

Committee of the Whole
July 11, 2017

Present: Mayor Vulich, Council Members Seeley, McGraw, Allesee, Odor, Connell and O'Neill, City Administrator, City Attorney (via phone), City Clerk, Press and interested citizens. Council Member Gassman – absent.

1. North River Drive and Millcreek Parkway – Mark Land/Wade Greiman

Mr. Mark Land, Vice President of Snyder and Associates, advised the Council that Snyder and Associates has contacted the Corps of Engineers regarding the North River Drive project and the Corps would institute a Section 408 Civil Works Process and help determine feasibility. Mr. Land stated that the Millcreek Parkway component would include a public input process and would provide information to the Council to assist the Council in choosing the best course of action.

Mr. Wade Greiman, Snyder and Associates, advised the Council that the vision in 1997 was to create jobs, provide access to new residents, promote walking and biking, reduce congestion and enhance safety. He stated that currently he is proposing a four lane on Mill Creek Parkway from Highway 30 to Main Avenue. He continued in stating that the vehicle count has outpaced the original estimate. This would provide an extension to the north and open up land for residential use. He further stated that he is proposing the update of traffic counts and how it feeds into the Lyons Business Park, the concept of four lanes with a paved shoulder, two lanes from Main Avenue to Eagle Point Park, a trail on the east Right-Of-Way, the update of costs and funding sources, and the development of an economic development brochure.

Mr. Greiman stated that he is proposing a 1 ½ mile corridor for North River Drive. It would be placed to the left of the bridge and extend south to Riverview Drive. The vision is to construct a collector street adjacent to the top of the levee and extend 19th Avenue North from Roosevelt east to North River Drive. He continued in stating that the area by Main Avenue is vastly underused. He further stated that the Sawmill Museum is expanding toward the levee. He proceeded to state that he looked at the 2011 Master Plan for the Lyons Business District and picked some goals such as the redevelopment of the Main Avenue Corridor to include a roundabout at Main Avenue and North River Drive, address parking in the area, maintain the Discovery Trail, identify funding sources, identify future land use, develop a cost and develop a brochure. He advised the Council that they were requesting \$22,500 to fund both the study of the Mill Creek Parkway four lane project and the North River Drive project.

Councilmember Seeley inquired why the North River Drive project was broke up into two phases and suggested that both phases be completed simultaneously. Mr. Land stated Phase I would study North River Drive from the bridge to Main Avenue. Mr. Land stated the project would start with Phase I to determine feasibility and to learn about potential costs. Councilmember Connell stated he would like to see the North River Drive project include both phases and be completed from the marina to Main Avenue. Mr. Greiman stated both phases could be completed together for North River Drive at roughly a cost of \$12,500.00. Mr. Land stated Snyder and Associates would explain the entire vision to the Corps of Engineers.

Councilmember Allesee expressed concerns about 19th Avenue North bridge traffic and issues with wetlands and mitigation, along with associated costs. Councilmember O'Neill stated he would like to see the Corps of Engineers sign off on the 408 Civil Works Process prior to committing to funding the study. Councilmember O'Neill expressed concerns about the cost of wetland mitigation and maintaining the integrity of the current dike. Mr. Land stated a plan and detailed information would need to be provided to the Corps of Engineers in order to receive the Section 408 Civil Works Process permit.

Mayor Vulich stated the projects would be presented for grants and there are currently no projects on the shelf that could be used to receive grant funding. Mayor Vulich also stated that funding could come from a variety of sources, including federal funding.

Resident and owner of Rastrelli's Restaurant, Mike Rastrelli addressed the council. Mr. Rastrelli stated the Lyons Business and Professional Association (LBPA) had concerns about the Millcreek Parkway project directing traffic away from the Lyons Neighborhood. Mr. Rastrelli further stated the LBPA would like to be involved in the discussion, along with citizens, the Chamber and the Downtown Clinton Alliance. Mr. Rastrelli stated the LBPA was not in opposition to the North River Drive project but would like to be actively involved in the discussion and planning of that project.

Resident and owner of The Bicycle Station, Chad Jensen addressed the council. Mr. Jensen stated he is the current vice-president of the LBPA and he is concerned that money will be spent on a study only to determine that the project is not feasible. Mr. Jensen suggested the City complete a comprehensive transportation plan for the entire City instead of the North River Drive and Millcreek Parkway studies.

Resident and owner of Homer's Deli and Sweetheart Bakery, Brenda Thornton addressed the council. Mrs. Thornton stated she was concerned the Millcreek Parkway project would divert people away from the Lyons Neighborhood and would hurt businesses.

Councilmember O'Neill stated the LBPA should be included in the discussions, along with having meetings with other business owners and the public. City Administrator Matt Brooke stated meetings could be held in conjunction with the study to determine how to proceed.

Councilmember Connell expressed concerns about the Millcreek Parkway project and concerns that the North River Drive project was not all one piece.

Mayor Vulich stated those in the south part of town were not currently represented at the meeting. Mayor Vulich further stated that input needs to be gathered from the entire community and the studies would help gather information and input.

Councilmembers Connell, O'Neill, Seeley and Allesee discussed proceeding just with the North River Drive project and doing both phases together. Councilmember Seeley stated he was interested in completing a comprehensive transportation plan. Mayor Vulich inquired with Mr. Land and Mr. Greiman about the advantages of a comprehensive transportation plan.

M/S, Connell-O'Neill moved to forward support of the entire North River Drive project (Phase I and Phase II) to the next City Council agenda. On roll call, carried unanimously.

Discussion of a comprehensive transportation plan will be held at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

2. Valley Bluff Horizons 2nd Addition Right-of-Way Dedication – Referral from Plan Commission – Jason Craft

City Engineer Jason Craft stated Valley Bluff Horizons 2nd Addition was originally approved with a private drive known as "Lillian Way". The applicant is now asking that the city accept Lillian Way as a public street. Councilmember Seeley inquired if inspections would be completed and about any associated costs. City Engineer Craft stated the developer paid to have the road put in and all required inspections would be completed.

M/S, Seeley-Odor moved that the right-of-way dedication for Valley Bluff Horizons 2nd Addition be forwarded to the next City Council agenda. On roll call, carried unanimously.

3. Mayor & Council Updates

There were no updates.

M/S, Seeley-Odor moved to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Frederick
City Clerk