

A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA, WAS HELD VIA ZOOM.COM ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Mickey Thompson, member, Cheryl Cotner-Bailey, member and Warren V. Nash, President.

OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Summers, Sidney Main, Police Chief Bailey, Chris Gardner, Jessica Campbell, Krystina Jarboe, Pat McLaughlin, Josh Turner, Fire Marshal Koehler, Josh Staten, Mike Hall, Sidney Main and Vicki Glotzbach

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Nash called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

BIDS:

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:

Mr. David Glotzbach, 1504 Slate Run Road, stated that he spoke last week about his concerns on the Slate Run Road Project and it appears that the remedy is going to be to dig some holes and put slurries in at the places in the road that have already failed. He said Mr. Nash stated last week that there are professional engineers on job and he is not an engineer, but he doesn't feel that will take care of the concerns of the subgrade up and down the road. He also said that he noticed that the engineering firm introduced some pictures of the project into the minutes and he would like to introduce the pictures that he has of the subgrade that was paved over and some other pictures of the operation that went on if that's okay with the board.

Mr. Nash said that is okay.

Mr. Glotzbach stated that he would send those on. He then stated that Mr. Summers was kind of dismissive in the Tribune about the concerns of some of the Slate Run residents and he is not being impatient and thinks that the city is rushing this job at the end. He said they could take another year as far as he concerned as long as it is done right. He also said that he is not going to be impressed with black asphalt and pretty lines because that does not make a road. He stated that it is what is under the road and how long it will last and he believes that is what we should be going for as a city. He said that we should have better specks and standards and hold the contractors accountable as well as ourselves. He stated that if we are telling the contractors to do this kind of work then we need to look in the mirror on this job.

Mr. Josh Turner stated that he has reached out to INDOT to speak about Slate Run Road and sent many pictures of the project as it was being done and as asphalt was being laid. He said that INDOT replied back and two different people said that the subgrade should have been treated. He also said that he is still waiting from some emails back from our city engineer because he wants to get all of the facts straight. He stated that he too feels like the job should be done right and feels that it was rushed. He then asked how many engineers were on this job from the start and also how many engineers are on the job since we shut down Slate Run Road and began the roadwork.

Mr. Nash stated that he would call on Mr. Summers later in the meeting for a report.

Mr. Patrick Griffin, 1592 Meadow Lane, stated that he is in agreement with what Mr. Glotzbach said last week and again this morning and he has 45 years of experience in excavating and some of that included road building. He said that he was onsite July 19th and July 24th when the project started at Charlestown Road so he was witness to the milling which needed to be cut down to grade but some places were as deep as 15-16 inches. He stated that an individual from Beam, Longest & Neff was there plus S&ME and when they started the milling at Charlestown Road going south, it was obvious that there was a problem but they seemed to just proceed. He

said now we see numerous broken places and, in his experience, he has never seen any road or street constructed in that manner and it is obvious that it is going to fail. He then said that strangely at Garretson Avenue they did do a proper installation so that section should hold up in the future, but from Garretson going north is going to continue to have problems. He then asked how you go in and fix that. He stated that these failures are going to continue to appear in the next few months especially when traffic gets on it. He said that his question is how are we going to fix what we have now because that is more important than how we got to where we're at. He also said that he would like to have another completion date from Mr. Summers. He stated that currently the road is completely open to the public and there are people coming down Slate Run like it is a regular road and they are hitting all of these places that are rough or broken. He said that he was kind of dumbfounded that the road is completely open now and he thinks that is a safety concern that needs to be addressed asap. He said that he will continue to watch the project and point out what he is not in agreement with and even when it's finished, he is going to point out the places that fail and pretty much be able to tell anybody "I told you so". He stated that he appreciated the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Wes Christmas, Clark-Dietz, updated the board on the annual paving program. He stated that currently they are working on Deerwood Drive, Hazelwood Drive, Ridgewood Drive, Woodside Drive and Dalebrook Drive. He said that the contractor has completed some patching work and crack filling work and they have a small amount of patching remaining that they anticipate doing Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week. He stated that next week they will be finalizing the rehabilitation of those streets with liquid road sealant which they will start on August 17th and continue through the week. He said that the other ongoing activity is on Lafayette Drive and Savannah Drive which is anticipated to start today. He stated that there are concrete driveway approaches to be removed and replaced along the entire length of both of those streets and should take three or four weeks to get completed. He said that once all of the driveway approaches are replaced, crews will come through and do the necessary full-depth patching and then milling and overlay of the entire streets. He also said that he did email the board a schedule this morning that kind of summarizes all of this as well because it is a lot of information to convey over Zoom.

Mr. Nash asked Mr. Christmas to explain how they test those streets for weaknesses and what you do then.

Mr. Christmas explained that basically every two to three years there is an entire inventory and rating done on the entire roadway network and is done in accordance with the Paser System which is guidelines basically for rating roads based on the visual defects that can be seen. He stated that is the same system that INDOT is requiring for communities to use when they apply for the Community Crossings matching grants. He explained that you end up with a numerical rating for every road in the city and they review that on an annual basis with city staff and there are a few factors that come into play such as the rating and functional classification. He said that based on those factors, they come up with a list of roadways that need to be rehabilitated. He also said that depending on the severity of their deterioration, they determine what type of rehabilitation will need to be utilized. He stated that they put a lot of effort into making significant investments in rehabilitating these roads, almost full-depth construction which is the most expensive version. He also stated that roads that are in better condition but are still in need of improvement, they end up doing a mill and overlay with maybe some minor patching. He said that they are trying to get ahead of it so they don't have so many roads in really poor condition so they can come through and do some maintenance type of improvements that will extend the life and longevity of a roadway surface. He stated that this year they will see them, beyond milling and paving and full-depth reconstruction and patching, also doing some crack sealing and surface sealing on the roads.

Mr. Nash stated that he wanted to know because he has people now and then ask him how come their road hasn't been paved in 20 years. He said he always asks if it needs it and they say no, but it has been 20 years. He stated that it has nothing to do with time.

Mr. Christmas stated that it can be time but it really has to do with multiple factors and volume is a big one. He also stated that the subgrade under the pavement has a real impact on the life of the road as well.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding subgrade and drainage.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

TABLED ITEMS:

COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OFFICIALS:

1. Larry Summers re: Slate Run Road Project

Mr. Summers stated that to residents that do have concerns out there and are afraid that we are speeding to a conclusion, we are not speeding to any sort of conclusion. He said that they are working with S&ME to determine the best course of action for the roadway.

Mr. Nash asked who S&ME is.

Mr. Summers stated that they are a geotechnical/testing engineering firm that is located here in New Albany and they do most of the testing work for INDOT for pavement and soils so given their expertise, they called them onto the job to determine the best course of action for the paving. He said as they have moved forward and encountered some poor soils, they are assessing what needs to be done to ensure that this road is a good road for the long-term. He also said that some of those decisions are taking some time because they want to make sure that every factor has been taken into account. He stated that he has been working closely with S&ME to make sure that the final product is something that not only the city can be proud of, but the residents as well as all of the folks involved in the project will be proud of.

Mr. Nash stated that he had to smile because they said that we are rushing through this and if that were the case, it would have been done a long time ago. He asked about the estimated completed date.

Mr. Summers stated that, again, he is not looking to rush this project so he is hesitant to give a completion date at this point given the factors that are at play with the subgrade that is out there. He explained that he is working with the geotechnical engineering firm to determine the best course of action moving forward whether it is patching or some other protocol. He said once they have determined the best course of action for the road, he will be able to better inform the board of the timeline and direction that we are going.

Mr. Nash stated that Mr. Griffin was concerned about the safety with the road being open at this time.

Mr. Summers stated that he believes there are barricades in place at this moment trying to limit the access to the roadway and that the detour is still in place and folks are unfortunately not obeying and going around the barricades.

Mr. Nash stated that he may be seeing local traffic too that has to get to their homes.

Mr. Glotzbach stated that the barricades were taken down over the weekend.

Mr. Summers stated that he will have to look into that.

2. Mickey Thompson re: Street cuts for INAWC

Mr. Thompson stated that he has cut permit requests from Dave O'Mara for INAWC. He said they are at 311 Marianna Drive which is a 3'X4' asphalt cut for a water service leak, 724 Mosier Avenue which is a 3'X7' asphalt cut for a water service leak and 845 E. 15th Street which is a 4'X6' asphalt cut for a water main leak.

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the above street cuts, Mrs. Cotner-Bailey second, motion carries.

3. Mickey Thompson re: Dumpster permit request

Mr. Thompson stated that he has a dumpster request for 821 E. Elm Street for one week because that is the way the dumpster company rents them but they do not anticipate needing it for the entire week. He also stated that it will not be on Elm Street but on the 9th Street side of the property.

Mr. Nash asked if they don't have room on their property to place it.

Mr. Thompson stated that they have a driveway beside their home but it is too short.

Mr. Thompson moved to approve, Mrs. Cotner-Bailey second, motion carries.

4. Chris Gardner re: Extension of detour on E. 8th Street

Mr. Gardner reported that quotes were submitted to the New Albany Flood Control District and the repair is expected to be completed towards the end of September so he requested that the detour be extended through at least September 21st. He said that if they need another extension, he will come back before the board then.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey moved to approve, Mr. Thompson second, motion carries.

5. Pat McLaughlin re: Alleyways to be paved and replaced street light

Mr. McLaughlin stated that there have been a few alleys to be paved in his district that have disappeared so he will get with Mr. Thompson on those. He also stated that he wanted to give a shout out to Mr. Thompson because he had a street light that needed to be replaced so he called Duke for him and it got done very expeditiously and he really appreciated that.

6. Pat McLaughlin re: Resolution to wear masks

Mr. McLaughlin stated that he is speaking for Mr. Phipps and himself. He said that everyone seems to be blaming the city council for having to wear masks because of the resolution they passed but then the governor stepped in and did a mandate so that took the teeth out of it. He said that they are getting some reports of some local establishments not really doing the distancing and the masks. He stated that now that Louisville has cracked down on their bars and establishments, he has noticed by license plates that they are coming over here. He stated that he wanted to give a shout out that they do have an ordinance on the city council that he is co-sponsoring with Mr. Phipps and hopes that everyone will in some way pass along the message that we don't take masking and distancing too lightly. He said that he just wanted to put that out there and hopefully they won't have to do the ordinance but it does look like a lot of people are getting a little lax on it.

Mr. Turner stated that Dr. Harris just had a call at 10:00 a.m. and he was listening to it and Mr. McLaughlin may want to reach out to them because they are putting something in the works too so that ordinance may not be necessary.

Mr. McLaughlin thanked Mr. Turner for that information.

7. Warren Nash re: Street light on W. Cottom Avenue

Mr. Nash asked Mr. Thompson if the street light on W. Cottom Avenue was ever taken care of.

Mr. Thompson stated that the contract had to be resubmitted to Duke because they had drawn it up with boring under the road and he brought to their attention that there was a line in an easement behind the house that would eliminate that. He said it was just an overhead line out to a new pole so they resubmitted a contract to him and he has gotten it to them and he believes that they were out there marking locates today for that.

8. Warren Nash re: Bicycle sign on Kensig Road

Mr. Nash asked if they ever got a sign on Kensig Road about bicycles.

Mr. Main stated that they had to order the sign. He said the speed limit sign was put up but they are waiting on the bicycle sign.

Mr. Nash asked Mr. Main to keep him apprised of that.

Mr. Main said as soon as it gets here and they get it up, he will let him know.

9. Warren Nash re: Signs in rights-of-way

Mr. Nash stated that signs in the rights-of-way are popping up again it seems to be a constant problem and he doesn't know why they keep having this discussion.

Mr. Main stated that it is a constant problem because they are taking them down and they put them back up but he does call them. He said if they put a \$1,000.00 fine on it that would fix some of that problem.

Mr. Nash asked what they say when he calls them.

Mr. Main said that they say they will not do it anymore and then they go back and the same signs are back up in the same place.

Mr. Nash stated that he doesn't think we are getting them down fast enough because he has noticed some on State Street that have been up several weeks.

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey said she agrees.

Mr. Main stated that they are constantly picking them up and the list that was sent to him yesterday he gave to the guy the picks them up to take care of yesterday but he didn't get them all yesterday and is working on them again today. He added that while they are out emptying trash cans locally, they are also picking up signs. He said that they have a pile of signs up there and it is a constant everyday battle.

Mr. Nash stated that he doesn't understand because you guys are out on the streets everyday and it seems like you could pick them up as you go.

Mr. Main stated that they do have a guy that does it everyday and when he sees them, he gets them. He added that he probably doesn't see them all everyday but he tries to get everything that he sees.

Mr. Nash suggested that he reviews their policy on how they are doing that and maybe we could do a better job at it.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that we do have an ordinance through city council that he sponsored that has fines of \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00 for any kind of yard sale signs or signs that are in easements. He said he gets so many complaints on it himself and it irritates him but he doesn't think that we have ever received any fees on that. He stated that we do have the ability to do that and there are so many signs that have addresses and phone numbers on them so that would make it pretty easy. He also stated that Ms. Amy Stein said that any official or member of the public can pick signs up that are in the easement because they would be considered littering.

Mr. Nash stated that you can't do that. He said that an individual cannot pick up signs like that; it has to be a government entity.

APPOINTMENTS:

CLAIMS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mrs. Cotner-Bailey moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for August 4, 2020, Mr. Thompson second, motion carries.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Warren V. Nash, President

Vicki Glotzbach, City Clerk