

ELNA Meeting Minutes 4/10/23

23 folks at Meeting! Speakers, Kevin Elliot, Melissa Sieben, Nick Hoyt

Board members: KT Walsh, Pam Blackburn, Aaron Paden, Barry Shalinsky, Sacie Lambertson, Julia Patterson, Krista Gentry, Phil Collison, Lane Eisenbart (coordinator)

Attendees: Joe Bickford, Jeannie Zanni, Austin Turney, Ellen Paulsen, Bart Littlejohn, Boog Highberger, JT Thornburg, Megan Davis, with Winston and Ruben, <Megan's Partner>

Brought to order by Barry at 7:04

Introductions:

Approvals, Minutes: La Yarda with a D (correction for minutes). Sacie Moves, KT 2nds, no discussion, Unanimous

Agenda, Phil moves to approve, Sacie second. Approved unanimous.

Speakers: Melissa Sieben, Director of Municipal Services and Operations at the City along with City Engineer Nick Hoyt. MSO manages streets, trash and water. Physical infrastructure. Her background is in running cities. Solid waste is the toughest. There's lots of employee churn here in Lawrence. She has 25 years experience in similar cities in most facets of what the City does. In Gardner, Ks through to 2012 through a big expansion that the new Multi-modal center brought. Big growing pains. She also worked in Ames, her hometown. The City is starting the CIP process. Trying to align budget with CIP process.

\$400,000,000 in cap improvements over next period (year?). Q from KT. What's up with Brick streets, sidewalks, limestone curbs etc. They are very important to us. A: The City has filled the position for a Brick streets person. An engineer will be starting soon. She's worked with Gary Rheinheimer. Many projects with brick that makes it complex. Currently there's not a brick policy. KT. Gary R. did a good community engagement with the old brick project attempt. A brick budget will be set up to bring brick sidewalks into ADA compliance. With a 3-5 million budget over the next 5 years. Q: JT, what will his position be? A: He worked in civil engineering. Storm water background. A generalist in his field. Q: from Pam. She had a 4" sewer pipe in her alley and had to get it replaced. The drawings depicting it only went back to 1938. A: It will be hard to figure out how to know 'what's' in the house. Many pipes are not well documented. They had to rebuild the 10th and CT sewer lines in the alley, to accommodate what Pam needed. And the alley in the 800 block of CT will be its own project for sewer line and water line replacement. There is lots of work to be done in that 800 block. There is also a new initiative from the Biden administration that will make the City determine what types of pipe are in use between the meter and the house. The goal is to identify and replace old lead pipes or other suspect pipes. That will complicate things for the City. Q: from Krista on zoom: When they blow the sewers can they warn us? B/C they blow up the toilets. A: Mostly they do this every 4 years. If your plumbing is wrong, it can make the water blow up through the toilet. Arby's gets cleaned up monthly. Every four years is considered random, and it is tough to provide notice. (Nick Hoyt got Krista's address). Q: what is the Brick sidewalk proposal? \$100,000 for design, and 1 million for execution the next year, then plan a year, then \$1 million next year. Budgets and CIPs will begin discussion about June 20th.

Budget approved in September.

Q from Barry: what about sidewalks crossings. Crosswalks. 9th and CT needs them, and had them in the past. All down 9th street there are no crosswalks. Someone else noted crosswalks are implied, but sometimes not seen. A: They're working on an active management plan for X-walks all over the City. All are faded. Trying to upgrade to new city standards. The new bike ped policy says that every connection of collector and arterial streets should have a crosswalk. What's it take to do that? Q: What about 10th and Delaware? Lots of folks cross

there to get to the park. A: Putting in for a program to make the west side of Delaware ADA accessible. They won't do anything there until there is an ADA connection into the neighborhood. They'll be studying that in '24. They will need our support on that. We should be supportive. Q: 8th and CT is another location where crosswalks are needed. A: There is lots of competition for funds. We reply we can offer CDBG funding if we can connect with the right projects.

There's an East Lawrence water transmission line project going in. The route that was chosen is New Jersey street all the way to 15th street. It will start in June! It will use a directional drill every 400 feet or so to dig a hole and then feed pipes through it. About 2 times per block. That means less trenching. in the middle of the street. Portions of NJ will be closed for a couple months at a time. NY will also have be impacted. Q: Will owners of brick sidewalks be responsible for the repairs? A: It will be a combination. The City pays for some where they connect to drain outlet. There may be potential for getting help from the Brick union in KC. The current system is concrete sidewalks only. The ADA compliant program has a separate funding source, so may not be a chargeback to homeowners. Currently it costs \$10 a sq foot for concrete sidewalk repair. The current concrete sidewalk paradigm does not necessarily equal ADA compliance. Q: 9th and NY intersection brick replacement. A: They were entangled in a lawsuit. They got past that. Now there's no money to do the work. Now issue is herring bone v something else. The contractor was provided with incomplete instructions for what to do. Q: Is the City taking steps to get it right the first time. Numerous issues with poor specifications along the 9th street rebuild. A: There's always room for improvement. Q: What about 700 and 800 block of New York Streets that are the original brick and some of it under poor asphalt. Aaron adds that brick streets are good traffic control. 12th street is the best street b/c cars don't use it. It's great! Delaware from 11th and 13th street has become a nicely paved really fast street. Barry asks can we just open the brick and have it be come a slow street. A: The asphalt does hide some big blemishes. We need \$20 million annually just to keep the streets at the current state. Not improvements. It costs a whole lot!! Infrastructure all over the country is coming to the end of its life! Brick streets are hard. We want to extend the lives of the current brick streets.

Thanks Melissa and Nick!

Kevin Elliot. From Lawrence. He is Bob and Pat Marvin's son. Advocate for the homeless. Not paid. Frank honest history. We were blessed with the north Lawrence camp. In North Lawrence we weren't going to be NIMBY. We'll work with them. He gathers things for the camp. Supplies., etc. He works with the Jack's project(?). They get a hot meal on Saturdays. From his work he can see the City can do things better. He's gone to the N Law camps and met the folks. And he's brought the the City Manager and Asst city manager with him. Out of that is 10 recommendations.

1. develop an executive council of folks who can help and understand to develop a plan for how to house them.
2. Require training City staff on Homeless trauma
3. Create a resident council of paid people who will help guide city services
4. Select a police representative to help.
5. Plan for next winter.
6. Reevaluate peer leadership. They didn't follow that model. No connection to city staff.
7. Clarify roles.
8. Define what roles folks play.

(I missed a couple).

He's impressed with how the city is responding. He's talked with 3 other neighborhood Associations, and ours. Litter is the biggest issue, we all can agree on that. Nothing unique about who generates litter. How do we get it cleaned up? "Will you commit to helping clean up?" Will we be willing to commit to a cleanup working with our unhoused friends (waiting until pallet village is open – 75 units ?? beds? By mid July?). He's doing 4 cleanups in August. We're not going to tell them what they can keep. City will provide tools, etc. We'll bring lunch. Wants ELNA to pick an area to clean up and come together with them to help do a big clean up. Barry asks, why wait to clean up? Let's do it twice. Kevin says, b/c the camps will be moved so they will be cleaned out. There will be forced movement (in August when the pallett houses are built). He is speculating that folks will get moved from Eagle conservation area. It will include a place to go, a bed and a way to get there. Lane Q: How much movement is there? A: Camps are fairly transient. He has counted is 350, City says 189 people? Homeless call people 'wallers', folks with walls. Us. HE doesn't want to wait until August either. NLIA will not participate. He has 25 volunteers ready to work. Brook Creek has no campers right now. He thinks there's 8-50 people camping behind Santa Fe Depot. We should prepare to provide lunch for 35 people. And we'll warn them first. One month notice. There's another camp near the RR tracks, near just food, and north of the cemetery.

May 20th is a good tentative date for our cleanup. We are not cleaning up their camp, we clean up nearby. He wants the camp to do their own cleanup, and we do the next week and clean up common areas, not the living spaces. Kevin says you must show residency to get Lawrence City services. To get into the pallett village. There will be no bulldozers. That's in the agreement he signed with the City. We appreciate the work that Kevin is doing. USD497 Futures planning. Pinckney is closing. NY school is getting no new students from the consolidation. It keeps NY school at risk. 5 seats are on the ballot for school board in November. County Clerk's office is where to keep up with who is running. SOS is having a meeting at ECM soon.

We received notice that there's a demo permit out there for 900 Pennsylvania. (Charlie's). Barry contacted Patrick and he said that it is probably exploratory only. There's litigation over Charlie's Bar. A couple people shouldn't participate in this discussion at all.

CC meeting info, LAN, PC all those...

LAN Meeting Report: Parking Permits were discussed. City staff is working on them. Permit parking in certain areas where there's too much parking. We need it on Rhode Island St. And elsewhere.

Officer and staff reports. Prez sez he got an email from LMCMS was built as a high school in 1923. This is their centennial year. Planning a 100 year celebration in the autumn. There's an organizational meeting on Saturday to begin the planning process for this.

CC item. On the consent agenda on April 14 is funding for 4 neighborhoods, ELNA, PINCKNEY, BC and Schwegler. \$5000 to replace CDBG funding.

Barry is talking with Tony K about the Quonset Hut thing. Barry met with 2 members of City finance team about that Quonset Hut. How they do analysis. They get a consultant to do an economic analysis for how these things get written. He asked if there are there state and local tax credits and solar tax credits on the project? And do they get factored into that analysis. Can he get incentives from, multiple sources? It'll go through public incentive review board. Any tax breaks go to City Commission, County Commission and school district. We can share our opinions at that time. Report should be out in May from Consultant and will be in front of PIERs board at some time.

St. Pat's parade was fun and successful. Snowy, sunny, had a good time. We were well received. "\$30 well spent".

Yart Sale. Great music and fun and folks. We made about \$4000. More stuff than usual. It was wildly successful and fun.

KT. We had a uniformed police officer for the first time at the Yart Sale. Sherri N gave away gun locks from the sheriff's office. Make this a regular.

When is the block party? It was noted the first pic of Block Party is from '1981.

Bank Balances.

\$2058.07 paypal

\$6620.36 at the First state bank.

We have money partly from hand delivery of newsletter. Thanks folks who deliver and Barry for organizing.

Coordinator: May June newsletter in process. Things are due by Monday. One week.

Boog said hey! We thanked him for his service.

Meeting adjourned.