything, that it will be a big savings that we could have people on staff there who would serve as inspectors? I would like to have our own inspectors from the City because that's our investment and everything; and we have more at stake. These companies have done a great job for us, but have their own people do it, I think in-house makes much more sense and therefore a savings factor. There wouldn't be a write up on that.

Councilperson Veverka said Dave originally we had a gentleman that was doing the inspections for the City when we only had one inspector.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I remember the individual. He came in front of Council when Don was looking at different options.

City Engineer Ramm said one was an independent contractor.

Councilperson Veverka said it was an independent contractor; I wasn't sure if he was our specific employee.

City Engineer Ramm said no.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I would like to see Don that you have control over our inspections, and it's done in-house there. Then there will be a savings because I am sure they write up, there is a write up on the cost for those inspections when we contract out.

City Engineer Ramm said it's definitely one of the qualifications of the Engineering Tech positions would be a definite good amount of years of real construction experience and either you are on the contracting side and/or with inspection firms to be able to facilitate that work in-house definitely.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked are we ready to move on to Page 22? Now these are future residential street projects; so now Council take a good look and see if anything doesn't make sense as far as the timing goes and everything for these projects. I know you put a lot of thought into it Don, you and the Mayor, and Finance Director, any Council input?

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I like that first one very much so.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we are thinking of pushing that one back to 2030.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said I think it's been pushed back a couple times already.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I might be gone by that time. Go ahead, Don.

City Engineer Ramm said this project on Poplar and Willow that's been on our books for a number of years. The Cleveland Water Department has rated the water mains on Poplar and Willow in poor or very poor condition based on a number of breaks; so it's ripe for a water main upgrade. At that same time, the roads have been resurfaced long before I got here. They are still in pretty decent shape, but they are getting tired; and I think if we come through with this job, we cut up the road with a new water main, it's going to be ready for a nice rehabilitation overall.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked now are we looking at sidewalks Don?

City Engineer Ramm said I think so. It would fall into that reconstruction category. I think the grades are nice and flat; they are much more manageable out there in the right-of-way. I think sidewalks would be easily facilitated on one and/or both. We just have to look at it when the time comes.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and Chris there's a lot of younger families on those streets I believe too; so I think the sidewalks would be a welcome addition.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said the sidewalks are long overdue. Like right now I think we currently have 23 little kids on the street; and they are all riding their bikes in the street. Sidewalks would be great for the kids.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and that you are looking at doing the engineering work Don in 2022 with construction the following year.

City Engineer Ramm said right.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and the next thing we look at then is, any other questions for that particular project or the timing of it?

We look at Dalebrook.

City Engineer Ramm said Dalebrook, you can see how expensive this project could be potentially. We know that there is issues with the storm sewers with the calcification, and you know that was something that was built in the 1950's if I'm not mistaken. So, it did have a major rehabilitation before I came along in the early 2000's with the roadway.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said it was the first thing as a brand new Councilperson in 2000, and Vern you were on Council at that time; that was the historic vote on the sidewalk issue. It

was that project that brought it to light where we have our ordinance. I can remember the Council Chambers being packed to the gills with pro and con as far as sidewalks go and everything. That was done in 2000 and 2001.

Mayor Kurtz said it only passed 55-45 or 53.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said it was on the ballot and got approved by the people. So, that shows you, that road lasted about 20 years or so.

Councilperson Trakas said the last (inaudible) was 1983.

Mayor Kurtz said I remember that.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so I guess it's about time.

Finance Director Blaze said the Engineer's comments for what he said for Poplar and Willow; that the pavement in Dalebrook, although tired isn't still like one of the worst roadways we have. It's the underground, the condition of the storm sewers that's really precipitating us having to bump up this in the priority order.

City Engineer Ramm said it is the original water main out there; so it's pushing 70 years now. Cleveland Water has rated it fair to poor.

Mayor Kurtz said when we do that, we need to oversize the storms because we have had a severe case of calcium build up in the lines. At a minimum, the cost of oversizing the storms would be well worth the investment wouldn't it?

City Engineer Ramm said it depends. We would try to fit it and still kind of maintain it in the same location. We are going to have to remove and replace it.

Mayor Kurtz said let's add at least two to three inches to them or something.

City Engineer Ramm said any of the new pipe would have to have premium gasketed joints with PVC or HDP pipe so that the joints shouldn't be leaking; and that calcification issue should kind of get resolved with the new pipes. That's what makes this job expensive. It's all the excavation and utility work, underground work; the road will get significantly impacted with just construction equipment and cutting it up and patching it. So, by the time you do a lot of that work, you are getting into a complete reconstruction project which is with the amount of footage of lanes out there, it gets expensive. It's just a purely per foot cost when you add all that footage of roadway.

Councilperson Synek said I know it's a big project, but would it spread out over three years where we spend a third each year over three years. Could it be paid out over three years?

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked when does the construction start Don? You were saving that money, but the construction, would it not start until 2025?

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Finance Director Blaze said we are just trying to write down the, round it to \$10,000,000 instead of trying to allocate \$10,000,000 in a single year, start tucking away some money a couple years before the actual year of construction.

Councilperson Synek said okay, this schedule it's partly how much are we going to spend each year; but it's partly creating reserves. You can't really look at the schedule and say this is our estimate of how many dollars we are going to spend each year for capital improvements because of things just like this one. This \$3,000,000 being just kind of, it's not an indication of we actually intend to spend \$3,000,000 in 2023; it's for creating a reserve. Cash flow planning wise, this process would be better if there were a way to segregate those sort of reserve requirements versus actual spending.

Finance Director Blaze said yes, in theory I don't disagree. I think the reality of it is that each year this process takes place on multiple projects; so every year we are reserving some money for a future year, but every year we are also doing projects that have been reserved. There is a little bit of a difference maybe between doing this on an accrual basis and the cash basis statements that I give you each month. It's also why I'm very focused on the cash, but this reserve system has to be put in place; otherwise, there is no way to fund the \$10,000,000 project in one year except you say okay in 2025 we are just doing one single project, paying cash, \$10,000,000, that's the whole budget. We have to be able to break it up, and yes even though that \$3,000,000 in 2023 is not an actual cash expenditure, in 2024 it won't be an actual cash expenditure. There will be cash expenditures in those years where the money was reserved in prior years. So, it tends to somewhat even out over time, not 100%; but it's fairly close.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think that's probably our most unusual residential project because of the footage and the road paving that we have down there. Plus, you think the water main also; so that's unusual that we have to spread out over the three years. Especially that water main like you mentioned, it needs to be replaced and slowly but surely we are covering those areas that the Water Department had said were our poorest areas. Like you said, between Ash, Poplar and Willow and now Dalebrook in there; you get to Kleber. Hopefully in the next decade, our water mains will not be such an urgent issue then. It will be regular maintenance as far as that goes.

Councilperson Synek asked is there anything to identify on this plan what's sort of reserve versus a projected spending? Like for the Dalebrook subdivision, is there any way to add a note on here projected start date 2029 or whatever. It's a better reference to time horizon for when the project is supposed to start.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think it's 2025 isn't it Don.

Councilperson Synek said maybe Dalebrook is the only one like that. It could be Dalebrook subdivision, parentheses projected start date whatever.

Finance Director Blaze said we could certainly put that, but I think anybody on this call now realizes we are going to start allocating money in 2023, 2024 and 2025, and that as of today it's a projected 2025 project.

Finance Director Blaze said see I think the most natural interpretation of this document is that the City is going to spend \$3,000,000 in 2023, \$3,000,000 in 2024 and \$3,000,000 in 2025. That's the interpretation in reading this document. If it's something different than that, it would be very helpful to have that noted somehow.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I kind of compare it to what the Fire Department uses in their capital purchases with their Fire trucks and that. We are putting the money aside, probably the engineering work Don thinks would start in 2023. You would get the work ramped up in 2023 and 2024, and then go out to bid in late 2024 to get it going in the spring of 2025. You probably won't start construction work until 2025 I believe.

City Engineer Ramm said yeah, that's the way it's currently programmed.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I guess we could put, maybe Don we could put in this spreadsheet like this the construction date when it's expected to start, but we would have it spread out more than one year. We could put down construction to begin so that people reading it would have an idea of when the construction will start. Like Kenn said, to give people an idea of when the actual construction begins. We could put that on there.

Councilperson Veverka said it seems to make sense.

Councilperson Narduzzi said and we have always pushed those back too. We did that with the Lafayette subdivision. We saved for years, and we pushed that back a half dozen times before we finished it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said right. Well I know the Mayor, Greg you wanted to do kind of a patching approach late 2000's I think for Lafayette because the pavement was so bad, but Council didn't go along with it because it was so much work, and extensive work. It took another decade to get it done.

Mayor Kurtz said that's correct. I just think it's a discipline by doing it, setting money, it's hard to say give me \$9,000,000. It's easier to say give me three \$3,000,000.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked any other questions of Don or Vern regarding the Dalebrook project?

We will move on to the Eastview to Brecksville Road project, and I think we discussed that Don at one of our previous committee meetings; but we had said since we have done Brookside from Bramley all the way to Brecksville Road; and now we are getting Upper Brookside done. It makes sense to have this final stretch of Brookside done from Eastview down to Brecksville Road.

City Engineer Ramm said right, and there was an Alternate bid that was authorized in the 2019 program that we deferred. We didn't do it, and that's ultimately we took that money. It was just a mill and fill for this stretch, some base repairs. I think it was of the variety of \$300,000, give or take, I don't recall the exact amount; but it was pretty nominal. It's maintenance, and the thought was that between the work that got done on Phase 1 of Upper Brookside, the road took a pounding. It's going to I think continue to take a pounding this coming construction season with Fabrizi's job that we just authorized, although we will try to keep them in and out from Sprague. So, that's why I think this project lines up to be engineered this coming year and then constructed in 2022.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked what kind of construction do you expect? Will it be more than a mill and fill then? Everything is going to look beautiful there. Is this going to be more than just the mill and fill? Are they going to have the same quality of road that the rest of Brookside is going to be having or already has?

City Engineer Ramm said we think this is definitely more than a mill fill. It could rise to a full depth recycle and overlay, or it could also rise to a complete reconstruction to be consistent with what we did up there for the Upper Brookside job.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked are you talking curbs and gutters because it doesn't have it now.

City Engineer Ramm said and there's some really old antiquated drainage systems, ditches, driveway culverts that are corrugated metal that's rotten. That road, it needs to be a major upgrade to it.

Councilperson Narduzzi said just flipping down the page, I see Midland, Ranchview, Scenicview. I hope we do all those roads before we do Brookside from Eastview to 21 because it will be a lot of heavy equipment going up and down Brookside again.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we will get to that section very soon, so we don't get out of order. Brookside Road should be good to go except for just maintenance, another 20 years I think the way roads go.

City Engineer Ramm said and if we could do the job, continuing to be proactive.

Councilperson Narduzzi said if you are going to do a complete redo Don, I don't think that \$930,000 is enough.

City Engineer Ramm said then there's the \$750,000 on top of it; but we have to do a little bit more dialing in to some cost estimates. That was the initial amount that we threw out there using some quick per foot costs on some other local streets that we did. We will have to revisit that because between the storm sewers and the complete reconstruction, it could get costly. It's 3,800 feet, that stretch from 21 to Eastview. Just to give you an idea, Brookside Phase 1 from Eastview to Lake Charles was 2,600 feet; and that job was over \$2,000,000.

Councilperson Narduzzi said that's not a realistic number to do curbs and gutters and match it up to existing on Upper Brookside.

City Engineer Ramm said one thing I don't think we have to do though is water main. I have been looking at Cleveland Water, and they say the water mains are in fair condition on that stretch of Brookside.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Dale it looks like that might be a topic of the Streets & Sidewalks Committee early part of the year when we set our plans for 2021.

Councilperson Veverka said absolutely.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said right in the neighborhood there is Highland/Midland.

City Engineer Ramm said this was a project that was already targeted in our resurfacing, really just maintenance activity, mill and fill with some curb and gutter repairs, nothing too extreme. The roads are in nice shape, and they don't require a whole lot of work. We did a piece of Parkland, and the piece of Highland between Brookside and Parkland, and we kind of left the rest of it, the rest of Highland and Midland cut through. That's what this work is targeting.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that will be sufficient to get that area taken care of.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, it's low volume passenger car traffic. We can incorporate in our maintenance contract or contracts in this coming year.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Any questions for Don on Highland and Midland then?

We will move to Longano and Kleber, and of course that's been a topic of discussion for a number of years too. I see the \$200,000 for 2021, and then the construction for 2022.

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I can see Jim's face now.

Mayor Kurtz said that's Chris.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said okay Don, Longano and Kleber project.

City Engineer Ramm said these are complete reconstructions with water main replacement, most likely upgrades to the storm sewer system. Just the other night you adopted some legislation for potential OPWC funding. If we were to secure that funding or be approved for it, they have a requirement that no work can start until July 1st of the program year, which is 2021. So, knowing that engineering would need to take place; that's kind of why there is some funding set up in 2021, but the crux of the construction would likely fall into 2022.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see, and I don't think that would include, it doesn't seem like sidewalks make any sense on either of these roads the way they are constructed and the way the houses are, their location; especially Kleber as far as that goes. I don't know how you incorporate sidewalks into that project.

Mayor Kurtz said Vice Mayor we will look at both of those possibly one side, but it all depends once we get the Engineer surveyors in there, then we will be able to look and see the practicality of one side or why we should eliminate and not provide.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Kleber looks the same as it did 60 years ago when I lived there. They could use a nice upgrade.

Councilperson Veverka said the south side of the street, the houses seem set back a little further than on the north side.

City Engineer Ramm said it is a narrow 50 foot right-of-way, not a traditional 60 foot; so it's very narrow with the narrow short setbacks.

Councilperson Veverka asked would you be able to offset the road a little bit to the north and leave a little bit of space and have the sidewalk on the south?

City Engineer Ramm said it can be considered. Any time you are reconstructing things and ripping everything out, you have an opportunity to kind of put things where they are best suited and avoid utility poles, try to avoid conflicts, designed prudently; so we could definitely consider that.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked do you think Don we have a chance with that application to Ohio, that OPWC, to get some money for this or at least a zero percent loan?

City Engineer Ramm said we thought it was a modest request. We tried to break it up into grant and loan. These definitely qualify the program. The intent of the program is aging infrastructure, and if this doesn't qualify, then nothing does. The problem is we compete with the City of Cleveland the County. This is an extremely competitive program with a lot of applicants throwing in their hats for projects, and it's always way more projects than can be funded. So, that's the challenge.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said hopefully that area of Kleber can be next.

City Engineer Ramm said we are committed to move forward with it regardless, but it would be nice to get some outside funding.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Any questions of Don for this project, Longano and Kleber?

Now we go to Meadowbrook, and I see there's \$200,000 set aside for Meadowbrook currently. I think Don that was based on, was that based on a mill and fill or which option? I know that you gave us like three options on Meadowbrook.

City Engineer Ramm said I think we were gravitating to a recycle and overlay. I think in the end of it was kind of the in between. It was more than just because that road is pretty failed. Trying to go out there and resurface it, you probably wouldn't get but three to five years out of it. I think the right thing to do is to do something more structural and more full depth; but it stopped short of a complete reconstruction. So, I didn't even realize until sitting down with the Mayor and Vern and Maggie the other day, we actually encumbered some funding. So, I think it's one of the ones that we had aspirations to try to get to, but with our full slate of projects, it was nothing we could designate any depreciable amount of time to facilitate the work.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we were talking about that, and the tee ball drive at the bottom of the page. I think to have somebody do both jobs.

City Engineer Ramm said that was the thought. We could package them and get some better economies to scale on the work. So, definitely we will try to focus on that this coming season.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said there probably won't be tee ball next year. We didn't have any tee ball this past year; so it might be a good time to get that drive done. I think more than just the tee ball field though, does the Service Department use that drive also?

Mayor Kurtz said there is a split partially used by the Service garage.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that's what I thought.

Councilperson Synek said I see with the Meadowbrook and tee ball that both of those there are purchase orders entered, but there is no ordinance associated with those. Can the Finance Director provide some background, dollar explanation? How do purchase orders get created without an ordinance?

Finance Director Blaze said I just had the Recreation Director walk in here, can you update me on what was happening here.

Councilperson Synek said we are noting on Page 22 that Meadowbrook and tee ball drive have purchase orders associated with them but no ordinance. How does a purchase order get created without an ordinance?

Finance Director Blaze asked Don wasn't there an alternate bid accepted by one of the contractors from the tee ball road that's further down as well as the Meadowbrook? Was that part of the same alternate with the contract?

City Engineer Ramm said Finance Director Blaze said I think we had thought that we would try to get an alternate bid thrown in there. We may have, that very well could be.

Mayor Kurtz said yes we did.

City Engineer Ramm said in the concrete road program, we might have had an alternate to replace that in concrete. I am thinking of the tee ball drive/Service Department driveway. I would have to revisit the number; that's going back to the 2019 contract.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Dale I think we discussed it at one of our committee meetings packaging these two, Meadowbrook back in 2019 even.

Councilperson Veverka asked wasn't that related to the asphalt contract that we ended up moving to Schaaf Road maybe?

City Engineer Ramm said I don't think so. I have to revisit it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked was there a third road? Did we have another one besides these two? I know we are packaging them together, but these two have always been kind of connected at the hip. When we were discussing one, we were discussing the tee ball too just to give that economy of scales.

City Engineer Ramm said I think the other one might have been Valley View Drive.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said yes, that might have been it. You wanted to package it and make the contractor do all two or three projects together.

City Engineer Ramm said right. It just escapes me whether or not we actually put that in as an alternate or I just thought about it.

Councilperson Synek said I guess my question is more if there's a bid, there's an ordinance that approves that sort of thing. Can or should purchase orders be entered without Council ordinance behind them?

Finance Director Blaze said I just pulled out the Capital Improvement Plan that was approved by Council in December of last year, and for 2020 it lists \$200,000 for Meadowbrook and it lists \$200,000 for the tee ball drive. So, even though a contract was not given out for those two jobs, a purchase order was established for those two projects because this Capital Plan was approved by Council.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I remember approving it in committee I think. Tom, do you remember discussing it too? We discussed these two quite a bit, at least two or three times.

Mayor Kurtz said one of the issues was a right-of-way, and we were trying to get some type of easements or right-of-ways from the end of Meadowbrook I believe.

Councilperson Synek said so the source of these is the 2019 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, but just that the purchase order didn't get to 2020, and that's why it's got a 2028 on it?

Finance Director Blaze said correct. That's the item that was approved at the last Council meeting in December. So, yes the P.O. was created in this calendar year.

Councilperson Synek said thank you.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked any other questions regarding Meadowbrook?

Anything further Vern on this?

Finance Director Blaze said no.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said then we will move on to Midland, Ranchview, Scenicview and Timberlane and it looks like just a resurfacing job is what I see here Don.

City Engineer Ramm said correct. Over the years via our concrete road maintenance contract, we have been trying to replace chunks of curb and gutter; and over the last five to seven years we have almost gotten all completed. There is still a little bit of work to do on Timberlane, and I think there's some Timberlane work in the 2020 road maintenance contract; do the concrete curb and gutter and that would set itself up to be ready to be milled and filled throughout that whole neighborhood. That was what that \$550,000 was for.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked how was the drainage and the water main and everything in that area there? I know we had drainage problems on Scenicview I believe.

City Engineer Ramm said we were recently focused on doing the debris deflector and the trash grate to keep debris coming from the highway clogging up the storm sewer system; but we do believe the pipes are adequately sized. It was more of a debris issue that restricted the flow and caused some flooding during the recent significant flood events. This project doesn't account for any sort of major infrastructure, it's really just maintenance activity. The water mains are shown as fair condition throughout that subdivision. I didn't think they would rise to a level that we would need to consider a complete replacement.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and with this kind of work, we don't have to worry about sidewalks or anything of that nature; we are just doing a resurfacing, similar to what we did on Cherry, Hemoga and that neighborhood there.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, it's maintenance. It could be paved out in a week.

Councilperson Veverka asked Don, wasn't that development put in the late 1950's also, about the same timeframe as Dalebrook was?

City Engineer Ramm said I thought some of the homes were built more recent than that, later than that in the 1970's.

Councilperson Veverka said only a couple, I know that even on Timberlane. My parents' house was built in 1961, and it was one of the last couple actually on Brookside; but it's part of that Ranchland development. That water main has to be pretty close in age to Dalebrook.

City Engineer Ramm said knowing that a traditional overlay gives you 12, 15 even pushing 20 years of service life, especially in a subdivision like that where it's all low volume; I think you could take the strategy of resurface here in the next year or two and then the next cycle when that road is ready to be done, the last 15 or 20 years, it would be time to get your money's worth out of the water mains before you bite the bullet and reconstruct everything.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so then Don the plan is to have that Midland, Ranchview, Scenicview, Timberlane done next year; and then Brookside Road Eastview to Brecksville would be done in 2022.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, I think that's what, to Councilperson Narduzzi's point that the whole subdivision should get done first before then on your way out you could do the road that is used to pave those internal streets, do that on your way out.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so all those streets, we did Oval not that long ago, Serio up at the top. We were in pretty good shape from that whole Brookside and the roads that lead to Brookside will be pretty much in good shape.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, and I thought Eastview was on here also for resurfacing. It was an alternate in the 2019 program that we didn't move forward with.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I don't see Eastview on here.

City Engineer Ramm said I wonder where it went or maybe it was assumed that it had already gotten done.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked could we add Eastview to this? You were just looking at the same kind of resurfacing weren't you for that?

City Engineer Ramm said yes. There was some additional (inaudible) that will need to be replaced there before we would resurface it; but for sure just resurfacing.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see, and those two roads up at San Fernando; they are relatively new roads, but we could do Eastview next year if we get some of the concrete, whatever it needs to be done along with it.

City Engineer Ramm said yes we could facilitate that in one of the maintenance contracts or attach it, easily attach it to this one we are talking about. Scenicview is right up the road.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so what we could do, maybe we could work on that \$550,000 figure to include Eastview there and that also maybe, upgrade that.

City Engineer Ramm said okay.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I don't know how much that would increase that number.

City Engineer Ramm said we have an actual bid from one of the alternates that we could start with.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said okay.

Finance Director Blaze said as soon as Don's office provides us with that, we will just add Eastview in on that line and add in the appropriate cost increase.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good, thank you Vern.

Councilperson Veverka said Don I know that Ranchview, Timberlane, Scenicview, that development obviously according to Tom you want to try to get that paving and get out of there before you do Brookside; but on the Mannik & Smith isn't Brookside dramatically worse in condition and be able to get into the Ranchview development, you could come in across Midland which is going to be done later. You could come through Midland with the equipment, and you would only potentially affect that one crossing area on Brookside if you did Brookside.

City Engineer Ramm said I think there's different ways to look at it. I think because Brookside being more of a collector road, I think bringing in construction traffic through it versus Midland feels like more of a residential road. I don't know, I think you would sacrifice the road that's in worst condition for another year versus opening and exposing the road that's still in pretty decent shape and Midland, some of those heavy loads. That's just one way to look at it.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked Don is it possible to do the side streets and the paving every year and hit Brookside and Eastview at the end of the year and come all the way down? It makes more sense to me that we would do Eastview and Brookside altogether. It's kind of one big long shot rather than coming back a year later, and the turn there when you go to Brookside to go to Sprague, you are going to have two different pavements again. It kind of makes sense to come all the way down the street.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said your work on Eastview is going to be a little different than what you are going to be doing on Brookside, is that not correct Don?

Councilperson Narduzzi said I mean the final coat of blacktop, it would all be the same. It's just a thought.

City Engineer Ramm said yeah depending on the treatments and the scope of the work that we are going to ultimately perform on Brookside, I think would be the key that if it's asphalt then Councilperson Narduzzi I think yeah you make perfect sense; but if it's going to rise to a full reconstruction in concrete, then it's apples and oranges. So, that's part of the impetus behind the scheduling that we just talked about.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked are we thinking about doing Brookside Road in concrete? Is that what you are thinking about?

City Engineer Ramm said well you're right, a full reconstruction; but you could do at full depth asphalt with concrete curb and gutters to kind of blend and tie in with the curb and gutters that are out there on Eastview or if you wanted to maintain the section that we just did with full width and full depth concrete with curbs that we just had Catts do; you could extend that.

Mayor Kurtz said we could price them both ways.

Councilperson Veverka said that's what we have done in the past, and we were fortunate that the contractor that got the job was able to give us a concrete alternate that was very, very reasonable that is related to the life of concrete compared to asphalt.

City Engineer Ramm said it adds an element of plan preparation in the design, but we have facilitated in the past on many projects with the alternate for concrete.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so the bottom line Don is that for the next two years, in 2021 and 2022, we do want to get the Brookside Road, Eastview to Brecksville, Eastview done, Highland, Midland and then the Midland, Ranchview, Scenicview, Timberlane, get that all. That would be maybe Dale a subject of an early Streets & Sidewalks to see how we would get that goal accomplished.

Councilperson Veverka said right.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel and that money set aside here for that. Any other questions?

Councilperson Narduzzi said we don't if we are doing Brookside Road today, it's not going to get done next year. It's just my personal opinion. I mean we will be right up against it in the fall again trying to finish up, and it will bleed over until 2022 anyways.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked I think that's what you have planned isn't it Don 2022 for Brookside?

City Engineer Ramm asked which project are we talking about?

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Eastview to Brecksville Road part of Brookside. You have that engineering this year, construction next year.

City Engineer Ramm said in 2022.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said in 2022 yes.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, that's right now that's how I think it would line up, presuming that Fabrizi is able to get that construction done for that uppermost piece in calendar year 2021 which we think that should be more than adequate.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said oh yeah, he's going to start right away. The contract is done, and this way you are looking at maybe getting some of the side streets resurfaced and then concentrate in 2022 on Brookside then.

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Dale that will be part of a first agenda that you will have there to hone in that along with the Engineer, the Mayor and get everything, our goals kind of stated there with good planning.

Should we move on to Second Street then down there near the bottom of Page 22?

City Engineer Ramm said Second Street, the water main was pretty poor, and that's what was driving that project; but it is a little bit of traffic and very few homes. I would think we would push that out a year or two to engineering in 2023 and then construction in 2024.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and Mayor that makes sense because of what St. Michael's and maybe the downtown, that makes sense to push that out a little bit.

Mayor Kurtz said that's correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked any questions of Don regarding Second Street? It looks like we finished 2022. We talked about the tee ball drive already; so let's move on the commercial street projects. Don, that takes care of all the residential then?

City Engineer Ramm said yes.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Let's go to Page 23 everybody, commercial street projects, and the first street on there is Commerce Park Oval.

City Engineer Ramm said this road is in really rough shape. It's a concrete road, and I think we asphalt overlaid it a number of years ago, long before even I showed up. So, it gets a lot of industrial truck traffic; and I think we had it earlier in our program, but knowing the significant bridge project over the river that's coming and the flood levy project that's also coming soon behind that, I think that's what prompted us to 2022 and 2023.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Commerce Park Oval, that comes off of Old Rockside there?

Mayor Kurtz said yes.

City Engineer Ramm said so if we do push it off, I think we just have to make it concert with maintenance activity maybe place a higher priority on it to kind of get us through an extra two to three years because it's rough.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked when is that project with the Corps of Army Engineers supposed to be completed because you probably wouldn't want to start this one until that project is done I would think?

City Engineer Ramm said right, and so I think the bridge over the river was a 2021-2022 project; and the levy was bid in 2023, late 2022 or early 2023. So, I think that's why we pushed this one out to 2023.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we might even want to push it off one more year because you know those other things might not get done when they say it's going to especially with the Federal Government.

City Engineer Ramm said right, and those are two big projects.

Finance Director Blaze said and keep in mind the Engineer's comments there that the road is rough already here at the end of 2020; and that is part of our business community serving municipal income taxpayers so we better make sure we devote some money in one of the maintenance contracts to buy us that extra time if we are going to keep pushing the main project out further to the right.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that road is in horrid condition, terrible.

Mayor Kurtz said Don make sure we have enough in maintenance to be able to go down there and do something.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said you would hate to invest a lot of money into it and then it gets chewed up by the other projects, that makes no sense because we haven't probably done anything down there in 50 years.

Several people began speaking at once.

Councilperson Trakas said I think James A. Garfield did that project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that's right, with a few mules and a couple of horses.

Councilperson Veverka asked didn't we have the Service Department do some work there at the edge of the bridge just to try to stabilize it last year Don?

City Engineer Ramm said actually I think we had one of our creek maintenance contracts had to do some repairs there because we were losing the edge.

Councilperson Veverka said right. There was a little bit of attention down there.

City Engineer Ramm said that was Old Rockside.

Councilperson Veverka said but that region.

Mayor Kurtz said okay, we have Schaaf Road.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said next is Schaaf Road, yes.

City Engineer Ramm said that's the one we were talking about earlier that Ronyak still have to pave the top in the spring, but we are halfway there on the asphalt work.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked so that should be done next year by the end of spring you think Don?

City Engineer Ramm said yes. They will earmark it for one of their first projects coming out when the weather breaks.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good, and then Fuhrmeyer after that; that's the stretch that goes from where that animal hospital is to Old Brecksville Road?

City Engineer Ramm said correct. There's some poor conditions there, and that's what we were just talking about when we started this meeting. We tried to improve that drainage. It's an uncurbed pavement, and that area seems to be prone to significant flooding when the West Creek comes up and the Cuyahoga river floods. So, it's kind of a mess down there, but we are hoping that with the improvements that we put out there, help it drain better and/or after a flood event help it go down quicker with the facilities that we added. It's just going to buy us time until the bigger project comes through. That's why this one is out in 2023 and 2024.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked that's water mains too? The water main has to be horrible down there.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, and I think the storm sewer is old and antiquated and needs some upgrades; so it would be a pretty comprehensive project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said because I know Fuhrmeyer, I think it's been on every Five-Year Plan we have had since its origination. A lot of people didn't even know what Fuhrmeyer was.

Councilperson Trakas said we have good intentions.

City Engineer Ramm said and it was better than Schaaf so we didn't think about worrying about it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said which is amazing.

Mayor Kurtz said Don, make sure we have enough maintenance money in both Commerce Park and Fuhrmeyer.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said now Old Brecksville Road.

City Engineer Ramm said similarly we think that the appropriate approach would be to package this work with the Fuhrmeyer project in terms of from an engineering standpoint and construction because they are so close together, each one is a small road, and would make perfect sense to package them together.

Mayor Kurtz said the only thing I would caution Council is this is good because we are talking about 2023, 2024, we have a couple of years; but if things develop in the Cloverleaf area, there will be infrastructure upgrades and maybe even some reconfiguration of Old Brecksville Road. So, it's great that we are going to put money aside, but that may be part of a bigger project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and Mayor I think some members of Council, I know Tom, I don't know Jim if you were on also and Dale; but we had talked about Independence Excavating was possibly going to build a taller office building there. As a matter of fact, they were doing some work in conjunction with ODOT I think as far as lowering the hill there or whatever. I know that we had seen kind of preliminary plans and gave them approval to knock down all those trees in anticipation that they were going to build some kind of, I think we were trying to attract a company to locate a facility there at that time.

Mayor Kurtz said you are correct, and just further what it does is it really is going to be part of a major upgrade in my opinion in that entire area.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said if that becomes a reality, that would really open up the door to another section of town for economic development big time.

Mayor Kurtz said it's good that we are doing that, but I just want to put a little asterisk that this all could be blended into a bigger project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said yes. Any questions regarding Old Brecksville?

Old Brecksville over by Broglio's will always be in my mind as remembering Old Brecksville Road I think.

Mayor Kurtz said that's correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Old Rockside Road.

City Engineer Ramm said yeah I think this is almost a carbon copy of the comments we just talked about with Commerce Park Oval in terms of timing and waiting until a lot of that major project work is completed.

Councilperson Trakas said Don this is really on top of the money for the project in a sense. You are really talking about this whole thing could be a \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 project.

City Engineer Ramm asked which one?

Councilperson Trakas said we are talking about the levy project, if we do them all at the same time.

Mayor Kurtz said Commerce, Old Rockside Road, the levy project and the bridge project absolutely.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said you are talking about a lot of infrastructure work by the time 2026 comes or rolls around. We could have a lot of work.

City Engineer Ramm said concentrated in that one area.

Councilperson Trakas said thank goodness for term limits. I will be out and watching you guys, let me know how it goes okay.

Councilperson Narduzzi said I will be sitting and watching with you Jim.

Mayor Kurtz said we all will be; no Kenn and Chris will still be there.

Councilperson Trakas said Don will be here. He's like a bug in a nuclear storm right?

Councilperson Kapusta said I am thinking it's a compliment Don, I'm not sure.

City Engineer Ramm said job security.

Councilperson Trakas said I'm kidding.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that's good news for that area because that area really hasn't had much investment over the last number of years infrastructure wise; and finally I think it will be well worth it. The community will be way ahead because of that work. Anything else for Old Rockside?

Sprague Road.

City Engineer Ramm said this culvert project has been on our books for a while, and there's been no action. The culvert is in good shape, it's a little bit old. It's probably going to need to be improved in a period of years, but we pushed this funding out so there's nothing major to talk about in that regard.

Councilperson Narduzzi said hey Don, there was some work being done on Sprague, I believe it's Broadview Heights right where that church entrance is on Sprague on Broadview Heights' side. They put a big culvert in there. They had some heavy machinery there. I think it was just west of I-77.

City Engineer Ramm asked just west or east?

Mayor Kurtz said east.

Councilperson Narduzzi said east of I-77.

City Engineer Ramm said their back drive, their north drive comes out.

Councilperson Narduzzi said correct.

City Engineer Ramm asked just recently?

Councilperson Narduzzi said just last week or the week before last. They were down to one lane.

City Engineer Ramm said I am not sure what that would have been other than maybe they had a culvert fail. I think that some pipes got put in when that church was developed, when that site was improved, and all that pavement went up. I thought there was a lot of drainage work.

Councilperson Narduzzi said I'm just saying ultimately, that water ends up on our side.

City Engineer Ramm said it comes through this culvert that we are talking about.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked so Don all of this that's for Sprague Road is in conjunction with Broadview Heights, everything that we see on the spreadsheet?

City Engineer Ramm said well that particular culvert goes from Broadview Heights and then comes under the center line of the road and discharges in our City; so it would be a joint venture if any rehabilitation or replacement of that culvert pipe was necessary. It would be a County project but locally funded.

Finance Director Blaze said since we are talking about flood and culvert and that Sprague Road on that Broadview Heights border. Mayor, I haven't been watching this closely, but somebody told me that the old Ceglia house is up for sale; and I know we acquired two properties on Pleasant Valley for flood management control. I know that house that sits down there in the ravine where the creek goes south to north on the west boundary, and then makes basically a 90 degree angle turn to the east behind the property; that property gets some severe flooding when we have these major downpours and just throwing that out for consideration and information.

Mayor Kurtz said thank you Vern. As a matter of fact, I just made a note to add that to the Public Buildings & Lands discussion.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Thank you Vern. Anything else regarding Sprague Road? Which takes us to Page 24, and that's, we have Stone Road drainage at 8422 and 8502; and that's in year 2025. I think that's been on our spreadsheet for as long as I remember too. Is that correct Don?

City Engineer Ramm said yes. That was right at that hard 90 degree turn near Mr. & Mrs. Guzi's property. That drainage, it's very flat there, and then the truck traffic from the mine just really

amplified conditions; but since the trucks are gone, and we just felt it was something that we could push back.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good.

Councilperson Trakas asked have we had any events this year Don? I know there have been a lot of rain issues, has that been one of our trouble spots?

City Engineer Ramm said no, now that you say that no Councilperson Trakas. I don't recall there being any major problems there.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Stone Road, upper roadside drainage; and I see we have \$200,000 set aside for 2022 and 2023.

City Engineer Ramm said and this is primarily the stretch from Brecksville Road to the ball field. That area, the road is actually higher than the sidewalks; and the water stands all over the road and along the edges of the road. It's just very poor drainage there. So, the intent was to really make a significant improvement, but then I think early on we had appropriated for years early, but with the potential of development of the downtown and the area of the football field, we choose to keep pushing it out for fear that just to make sure we could plan accordingly and not spend and invest money and ultimately have it impacted by a development that came later.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said this is a placeholder that we can move in either direction in case something does happen with the downtown area; we would be able to have money set aside.

City Engineer Ramm said right. The work is needed in and of itself for that street, but it would make sense to try to plan it accordingly with a bigger project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said yes. Then finally Valley View Drive.

City Engineer Ramm said that road is behind the shopping center. It's feels like a private shopping center driveway, but it's actually a dedicated, the roadway there. The pavement is stressed. I think the Service Department spent a significant amount of time this past season with crack seal and to try to help limp it along; but it's in need of some TLC for sure. That's what this was for.

Councilperson Narduzzi said Don when we redo that road, it's blacktopped all the way up to the back side of that building. Are we responsible for that? Where's the lines for the street?

City Engineer Ramm said that's a good question. So, looking on the hard overlay of the right-of-way lines, it's somewhat of an arbitrary line, let's just say it's 7 or 8 feet off the building; that would be the right-of-way. You have to pick a point when you do that when you resurface it, where to start and stop; and I think the pavement closer to the building is in better condition because it's not being driven on by mainline traffic. So, our intent, or the quantities that we utilize to come up with that cost estimate I think was primarily the lanes as they are used and what's in the worst condition.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked is that a mill and fill? What kind of work would be done on that Don as far as the resurfacing?

City Engineer Ramm said initially we were thinking just mill and fill; but we think a good amount of base repair work. I don't think it has been determined yet to be honest.

Finance Director Blaze said when that road gets majorly rebuilt, where are the sidewalks going to go?

City Engineer Ramm said that's one of our only roads in the City that is inverted; so that there is an inverted crown, so it's like a low spot. The catch basins are in the center which is more of a difficult parking lot type construction which I think it lends itself; people will think it's just a shopping center driveway. It's a unique situation there.

Mayor Kurtz said keep in mind, and this is another one of those catch-all projects that if things develop in the downtown area that this will be blended into that.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said this road really, it gets utilized by delivery trucks, post office and some of those others that have a back delivery entry into the shopping center. Up front it's utilized by the pre-schoolers. There's some traffic there, and cars that drop off the youngsters that go to school there. The back doesn't get used hardly at all. There's a house I think. I think there are people who live in that house I believe.

Mayor Kurtz said yes there is.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said then you have our old engineer's office. Is anybody in that building now as far as any offices Mayor that you know of?

Mayor Kurtz said I believe they just, Norm was saying; they just rented some portion of it out.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see. That finishes our Page 24 on the commercial street projects. Any questions of Don before we move on to Page 25; and now these are again road projects, but they are funded by TIF I believe, right Vern?

Finance Director Blaze said yes, they are listed on the TIF pages and the TIF portion of this. Keep in mind though that either we fund it with cash and advance the money to the TIF, and then the TIF pays the City back, pays the advances back. Or we utilize the process that's been utilized quite a bit in the past, and that's borrow, and then the TIF pays back the debt. Since we just completed our refinancing so to say, I don't know if there's the appetite to borrow right now. So, we are looking at if any of these projects get approved, especially the 2021, we would be advancing the money to these TIF funds and not transferring. If you transfer it, the expectation is the money is not getting paid back, it's just there for good. If we advance the money, say from the municipal income tax fund to one of these TIF funds, then we have the ability to pay ourselves back through the TIF revenue that's generated over time to these districts.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see. We start right off the bat with Ashwood/Chestnut extension. Is that the road that has no houses on it that goes parallel to I-77?

City Engineer Ramm said correct. I think that's what the intent of the project would be. Initially, on the prior years it was labeled as a traffic signal upgrade because there's an antiquated traffic signal. It might be one of the oldest in the City, and it's in need of repair, upgrade; but before we replace it in its current location, I know a number of years ago there was some talk about relocating a portion of Ashwood, pushing it further east to get it away from that house that sits up against the highway and better line it up with the CEI power line easement and to potentially extend that, create a road underneath the high tension lines, a north/south road. In that instance the signal would be at a different location than it is presently. So, change the name of the project and thought we should throw some dollars in 2021 to study it, do some preliminary engineering on the feasibility of what that would look like, what it would take; and then ultimately threw in some dollars in 2023 to consider a project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked so are we talking about moving that road farther east then away from I-77?

Mayor Kurtz said right, the intersection because of the blind spot at the bridge. We are going to explore, if you approve this money; we are going to use that to explore the possibility of expanding that from a safety standpoint with just access to the park, etc.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see.

Mayor Kurtz said purely exploratory.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said the traffic light there, that's one of the few that don't have an arm mast. There is a new one there right Don on Kleber now with that project?

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked so right now it's just Longano I think and this intersection, they are the only two that don't have an arm mast associated with it?

City Engineer Ramm said yeah, and on the next page you will see the Pleasant Valley interchange, those old signals there on either quadrant of that interchange.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see. So, basically that's just to explore. There is really no concrete plan yet as far as what we are going to do here at Ashwood, just to explore the potential.

Mayor Kurtz said we are going to explore various opportunities, bring them to Council, Streets meeting and just see if there is any of the appetite to find some other access way points, bike path, etc.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said now we have Brecksville Road north of Rockside Road.

City Engineer Ramm said getting back to the big project that was from Rockside all the way to the Cloverleaf. This is that continuation of that project. We had it probably initially budgeted a year or two earlier, but the ODOT bridge project is coming. This time next year they are going to be bidding it out, it will be under construction in mostly 2022; so that's what the premise of us pushing out the construction work to 2023 or 2024, but getting going. We still have a lot of work to do with right-of-way and utility relocation work; so we kept some funding in 2021 so that we don't lose ground on that. As you know, that takes time and effort. That has to be done no matter when you do construction; so we are trying to keep some funding in 2021, knowing that the physical construction work is still a couple few years out.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so that work will be done after Kleber and Longano get completed.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, and after ODOT does the bridge.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see.

Councilperson Trakas said just out of curiosity, so are we talking about going north from Kleber to the Cloverleaf or is that what this? Or are we talking about going south towards Rockside here?

City Engineer Ramm said both. It's both.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so Rockside to the northern boundary.

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Councilperson Trakas said again I reiterate, I don't think the people there want this. We are talking about a total of almost \$4,000,000, and to turn this thing into a commercial street. Again, I think we need to talk to our people because I think they have some really strong opinions that they don't want to see this happen; and we haven't done that. We met with the residents down there three years ago; they ultimately decided they didn't want to see this as a commercial area, and here we are trudging ahead \$4,000,000 of their own dollars to be used against them. I strenuously believe we need to have that conversation with people before we start talking about something like this.

Mayor Kurtz said Jim, I'm not sure. I think you are pre-empting a situation. They need to have it cleaned up and upgraded.

Councilperson Trakas said I don't think the upgrades that we are talking about here Mayor are the ones that we represented to the people to be very candid. You are talking about, if you are talking about north of Kleber Court, I don't think there was much debate about that. If you are talking about going south and taking people's properties where they have such a small area there and making commercial sidewalks, preparing that area to become a commercial area in the next few years, getting rid of all those people who live there; I think there are some strong opinions there.

Mayor Kurtz said this is all new to me. I would like to see the plans. I would like to see what the projection is, what they are trying to accomplish. So, I guess you are farther advanced compared to me. All I will tell Council is that right lane, that needs to be milled and filled, and I'm not going to wait four or five years to mill and fill that right lane where the concrete is all the way to the surface. As far as I'm concerned, that needs to be done like you appropriated money to do those curb lanes north of I-480. At a minimum we should next year mill and fill that curb lane where they put that new gas line in, and if I lived down there, I would be embarrassed.

I have to look at the plans because I am not sure this is anything different than what you all looked at before I got on board; but I want to see them myself. I should drill down a little deeper.

Councilperson Trakas said please do Mayor.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked we aren't looking at a boulevard there are we because I don't think there's any appetite to have a boulevard, a divided boulevard there at all. I mean I know there was some talk about that.

Mayor Kurtz said this was to upgrade the project the way it is and make it like the rest of it without the widening.

City Engineer Ramm said and one major element Mayor was the water main.

Mayor Kurtz said that's the big cost.

City Engineer Ramm said the water main upgrade.

Councilperson Trakas said that would be fine.

Mayor Kurtz said to me this was to do what we have and clean it all up and make it better for those people up there.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked weren't we having decorative lighting all the way from Rockside over to the bridge and everything because we have a small stretch there, but it makes sense to have it all the way to Rockside Road.

Mayor Kurtz said I thought this was what the plan was before I got here. The bulk of this money is the water main. I just want to make sure we are all on the same page.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said which is quite extensive, quite expensive too.

Mayor Kurtz said yes.

Councilperson Veverka said Mr. Mayor a question. I have had a couple of residents along that stretch of Brecksville Road indicate that they had some sort of survey that they filled out that they sent into the City. Do we have results of the survey?

Mayor Kurtz said we are still working on that Dale. It's more of a seek to understand what they really want, and I think Covid kind of interrupted that process.

Councilperson Veverka said okay because I know that that there was a couple of months ago, there was a conversation, they said they got the survey. So, I was just curious.

Mayor Kurtz said if we had something completed, obviously I would pass it along to Council because it would influence what you want to do; but with Covid, we had the opening of the road, we have all these different dynamics. I want to drill down on these plans myself; but at a minimum I don't think it's fair to the people at the north end of town to wait four years to have that curb lane concrete removed.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think we were supposed to have this job done, they were supposed to be working on it now, weren't they Don originally 2021?

Mayor Kurtz said well yeah, when you add the water line, all of a sudden there was no sense putting in all the work and wasting millions of dollars on a water line.

City Engineer Ramm said and cutting up the road. That water main is going to have to go in the road, the segment that Fabrizi put in was out in the road. So, that's another premise. The road is going to get cut up with this project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked is that going to affect the gas line? Where in relation is it to where the gas line went in?

City Engineer Ramm said there was a heavy amount of coordination with Dominion for that project knowing that we were in the middle of design. I think that's how it came about, and we tried to be prudent such that we made sure and were purposeful in where we allowed them to go and where they could find a corridor and also reserve our location for the proposed water main when it was time for us to do our work.

Mayor Kurtz asked so when you authorized E.L. Robinson, I think that this thing took on a larger picture than just a resurfacing or clean up. It's now a complete infrastructure, a complete utility upgrade also, similar to what you authorized further north.

City Engineer Ramm said yes.

Mayor Kurtz said it would foolish not to do the whole water main all the way now.

Councilperson Trakas said understood.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so I would like to see consistency from Kleber Court all the way down to Rockside then as far as the lights go and everything else. It looks funny to have just the decorative lighting and that over a certain section; and it's the same thing with the sidewalks and that too. We need to be uniform there for the folks on both sides.

Councilperson Narduzzi said those sidewalks could go on the west side because I think there are four or five houses that have no sidewalks at all.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said right.

Councilperson Narduzzi said you have sidewalks to none to (inaudible).

Mayor Kurtz said you are going to have to think about utility relocation, similar to what happened in front of Rockside Woods North. There will have to be utility relocation to make that aesthetically more pleasing, entire curb and gutter. There's even something, when you say right-of-way, we are not talking about major right-of-way, we are talking about a right-of-way, if we need to go a foot or two to expand; that's when we really try to make it safe, make it reasonable and sidewalks. This is a big project. You throw all the utilities to it, you are talking about adding millions of dollars.

Councilperson Veverka said when this was designed though, this was designed pretty much in coordination with Rockside Woods North because I remember there was conversation in Streets & Sidewalks related to the fact that the right-of-way was different widths in different sections from Rockside up to Rockside Woods North, correct? Didn't we acquire those right-of-ways if we needed in that segment?

City Engineer Ramm said Councilperson Veverka, just in the project limits of what got constructed that Vice Mayor Grendel is speaking in relation to the decorative street lights in that stretch. We acquired what we needed for that project, but nothing further, nothing north or south.

Councilperson Veverka asked do we have consistent right-of-ways in existence already that are adequate?

Mayor Kurtz said no, that's why there's additional money because we are going to have to have some additional right-of-way going south.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we have to make it uniform, make it look like a complete project from the bridge all the way to Rockside.

Councilperson Trakas said I think the cautionary note is you have at least five of those properties that are just really not conforming; and they are so small that if you did that, the street light would be in the middle of the people's yards. That's why we stopped there. I just urge a lot of caution.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I know the west side, how many homes are owner occupied on the west side, three or four maybe?

Mayor Kurtz said I don't know, but I think it's fair to say as soon as we have something that we can sit down as a group and have a meaningful discussion that should be our next step in this area.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said definitely.

Councilperson Narduzzi said Councilperson Trakas I know where you are coming from because you and I were both against that project down there; but it seems now that we lost the first battle, we can't stop now. It kind of looks like we ran out of money, when you are heading south, coming over the I-480 bridge and heading south to Rockside. So, we have to, be it commercial, be it residential, we have to make it look presentable to the people who are there. It does look kind of shoddy.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and in conjunction, I am sure once the pandemic is over, we can have a number of meetings with the residents to coordinate with them.

Mayor Kurtz said absolutely, but we have to have something we can show them too.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said yes.

Councilperson Trakas said understood.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked anything further on that topic? Time wise I wanted to check with Council and everything, we are getting up near the 6:00 p.m. time. Anybody who has to leave or should we plow forward and everything? We have a few more pages.

Mayor Kurtz said until someone falls over.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. To me this is interesting. Don, I could spend maybe three or four days discussing with you, both Jim's committee and Dale's committee because to me it's fascinating. Infrastructure, I think it's one of our main reasons we are here is to give our residents the best infrastructure we can for their investment of their houses.

So, we move on. We did talk about the north bridge aesthetics; so we are setting aside the \$400,000, \$200,000 in 2021 and \$200,000 in 2022, so we have whatever decorative that we decide to put on that bridge.

City Engineer Ramm said correct. We had coordinated with ODOT, both in the design and also for the construction. There is some decorative street lighting, some improved fencing, and then some treatments in the parapet. So, there's been some work, and those would be 100% local cost elements of that bridge project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said a lot of the aesthetics as far as for the people on I-480 to see as they are going underneath the bridge, see the Independence welcome, or whatever we want to put in there. I like what Newburgh Heights did with their seal of their city on there; but that's a different setup there because that's on an embankment to their bridges and that. We haven't come to a conclusion what that's going to be, have we Don as far as a final?

Mayor Kurtz said we will work with them on it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good because there's been a lot, I'm really impressed with what's around the State.

Brecksville Road, Rockside to Sprague, and that's another one Kenn if you notice there's \$1,00,000 set aside for the next five years. So, Don what would that entail?

City Engineer Ramm said so that stretch of 21 is pretty old. It's beat up, and we have been doing some strip patching. ODOT probably has it in their municipal or their urban paving program. I think it's programmed, still out in 2024 or 2025; but all they intend to do is just mill and fill it. We have an old poor condition water main out there on 21; so it's going to be a major project cutting up the road and major traffic implications. We do feel like it's going to be much larger than just a mill fill; so that's why we are throwing in the millions added each year. That is what the intent of that project is.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked Don, don't we have to redo the culvert in front of City Hall that goes underneath 21?

City Engineer Ramm said ODOT is looking at that and programming that; and you saw some survey work going on that's in the works. It's still three to four to five years out; but it's going to need to be rehabilitated in a major way, that culvert.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked do you think Don there will be some kind of assistance with that program with the State that we could get like we did on Pleasant Valley and that? You are looking about the main artery in our City.

City Engineer Ramm said yes, it's definitely much like this section, we are getting \$840,000 for the section north of Rockside. It definitely will be eligible for ODOT funding.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. How many years do you anticipate Don that going forward beyond 2025?

City Engineer Ramm said we haven't spent a whole lot of time to dial that down, but we definitely need to. That was just a guesstimate, and just to get something, placeholders starting to get set up.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said once you have narrowed that down; it probably would be good on our Five-Year Plan to put down the duration of years that it's expected to have this so people reading this could read that it really goes beyond 2025 as far as that goes because I imagine it would be way more than \$5,000,000.

City Engineer Ramm said I anticipate definitely.

Councilperson Trakas asked didn't we say about \$10,000,00 if you extrapolated it out?

City Engineer Ramm said I don't recall. It could be very expensive. It's a lot of, it's probably two to three miles.

Councilperson Trakas said it needs to get done.

City Engineer Ramm said oh yes.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that leads us to the downtown redevelopment streetscaping, and we have already had \$500,000 I see set aside in an open P.O. from 2019. Is that \$500,000 for this year also Vern? So, we have \$1,000,000 set aside?

Finance Director Blaze said we only have the \$500,000 from that 2019 P.O.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked so nothing was set aside in 2020?

Finance Director Blaze said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said alright, thank you.

City Engineer Ramm said Vice Mayor Grendel, I don't have a whole lot of input on this. There again, there are a lot of moving parts, and it depends on the ultimate project or projects.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think we will know a little better as 2021 goes on I believe Mayor we are going to have some proposals given to us what's being worked on.

Mayor Kurtz said that's correct. The goal is the first quarter.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Interchange gateway streetscape, \$1,000,000 set aside in 2021 and 2022. Is that for I-77 and Rockside?

Mayor Kurtz said yes, that's correct. That approval that we authorized with GPD, correct Don?

City Engineer Ramm said correct Mayor, it was part of their scope of work.

Mayor Kurtz said that's the grant money they got, the partial grant money for the widening of the ramps; and we have the opportunity to blend some of this into that project. So, the thought was we would put some money aside and see as they get closer and closer; we would be in a position to take advantage of that, the synergies.

Councilperson Trakas asked can you educate me on what our portion, what does the streetscape entail? I am not familiar what we were talking about doing there. I know what they are trying to do, but I don't know what this was intended for.

Finance Director Blaze said before anybody else jumps on, I will just say downtown the section from the top of 21 hill from Romito's going south to almost Selig; I think back in 2014-2015 when Mayor Kurtz had entered into that development agreement with Fairmont Properties, the thought was that aesthetically and business wise that it made sense to look at replicating what was completed on Rockside Road when Rockside Road was majorly rebuilt about 15 years ago; and that was burying of the overhead utilities. So, I can't say all of this \$5,500,000 that is shown

here is for that particular part of the project alone; but certainly that would be a large component of cleaning up the downtown streetscape and getting rid of the wooden utility poles and the numerous overhead power lines that connect each one.

Councilperson Trakas said I'm sorry, I was referring to the interchange gateway.

Finance Director Blaze said I'm sorry.

Mayor Kurtz said it's exactly right Jim. It's the area in conjunction with all of the ramps and the upgrades to those ramps and landscape features that support the infrastructure.

Councilperson Trakas said thank you.

Finance Director Blaze said you drive to Dublin, some other communities in northeast Ohio, or even all of Ohio, you get off the interstate ramp; and you are sitting there at the light and you get this feel like wow this place is cool. This place has their act going on. Unfortunately, right now the way it is, you get off, if you are coming from I-77 in the north, and you are coming off at Rockside, and you have the Crown Centre sitting on your right, and on your left you are looking at high grass and weeds and cigarette butts and signs toppled over; and it's really not the image that Independence, I think the Mayor and Economic Development Director are trying to establish for the community, the Rockside Road business corridor, our main revenue source and really that gateway into it coming off the interchange, whether it's that one or the one coming up from the south. You just have to start establishing that community identity sooner than Rockside Road itself because motorists do spend a good amount of time sitting at the light waiting to get onto Rockside. While they are sitting, they are looking, and they are already making judgments on your community based on what they see while they are sitting there.

Mayor Kurtz said to further announce, it's in concert with ODOT because a lot of this would be on the ODOT property.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so there's only so many things they accept.

Mayor Kurtz said right, exactly. So, GPD is going to work in concert with the upgrades, the physical upgrades, the structure, the traffic upgrades; and also at the same time we are going get them to approve, work with us on the aesthetics.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good.

Councilperson Veverka said when you are on the southbound ramp and headed towards, get off Rockside Road; I know that we were at a point with that Starbucks and that beautiful wall with the designation of Independence and everything on it; is that totally out of the picture now?

Mayor Kurtz said it went dark during Covid, and Dave called me last week. I called him back, so we played phone tag. So, I don't know what his intentions are at this point.

Councilperson Veverka said because that was a very attractive feature that they would have picked up the cost on is what I understand. We would only have a minor role to have a very attractive area for people at the light to look straight ahead at.

Mayor Kurtz said it's a perspective. Everyone has their perspective. I am not sure, in my conversations, what the contributions were that the City was going to make, but to be determined.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I know we had a few meetings I think in Executive Session with that gentleman on the type of wall, and we spent a lot of time on the wall that he needed in order to put his structure in there; but that all fell by the wayside in November of last year.

Weren't there plans at one time Mayor the City had with a fountain and things of that nature that they were looking at a few years back.

Mayor Kurtz said Jeff Markley had some things of what ODOT would do, what they would allow, what they wouldn't allow. They have tightened up their parameters the last five years; but in working with GPD and ODOT at the same time, that's the purpose of trying to do something in concert with ODOT rather than go to them as an individual request.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see.

Councilperson Veverka said and the other concern related to how exotic we get with the streetscape landscape is obviously we have to consider the amount of work that would be involved to maintain those particular areas. I know that's one of the things that kind of snuck up on us in the past, and different Homeowner Associations have kind of disbanded and not get involved, we end up taking care of lots and lots of landscaping around town. That has a related cost. So, we do need to be aware of that potential cost. As we develop this landscaping, are we going to be able to have landscaping that requires minimal efforts or is it going to be landscaping that requires huge dedication of labor?

Mayor Kurtz said well keep in mind, we made that commitment when we updated Rockside Road, a lot of our concentrated landscaping efforts today are a result of the Rockside Road upgrade. It was done 18 years ago; so you are going to have some element of involvement, and the goal would be to come up with something that's practical, the maintenance is reasonable, but it also makes a difference too because it's like your houses, if you don't maintain them, if you don't do something that makes a difference, then it's going to look like some of the other houses and Independence has to be different.

So, I am confident that, ODOT is still going to sign off of whatever we recommend or whatever GPD recommends. It's an exciting opportunity.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked and Mayor the \$2,000,000 set aside, \$1,000,000 each year; is that for both heading north and heading south, both of those off ramps?

Mayor Kurtz said I think we have to drill down with GPD to find out the extent of what they are, I just know that they are excited about the opportunity to do something with ODOT because we are going to be right there.

Vice Mayor Grendel said we have been talking about something like that for years and years. It will be interesting to see what comes out of it, if it's something reasonable. We want something to really dress up Independence and our gateway there.

Mayor Kurtz said I think the Finance Director said it best, you know when you get into certain communities. You know when you drive around the State, when you enter certain communities they make a statement, and you remember that. It's like I remember going to Rock Creek, past Rock Creek on I-77 in North Carolina. They have that tower in the center of I-77. You don't forget it.

Finance Director Blaze said we don't even have to go to Dublin, just drive Route 21 north and start making that right turn to get off at East 71st to go to Cuyahoga Heights, and you see that beautiful brick Cuyahoga Heights entryway. The grass during the summer months is golf course green. The lines are cut perfectly straight. The flowers are colorful and manicured; that makes a statement like hey I am coming into a nice, well-maintained village. This village cares about appearance, and that's demonstrated by what you see the moment you come into this community.

Mayor Kurtz said I don't care if you live here, if you work here, you drive through here, you are right Finance Director Blaze, that makes a statement. You just don't forget it when you drive past that. I think we need to do the same. I am passionate about that because we need to have the same type of representation of that's our image, that's what you look at when you drive through Independence is what's the image. You are going on a first date with some of these people, and you better make a statement. So, it's exciting. That's a to be continued discussion.

Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. We will move on to Hillside Road culvert replacement. Don, I see that's a project, engineering in 2021, and then construction, is that a two year construction period or the construction will be done in 2022?

City Engineer Ramm said it should be one full season. This is the project if you recall, we submitted an OPWC application for with regard to both the culvert and to upgrade the water main because the water main on Hillside is in very poor condition in the stretch that this project would include which is primarily from Vineyard, a little bit east of Vineyard, all the way west to the corp. line is the water main. The culverting question is really focused, is primarily from Vineyard east close to where that new house got built that sits down low by the creek there. It's an old corrugated metal pipe that is in poor condition.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked so this includes also the water main that you said?

City Engineer Ramm said yes it does. In fact, remember when we were talking about, and the next project down is the Hillside Road sidewalk project that we were towards from Hawthorn Trace to South Great Oaks; we talked about this very water main in terms of needing it to be

replaced and not building these sidewalks to the extent that it would be negatively impacted by this water main project.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I see. Any questions of Don regarding this project?

The Hillside Road east project, which everything has been approved for that I guess; construction will start in the springtime.

City Engineer Ramm replied correct.

Vice Mayor Grendel said and DiGioia is going to be constructing that, and that's going to go all the way to Brecksville Road then.

City Engineer Ramm said close to Brecksville. There's already an existing sidewalk that we built there across the veterinary clinic; and it heads a little bit further east. It doesn't quite get to Hemoga, and we will pick it up there and extend it to Twin Creeks.

Vice Mayor Grendel said this will connect the whole thing then.

City Engineer Ramm said yes. We are also, last week we talked about one of those pedestrian signals that are lit by solar. We will also be adding one by the primary school to get pedestrians safely across the street from Greenwood over to the Blue Ribbon Drive there. So, we will have a safe pedestrian crossing with this project.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked the sidewalk on the south side of Hillside that ends at the primary school?

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Vice Mayor Grendel said similar to what we are going to do on the west side there by Valley Woods.

City Engineer Ramm said yes. It will be a safe crosswalk and some signage and lighting.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked any questions of Don on this?

We will move to Page 26, and that's the other twin project, the Hillside Road west sidewalk; and that goes from Hawthorn and then we lengthened that to the I-77 overpass.

Mayor Kurtz said that's correct.

City Engineer Ramm said that's this very project.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked and when do you look to bid that out Don, sometime maybe in January or February when Euthenics finishes their work?

City Engineer Ramm said correct. We are already looking at appraisals for some of the temporary easements and permanent easements that are needed for the project. So, over the next month or two we hope to make good progress on that while the plans are being finished up and hoping to be bidding it out in January or February.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked now lengthwise how does this compare length of sidewalk to what is being done on the east side? Isn't it shorter lengthwise? You have more drainage and that being done.

City Engineer Ramm said there's more work. We are putting a curb in this stretch and doing some lane widening to try to just square everything up and improve the drainage, so it's a little bit more comprehensive. There's a retaining wall that's needed because of the challenges with some of the lay of the land there. So, the east section is much more trying to fit the sidewalk into the landscape that's out there.

Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Any questions of Don regarding the Hillside Road west sidewalk proposal?

We move on to Patriot's Way, there's \$100,000 set aside in 2022.

City Engineer Ramm said I do believe this was attached a potential development project in the northwest quadrant that if and when Lombardo was upgraded and/or Oak Tree Blvd. North was extended, there is a segment behind the restaurants that this is more of a parking lot than it is a road; but ultimately the vision is that it will be the Patriot's Way right-of-way and that time the road would need to be upgraded.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked so this \$100,000 goes towards the construction part, or is this engineering?

City Engineer Ramm said it's a little bit non-descript right now because of the plans not being completely firmed up in that northwest quadrant. They could be for both.

Vice Mayor Grendel said they could be for both. Any questions from Council on this?

We go to Pleasant Valley and I-77, \$80,000 set aside for adding additional westbound turning lane onto to Pleasant Valley from southbound ramp at the Pleasant Valley exit.

City Engineer Ramm said the wording of that maybe, so there is an existing left turn lane as you are heading westbound on Pleasant Valley to go southbound on I-77. There is an extreme demand for that left turn. It's rather short, you can only store probably four to five cars, six cars at the most before cars start to back up onto the westbound through lane. So, this project, we took an alternate bid in the 2020 Concrete Road Maintenance Contract to remove the median. There is a center concrete raised island that currently occupies the space that would ultimately have to be removed and poured back in to make for additional storage, left turn storage capacity just to help traffic flow a little better there, give more cars opportunity to pull over into that dedicated left turn lane without impacting the westbound traffic as much.

In speaking with Vern and the Mayor and Maggie a couple few days ago, off the top of my head I threw out \$80,000; and after that meeting I looked back in the bid tab, and it was actually \$90,000. So, for even numbers I recommend that it gets thrown in there as \$100,000 if there is an intent to do that work in this coming year.

Vice Mayor Grendel said it looks like Dale that will be a topic of one of our early meetings too to see if there's an appetite to go with this project.

Then Pleasant Valley and I-77, interchange modification and signal upgrade and to widen both Pleasant Valley north and southbound ramps.

City Engineer Ramm said so a little bit earlier in the conversation we talked about those old signals. These are on span wires. They function pretty well, but due to be upgraded to the traditional mast arm type construction; and what we know about this interchange is that there is a significant demand in the a.m. and p.m. Right now there are only single lanes both to get on to the ramps and to get off the ramps; and there is significant skewing of traffic up onto the highway for southbound in the p.m. rush hour; and then in the a.m. rush hour the traffic is all the way up the hill towards Seven Hills coming eastbound to make that northbound left turn to go I-77 north. So, this project we anticipate trying to coordinate with ODOT, having some consultants doing some studying to try to facilitate some ramp widenings to account for some dual lefts, both for coming off the ramp and to enter onto the northbound ramp. So, that's really what the premise behind this project is. It would be a very comprehensive interchange project that would also include at that time the signal upgrades.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked so the \$400,000 represents engineering work on that?

City Engineer Ramm said correct, to start the study and do some preliminary and then final engineering.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I see, and that's something that we might get participation from ODOT for regarding that?

City Engineer Ramm said yes, I do believe they are interested in it. They know about it based on some prior coordination. We actually, I think Dave Snyderburn was lobbying ODOT back a number of years ago when I-77 was being widened, that they should have tried to accommodate some ramp widenings back then; but ODOT didn't have it programmed at the time. So, what they did was they widened the shoulder and striped it, but kind of provided some space, particularly on the southbound loop ramp. So, people could sneak by without driving into the grass, but it's striped as a single lane, two lanes, one to go make the left and one to continue along the loop to go eastbound. So, that is what this project is for.

Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Any questions of Don?

We move to Pleasant Valley pedestrian facilities, County bridge project, and there's \$50,000 set aside from 2021 through 2024.

City Engineer Ramm said Vice Mayor in coordination with the County, they have a major bridge project scheduled for three bridges on Pleasant Valley, the bridge over Riverview Road, the bridge over the railroad tracks and then the bridge over the Cuyahoga river. So, this project is \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000. It's all the County project, but in the coordination of that job both with us and Valley View is impacted as well. If we want to be prudent in planning for pedestrian access, both over the bridges, but also on the corridor, particularly to get over the river and try to attempt to connect to the towpath trail. So, any sort of pedestrian facilities would be 100% local cost, not so much on the bridges, but in between the bridges. So, this money is designated for our local share to facilitate safe pedestrian access along Pleasant Valley in between these bridges.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked when does the County expect to work on this in 2025?

City Engineer Ramm said it's out a ways, right I think 2024 right now is how things are lining up. It might be advanced, depending on if engineering gets completed. I would have to do some more coordination with the County; but right now this was the schedule.

Councilperson Veverka said potentially isn't there a problem because of the guardrails, how close the guardrails are along a bunch of those segments where Brookside comes out.

City Engineer Ramm said well there's impacts definitely to the National Park property. They are coordinating, the County is coordinating that work to make it fit, but for sure we would have to do some pushing out. That's part of the project, and that's why it's very expensive.

Councilperson Veverka asked you would have to deal with the National Park?

City Engineer Ramm said right.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked any other questions for Don?

We move on to Rockside Corridor maintenance, and that's been routine. Was there \$100,000 set aside this year though Don? I didn't see anything.

City Engineer Ramm said I don't know.

Finance Director Blaze said let me look. I think we were of the thought, and Don tell me, you mentioned earlier when we were talking about Brecksville Road that at some point if the State will have Brecksville Road since it's a State route on their horizon, but they will only do a limited amount of work. If we want it done in a more extensive manner, we have to fund that cost difference. What about Rockside? We spent \$15,000,000 or \$20,000,000, whatever the number was, call it say 15 years ago to rebuild that street. At some point, there are a lot of lane miles there, a lot of concrete that's going to start needing maintenance; and it's already at least 15 years old. Is that on our back? Is that on the County's back? Is that on the State's back? Is it a combination of those entities? How does a road like Rockside get either maintained and/or rebuilt when it's ready for a rebuild or a repaving?

City Engineer Ramm said I think it would be very eligible for a lot of those outside, for certain the County. It would be a high candidate for OPWC, whether or not ODOT got involved; I don't know because it's not a State route. For certain, because of the volume of traffic, it's a major arterial, it would not be hard I don't think to get some outside agency assistance.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked originally how much did the County pay originally when we had the rebuild in 2000 or 2001? I know that they had that money sitting aside for Independence for a number of years, and they almost gave us like an ultimatum, either they were going to send that money somewhere else or make your plans to rebuild Rockside. So, that was the impetus to get that going. Did the County pay? What was their share of that back then? Does anybody remember?

Finance Director Blaze said that was before Don was with us. You and I were the legislative body then. I think that's when the Mayor was off Council and off the Mayor; so even Maggie that might have been before your time too. So, don't hold me, I don't know why it was maybe a \$30,000,000 project, and we coughed up half, and they came up with half or something. Does that sound like in the ballpark?

Vice Mayor Grendel said I think it does, but it's been so long ago, I kind of forget. I do know that the County did have quite a bit of participation back then. I think some of the upgrades with the marginal roads and that, I don't know if the City paid mostly for that. It was not just Rockside Road, it was a number of marginal roads that we put in too along with that. It was an extensive project that lasted a good three years; but there was quite a bit of County participation in that.

Finance Director Blaze said correct.

City Engineer Ramm said I think for that reason I think it would be highly eligible, and I have to believe you see segments of Rockside Road getting resurfaced and upgraded through Parma and Seven Hills. I think there was County assistance with that work, similar to Pleasant Valley Road.

Vice Mayor Grendel said now we move down to Rockside Road, bridge lighting. Is this the \$160,000 we were going to do a joint project with Valley View because it goes back to an ordinance from 2016. This is the one that we were being neighborly with Valley View.

City Engineer Ramm said and there again it was a major County led project, and they are expensive. At the time we agreed with Valley View to create some aesthetics elements and some bridge lighting. We had a design into the plans, and we even paid our fair share to the consulting firm to include those aspects of work; and then unfortunately the County with their funding limitations, they kind of reallocated, shifted gears and this bridge got pushed back. I think that's probably the same time that all the bridges on Pleasant Valley were moved up. So, it's kind of sat here for a while, and we have already encumbered the P.O.'s for our share. So, that's what the funding is for.

Vice Mayor Grendel said this really doesn't help Independence a whole lot, it helps Valley View more because they have Lockkeepers there and that development there. We did it as a neighborly thing, but that's \$160,000 we have had set aside. So, I guess we just continue to wait to see what the County does on that.

Finally, Rockside Road and I-77 ramps, and we have \$754,446 with GPD, and then construction is the \$3,100,000; but actually \$2,000,000 of that is ODOT's assistance. I think Don we submitted an OPWC with this too for some of this amount?

City Engineer Ramm said we did, for some zero interest loans; and just today I was called by somebody with District OPWC asking questions specifically about this project. They are trying to determine, I think they think it's a good project. They would like to fund it; but there's a little bit of a nuance in that the program, the entity submitting the application ultimately is supposed to be the owner who is obligated to own and maintain it in perpetuity. With the ramp project, obviously it's an ODOT facility that they are giving us permission to come in there and chaperone the project of the widening; but ultimately once we done with the project, it will be ODOT's, the ramps, the bridge widening to maintain. So, I think they are trying to look at ways to see how they could either get around that or if it's a project that they just can't consider funding. So, we are still hopeful. We seem to be in the game, but we don't know yet.

Vice Mayor Grendel said I see.

Before we move to Page 27, any other questions for Don?

Councilperson Kapusta said I just have one question regarding that Rockside Road bridge lighting. Don do we ever have any communication, any further on this with Valley View, or are they still interested?

City Engineer Ramm said it's been dormant for so long Councilperson Kapusta, no. I haven't spoken with them recently on it; but it's sort of a similar scenario with the Pleasant Valley bridge over that we are coordinating on those aspects, the pedestrian facilities. I think it's the same concept, but I haven't heard differently to the contrary that they are no longer interested. I can reach out to the Village Engineer.

Vice Mayor real quick before we leave this page, I neglected to, one project that needs to be on here relative to Rockside Road resurfacing. This time last year, or last summer or last fall, we submitted a County grant to resurface Rockside Road from Brecksville to the bridge over the river. It's pretty whooped, and it's due to be resurfaced anyway; and the County did approve us for funding. The estimate was a \$500,000 resurfacing, and the program that we submitted on was 50/50. So, we received notice a month or so ago that we were selected for funding for 2021 at \$250,000, up to or 50% of the project. So, we should include the Rockside Road resurfacing on this page.

Vice Mayor Grendel said we probably should since the last three are all Rockside Road. So, let us put that in, maybe right after the Rockside Road bridge lighting; and that's east of Brecksville Road.

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Finance Director Blaze asked hey Don what are you thinking up to \$250,000, that would be the City's share from a \$500,000 job?

City Engineer Ramm replied correct. The estimated is \$500,000 total, and they split the difference with us; but ultimately this is a reimbursement program so we have to front and pay for in entirety and seek reimbursement.

Vice Mayor Grendel asked so we should set aside \$500,000 for 2021?

City Engineer Ramm said yes.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked where does that stop Don? Does that go all the way to the bridge, or does that go all the way to Canal?

City Engineer Ramm said I believe it would stop at the bridge approach over the river.

Mayor Kurtz said unless Valley View is involved too.

City Engineer Ramm said that's a good question. I don't know. I will have to check with the County.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said but our stretch would be from Brecksville Road down to the boundary line as far as that goes, right by that bridge.

City Engineer Ramm replied yes.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so Council make sure you update your sheet; and Vern you will be able to put that in the final version of the Five-Year Plan?

Finance Director Blaze said I was just talking to Maggie about us adding that on our end here.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said okay, very good. Anything else on that page?

City Engineer Ramm said no, that should do it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said alright we will move to Page 27, and that's Rockside Woods North and Brecksville Road improvements which again similar to our residential, it shows an outstanding amount on our P.O.'s of \$1,400,000 just about.

City Engineer Ramm said made up of engineering with E.L. Robinson and QCI with inspection and management, and then Fabrizi with construction dollars.

Mayor Kurtz asked how close are we with this Don?

City Engineer Ramm said the budget is looking good from Fabrizi's contract. We are hopeful not to have to use too much of the \$300,000 that six months ago thought we were going to be in trouble the way the job was tracking, but we think things shook out a little bit better than anticipated; and we are hopeful to be able to turn back in a lot of the funding of the \$300,000, similarly to QCI. Their budget is doing well, and I think we will be turning some of that back in as well.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said they did a beautiful job in that stretch from Topgolf all the way up to Brecksville Road. With all the issues that they had, they did a great job.

Councilperson Narduzzi asked is that 100% complete now Don?

City Engineer Ramm said you know the job is still open for some, just because it got so late in the year, some of the grass that they planted, some of the work around the detention basin, the hard completion date isn't until February or March of 2021; so while the crux of the work is complete, there still is going to be some punch list work in the spring before we make final payment and start the two year maintenance bond.

Councilperson Narduzzi said I saw Fabrizi out there measuring with their measuring wheel coming from Topgolf up the hill so they are trying to find some loose dollars somewhere I am sure.

City Engineer Ramm said yes, hence my prior comment about looking at quantities and looking at invoicing and trying to as we come to a close of a \$10,000,000 project you could imagine the amount of oversight that they are looking at quantities and billings.

Mayor Kurtz said we are doing quality control in terms of service. So, they are probably checking that too. There will be some areas that they are going to have to grind.

City Engineer Ramm said so that project will be open for a little bit here.

Mayor Kurtz said and we still have an outstanding issue that I will explain more to Council when it's appropriate relative to the Rule 13 area, that landfill area. So, we are trying to work through a few issues of which when I quantify it I will talk to Council about it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked any other questions regarding Rockside Woods North and Brecksville Road?

We will move on to Rockside Woods North extending Heritage, and that Don I believe we did set some money aside. We talked about it quite a bit a few years ago when Topgolf was just starting; and can you fill us in, again remind us what that project is.

City Engineer Ramm said that was the extension of the road formally. Right now that road kind of ends in parking lots, and there's no access to it from Rockside Woods Blvd. North; so this project would extend that road formally in concrete and make it intersect; it would be primarily at the same area where the box driveway currently is situated. A number of years ago we started

and engaged Bohning & Associates and authorized some engineering work. They got started on that endeavor, and Topgolf came in about that time and it took the priority and sort of put this Heritage Way project on the back burner. We could focus on upgrading the old section of Rockside Woods and also extending the road as we did. So, we are coming to the point now that we will start to refocus on this stretch, especially now since we are talking about more sidewalk, potential for sidewalk upgrades and street lighting on Rockside Woods Blvd. North. I think it's the perfect time to talk, revisit and resurrect the Heritage Way bringing it out to Rockside.

Mayor Kurtz said we could bring it out Don so we could complete that short stretch. We should also look at the sidewalks on Rockside Woods North.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked are we looking at construction on this to be 2022 or 2021? It looks like it is stretched out for two more years as far as the funding goes.

Mayor Kurtz said once we get the engineering done, completed and can estimate the sidewalks on Rockside Woods North, we will be able to more accurately pinpoint; but it's a 2022 project.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see.

City Engineer Ramm said we may spend 2021 to secure the right-of-way. It's all private property. We will have to plat it, and that was part of the scope of the work.

Finance Director Blaze said and you will see, we will talk about the sidewalks on Rockside Woods North Blvd. in a couple of items down here.

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said well the next thing we have is Rockside Woods North, the older section. Of course, that was repaved and completed here in 2019. So, there is still some money. I think the note here says that there's retainage paid over to Ronyak of \$21,000.

City Engineer Ramm said correct, and regarding the rest of that funding that is in bold there; I am not aware. I didn't realize we came in that far under; so I am going to have to check with Vern and Maggie and try to figure where that is at.

Finance Director Blaze said well once that project is officially closed out, and we paid the retainage; and if it's \$21,000, whatever amount is left in those two P.O.'s, you heard it earlier, we are going to get in the mode of closing out these P.O.'s when these projects are done so that Council won't see what has been seen here in the past, a lot of these old P.O.'s hanging around for years and years.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked that Alternate B, is that part of our asphalt contract that we had with Ronyak?

City Engineer Ramm said yes. We had a significant amount of concrete work that was done in advance of the resurfacing.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and now we move on to Rockside Woods North, the sidewalk and street lights project. Again, is that going to be similar Don to what we did on Oak Tree South? Is that similar to having the sidewalk in the middle?

City Engineer Ramm said it could be. I think when we initially envisioned it, there were street lights already out in the center island there. We thought that we might be able to accommodate a sidewalk on one side. I think we thought the west side, but we are open. The street lights can be modified. Ultimately, by the time you get to Embassy and Topgolf, the path the facility is on that west side. I don't think it would exclude us if we wanted to do something similar to Oak Tree up to a point and then transition to the west side. I think we are open to that.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I am just wondering how fast the cars go for safety purposes on their way to Topgolf. If it's a little different than that other, the parkway that we did, the sidewalk in the middle because that has a lot of office buildings on both sides. Cars are going a little slower, but I know I have been going on the way to Topgolf, the cars just zip by you like they are going 50 miles an hour to get down there. So, it might be a safety issue to put the sidewalks in the middle like that.

City Engineer Ramm said while we are talking about this, we had occasion to take an alternate bid in the concrete contract to put a five foot walk on the west side; and obviously we never went forward with it, but it was a chunk of change.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that makes sense to put a sidewalk in there though.

City Engineer Ramm said a lot of people walk there, and the thought to expand the decorative, to continue that decorative lighting all the way to Rockside. Right now there's older style lights that they are not too attractive; and now with what we have done by Topgolf there, it would be nice to continue that south to Rockside.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said it would make sense.

Finance Director Blaze said and depending on what that cost comes in Don, we could look at whatever money is left out of that \$206,299 after we pay Ronyak the retainage, to apply for the sidewalk part of the project. It's the same project.

City Engineer Ramm said right.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked any other questions regarding the sidewalk, streetlights on Rockside Woods North?

The West Creek trunk sewer, I-480 crossing.

City Engineer Ramm said the genesis of this was just the obvious scenario that right now we have one single sanitary sewer that serves the area west of I-77 all on Rockside and in that commercial area; and that sewage heads down West Creek Road and crosses under I-480. There is one 18 or 20 inch sewer that hasn't, we have been challenged to inspect it since it was

installed. Similar to the scenario with the Embassy sewer under I-77, we felt it would be prudent to start to allocate some funds and to start investigating what it would take to try to look and inspect that pipe and/or if we couldn't, just to start planning for a parallel sewer to design and build at some point in the future so that we had some redundancy in the system there should a problem occur on that line with no other way to get sewage to the north side of I-480.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked and that services which buildings, the hotels that are down there?

City Engineer Ramm said I think a lot of the sewer on Oak Tree heads north and ties to this and runs down through this route. It's a good amount of sewage.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see. So, it would be prudent like you said to set money aside before there is a failure or before there is a big issue.

City Engineer Ramm said yes. It should be in a casing pipe, but again just the uncertainty of what's there and how long it will be. It's okay until the day and time that it isn't, and then when that comes there is a big problem.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we have the same kind of thing like you said with the sewer on the east side there until we did what we did because I know that was a big concern. We were worried that it would fail during the convention in 2016 and everything.

Councilperson Narduzzi said we talked about that for 20 years. We haven't been talking about this for a year, we have a lot of years to go.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that's right. We will all be gone, but at least it will be a prudent start to this discussion.

City Engineer Ramm said the Regional Sewer District has some programs. There may be some potential to coordinate with them to see what sort of flexibility there is with this project in terms of their assistance, coordination, funding opportunities because it does serve quite an area.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that might be a good idea Don to get them engaged and that just to see how far they would participate in something like this because it is a wide scope.

City Engineer Ramm said right.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked anything else on Page 27?

We are making good progress, Page 28 and the first item is the Cuyahoga River Army Corps flood study which we just recently had the meeting on.

City Engineer Ramm said in looking at this, so they made a presentation to Council on November 20th; and they had given us a funding breakdown, one of the last slides in their slide

show. I just double checked that against what we had presently, and I think there might need to be an adjustment.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said you have written down here the City share is \$1,750,000, and I think what you have in the spreadsheet is just shy of it, I think it's \$1,700,000.

City Engineer Ramm said right. That is the number that we kind of had for a number of years now, but per the most recent update, the number was hedging \$2,600,000 for the local share. So, I think I felt like we were shy of upwards of \$1,000,000 in those figures. The target is still 2023 to try to make up that difference, but to be consistent with their figures, we should add that in there.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Don maybe you and Vern get together just to update so those figures are more accurate then.

Finance Director Blaze said we will, and I have to reference my notes from that meeting because I do recall when that lady from Buffalo, Dave you probably remember her from years ago. She has been with the Army Corps, Buffalo office for a long time because she is the same person who keeps showing up to these meetings. She is great to work with, but I recall her saying about how much percent of the City's share can be non-monetary contributions. So, right-of-way acquisition, engineering, just different components; so Maggie and I will sit down with Don to make sure that whatever gets listed here on the Capital Plan is actually things that we have to cut checks for and not things that we would be doing that can be counted as a contribution to the project but not be a monetary check.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said maybe a phone call to that individual there, that gal who has been working on this would be in order just to get a clarification.

Councilperson Kapusta said as an aside, I think I remember her working when I was on the Board of Education, and we were building the high school too. I think she was involved with that.

Finance Director Blaze said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said she has been with them for a long time, probably about 20 years or so.

EPA stormwater compliance, I think that's the annual expenditure isn't it Don?

City Engineer Ramm said yes, and we use that for our programs with Soil & Water Conservation and with Regional Sewer District.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said quite a bit is there, there is quite a bit open from that 2018 P.O. as far as \$32,000 still.

Finance Director Blaze said we are going to look at that and see if that can be closed out.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. Thank you, Vern.

Inflow and infiltration work flooding.

City Engineer Ramm said this is somewhat nondescript, but it is just some allocation of funding for instances that we come across throughout the year during our maintenance activity or things that arise that we need some help with funding for drainage issues, sewer related issues. We come across sewers that are, even to this day, on Brettin was our most recent one. When we were out there on Brettin Drive with that project last year, there was a sewer that wasn't tied into the system right. We had to absorb a little bit of cost to get Tri-Mor to correct it. So, this sort of funding program is sitting there able to help in those instances.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said so kind of like an insurance policy if something pops up, we have money set aside to address it.

City Engineer Ramm said correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said okay, Old Rockside Road Bridge; and that's Burgess & Niple. It's about \$361,000, do we get reimbursed for that then? Or is that our part with that bridge?

City Engineer Ramm said I do believe we have a revolving fund so to speak where we are fronting invoices to the engineers, and then we pay it; and then we coordinate and get reimbursed.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said that's not coming out of our budget ultimately.

Poplar storm outlet, \$50,000.

City Engineer Ramm said we believe this significant erosion issue that occurs and that has occurred over time with these bad storms, perhaps could be something that has been ongoing that we have not really addressed. It could be challenging to address if you look at the terrain and natural area that is there; but that's my recollection.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked hasn't it been on our Five-Year Plan for a number of years I think?

City Engineer Ramm said I think it has, and I was always challenged to know what the specific project even was for a number of years. We had photos from some residents out there this past summer, and I think we have a better understanding of where this area is.

Finance Director Blaze said actually the 2020 to 2024 CIP that was adopted in December had \$100,000 listed for this year and \$50,000 for 2021. So, I wish Jessica was still here because she grew up on that street, and her mother still lives there; and she talks about it when she used to play down at the end of the street. So, I think she would have a little more insight as to the particulars of this; but look if it's determined it's not needed and it's pretty easy to take off.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked is there any relation to the road project in that area?

Mayor Kurtz said that's just the erosion.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see.

Then finally the Pleasant Valley retaining wall replacement, \$75,000.

Mayor Kurtz said that's the one right along side the freeway where they put it in years ago when they widened Pleasant Valley. It has the wood. It's a replacement for the wood brackets.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I see. That will be a project for next year Don that we will be working on?

City Engineer Ramm said yes, we would like to.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked any other questions regarding Page 28?

Mayor Kurtz said come on Dave, you are getting it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we are in the home stretch everybody. I can see the finish line. I can smell my dinner.

Finance Director Blaze said we will make it by 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said we are on Page 29, the real estate acquisitions. This is brand new, right Vern?

Finance Director Blaze said correct, and look you can see it's needed because that first one, the Kindl properties, that is just based off of the \$1,175,000 acquisition price. Then there was in that legislation originally \$15,000 for incidental costs to take us to \$1,195,000. Now the goal with that last piece of legislation that's on the agenda but got pulled off, the additional \$15,000 to take it \$1,210,000; so that's kind of in abeyance now until we know further where that acquisition is going to go based on the negotiations between the Mayor, the Economic Development Director and the principals of that building.

For 2021 you see the downtown properties. We tried to be generic with that, but any plans you have seen listed for the old middle school site, it usually shows development going all the way to Stone Road on the south; but you know there are four homes over there. I think the Mayor has committed in the past that he would never engage in eminent domain, and I believe a number of Councilpersons have committed to that too; but deals could be worked out between those property owners and the City and/or an eventual developer. Those properties need to be engaged, and then we threw another one down for 2021, and if the Mayor wants to update at all about some property on the north end of town that might be available for the City.

Mayor Kurtz said that whole north end of town, it's going to take a complete upgrade and facelift as far as the long term strategy, and some of the conversations that people have told me about. I expect to have some type of more meaningful discussion after the first of the year.

In concert with that is that we have been talking with ODOT and a few others about the opportunity to do something with their property. The next opportunity we get, and we can focus on this in Public Lands & Building or something. It is just something we should have a discussion on.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good.

Finance Director Blaze said and then there's one in 2022 listed as \$400,000, and that just recognizes that again we are not in Executive Session, but some other properties in reasonable proximity to downtown have been talked about for further expansion of the downtown redevelopment areas; so that recognizes that there is some potential over the next year or two to maybe consummate a transaction along those lines. So, we are just taking the attitude, it's better to prepare for these now then just throw an opportunity on Council's desk and then everybody has to turn to the Finance office and say oh where did we get those figures?

Mayor Kurtz said so we could further announce at our Public Lands & Buildings Committee meeting, and if something gets some real traction; and we have to go into Executive Session, we will do that too.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good.

Councilperson Veverka asked so when you are talking about the Cloverleaf area, you are talking about possibly the State salt dome or some additional areas?

Mayor Kurtz said that's the specific area we are talking about.

Councilperson Veverka said the salt dome.

Mayor Kurtz said yes sir.

Councilperson Veverka said thank you.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked any other questions?

Well I think that takes us through Page 29, and I think that is it. I think there are a few changes Vern. I think you know what changes or adjustments are needed.

Finance Director Blaze said we will do that. We will wrap up the publicly owned buildings and lands, get that e-mailed out to all of you, get it posted on the website. As of now we will be prepared to engage in that discussion Tuesday at the Public Lands & Buildings meeting.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said Chris, we will work together on that to get that presented.

Councilperson Veverka said question then. Vern, will you then be able to spell out all of the pieces of land that we own? Will you be able to list those?

Finance Director Blaze said as far as the Capital Plan, it focuses on land that's used on a daily basis, like cemetery is land. There are few structures there, but that's basically land; but gosh the City must own dozens and dozens of small little parcels all over the City, and this Capital Improvement Plan doesn't address those because a lot of those are just creeks and little of right-of-way things. The land it spells out the actual the land it applies to is either land in the park, land on the campus, land in Maple Shade cemetery, places like that.

Councilperson Veverka said well at the Public Lands meeting I think it would be appropriate to kind of have Council get a little bit of a handle on where we have property.

Mayor Kurtz said we can work on that. That won't be for next week, but we can work on that.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think we did that a number of years ago.

Mayor Kurtz said we did.

Councilperson Synek said if I might add on to Dale's comment, the City does the annual CAFR and there are the fixed assets schedule; and I think somewhere there's a depreciation schedule that lists by year everything, what was acquired, a brief description, the cost, that adds up to those figures that are reported in the CAFR for land, for machinery, equipment and all that stuff. Is that something your office could obtain or the auditors? We do that for most of our clients. I don't know what the City's recordkeeping tool is for fixed asset management. It has to be there somewhere, but I don't know who keeps it.

Finance Director Blaze said it's pretty extensive, and it's done out of this office. The land won't be much or real estate acquisition for 2020; the only thing we really had was the Sarti purchase at 6248 Brecksville Road; but yes all of the trucks, all of the vehicles.

Councilperson Synek said I think as Dale mentioned, how much in particular the middle school property, what is it on the books for as well as all the other parcels of land, when did we acquire them? What was the original cost? What's a description of them? There is an accounting for that, and I would like to see that record.

Councilperson Walchanowicz said maybe we can have a Public Lands & Buildings meeting after the first of the year, and we can give the Finance Department some time to get all that together.

Finance Director Blaze said I think as the Mayor said, that's not a discussion for Tuesday because we had an intern in here this past year to try to start diving into the real estate owned issue; and it became much more extensive than a one or two week intern can get their arms wrapped around. So, we could certainly work towards that; of course all of our efforts the last couple of months have been focused on 2021 budget, the Capital Plan. There is always something, but we could add that to our plate for one of the projects that we have to get done for 2021.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said very good. So the plan is Chris we will take care of the rest of the Five-Year Plan at Public Lands & Buildings meeting; and I don't know, that's going to be right before the Tuesday meeting. Again, our plan is to not approve the Five-Year Plan until the first regular meeting in January.

Finance Director Blaze said that is correct.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel asked anybody on the committee have any kind of thing to bring up or are we ready to have a motion to adjourn?

Councilperson Kapusta asked so soon?

Councilperson Synek said I would like to make an observation. So, if we look at Page 1 of this document, to me as a Council Member it's kind of Council's responsibility to approve spending and oversee spending and manage the purse strings; and that's obviously what this Five-Year Capital Plan is aiming for is setting a spending plan for capital improvements. As we look through the results of all we have been through, we have open P.O.'s totaling \$15,000,000. We have 2021 plans or whatever you want to call the number of another \$15,000,000; so you add those two together, it would suggest that the City is on track to spend \$30,000,000 for capital improvements next year. That's clearly not possible. The most we have ever spent in any one year is going to be this year for about \$17,000,000 or \$18,000,000. So, the end result of this doesn't tell us how much we intend to spend in 2021 for capital expenditures, and personally I find that frustrating; but I just bring up the point too that the document it could be better. As a Council Member, as a Council who is responsible to oversee spending, this document doesn't tell us how much in rough dollars we intend to spend in 2021, and that's my concern.

Mayor Kurtz said I will just say that you make a point, but I applaud the Finance Chairman, the Finance Committee and all of Council for the attention you paid the last year in terms of the details that we have gone through. So, I just think the Finance Director, the Finance team, along with the attention Council has paid to the granular issues is still a lot better than we had in the past. So, I applaud you all for your efforts, and I think to finish, it's moving in the right direction, it's trending the right way.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said and Greg correct me if I am not right, but I think this Five-Year Plan came on when Jim Crooks was Chairman. So, going back 14 or 15 years ago, we had no Five-Year Plan at all. Whatever our whims were, we went with them; so it is again an onward project and hopefully every year Kenn we are getting to get better and better at it. It's a lot better than it was years ago, and we are trying to get a discipline and honing in. It kind of gives us guidance as to what's available, what our priorities are. Again, we change mid-year, we might change our priorities depending on opportunities.

Mayor Kurtz said absolutely. I think we spent more time tonight than you guys spent the last couple of years in Finance committee.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said oh definitely. We kind of coasted when John was Finance Director, we kind of coasted with his advice.

Mayor Kurtz said we found out we can't coast.

Councilperson Kapusta said the other thing too is my early years on Council I sat on Finance Committee, and Jim Crooks chaired that; and all of this was done in committee. It was done in our committee, and everyone did not attend. So, I think this is so much more collaborative. It's a far better way to do it.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said I think Jim started in September.

Mayor Kurtz said Kenn didn't have the privilege of working with those parameters. They were laborious, but this is a good example, we have taken the accordion and we have opened it back up again. I think it's great. It's very interactive. It's not perfect, but then again it can keep getting better; and we can do better. That's what we are doing.

Chairman Vice Mayor Grendel said if there's no further comments, I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

Moved by Veverka, seconded by Synek, to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting of December 10, 2020. Voice Vote: 3 yes/0 no; motion carried.

The Finance Committee meeting of December 10, 2020 was then adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Debra J. Beal, Clerk of Council
Minutes Unapproved at Time of Release 12/17/20
