

BOROUGH OF WEST READING TRAFFIC & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

December 9, 2020

The Borough of West Reading Traffic & Infrastructure Committee met on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via a Zoom meeting with the following persons present: Chairman Christopher Lincoln; Public Works Director Dean Murray; Sergeant Ryan Phillips; Mayor Andrew Kearney; Council Member Patrick Kaag; Borough Manager Nicholas Imbesi; and Borough Secretary Cynthia Madeira.

Visitors: Karen Livingood, Resident Kevin O'Keefe, Network Building & Consulting

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Mrs. Livingood inquired as to expediting an update to GPS mapping records as to the closure of the Parkview Road Bridge. She has witnessed a number of tractor trailers coming to the area of Parkview and Sycamore Roads that need to be escorted out to main roads by the police department. Mr. Lincoln noted the ability to report a problem within the mapping program and thought multiple reports may expedite an update. He will research alternate methods of updating and it was noted that additional signage may not be helpful in this situation.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve the Traffic and Infrastructure Committee minutes of November 10, 2020 by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mayor Kearney. **Motion carried.**

AT&T Small Cell Installation

Kevin O'Keefe of Network Building and Consulting is an authorized agent of AT&T that is working on building out small cell technology in the area. The existing pole located on the parcel of land where Borough Hall and the Police Department are housed is a location that is desired for a small cell installation. The Borough's Zoning Officer has indicated that the siren located on this pole is not in use, and therefore a structural analysis of the pole is being performed. The intent would be to remove the siren and install 24-inch antennae at the top of the pole with a similar enclosure for an electric meter with a disconnect. The electric source to the current siren is provided by an electric service from the building, and if allowed to utilize this source of power, the Borough would be additionally compensated. Mr. O'Keefe reported that his company would handle the development, permitting and management of construction. The contractor would be Vertigo Construction and the electrician would be Swartley Electric.

The conditional use hearing requirement was discussed since the pole is located on Borough property. Mr. Imbesi will obtain feedback from the solicitor as to this requirement. The elimination of the siren was recommended to come as a uniform decision by all emergency management personnel. If it is decided that the siren should remain, an additional 45-foot pole installation in that vicinity would be a viable option. Mr. O'Keefe plans to attend next week's Council meeting to share information with Borough Council.

Mr. O'Keefe departed the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Old Business

Parkview Road Pedestrian Bridge – Mr. Imbesi was unsure at the time of this meeting if the solicitor has secured a signed right-of-way agreement with UGI. Therefore, the pedestrian bridge contract has not yet been awarded to Contech Engineered Solutions. Mayor Kearney requested assurance that the bridge would support the added weight of a gas line. Mr. Lincoln reported that the engineer designed the bridge to support the added weight and any additional materials that were needed would be funded by UGI.

Penn Avenue Infrastructure – Mr. Lincoln reported that risers have been installed to manhole covers as needed from the recent PennDOT paving project. A water valve located in the vicinity of Fourth Avenue seemed a little low and Mr. Lincoln requested that the Public Works Department inspect this valve. Mr. Murray reported that Christmas decorations and banners have been installed along Penn Avenue and trash cans are being cycled out as time allows. Mr. Lincoln noted street lights that were flickering on either side of Penn Avenue at Fifth Avenue.

Parking in Alleys – Mr. Murray noted a delay in obtaining additional alley widths due to schedule modifications.

Stop Sign Ordinance Updates – Mr. Lincoln noted staff member training that is scheduled to implement changes to stop signs. The first intersections that would be reviewed were:

- Parkview & Sunset Roads
- Walnut Street & Tulpehocken Avenue
- Yarnell & Franklin Streets
- Yarnell & Chestnut Streets
- Ann Street and Sunset Road

New Business

Radio Frequency Concurrence – Mr. Imbesi noted the receipt of notification from West Hempfield Township, Lancaster County regarding their plans to modify a radio system that uses a frequency shared with West Reading. If objectionable interference would occur, West Hempfield Township would immediately correct the problem to satisfaction. It was determined that the frequency is used by the fire department during hydrant flushing operations only.

Motion recommending Council to approve authorization of the Borough Manager to sign the West Hempfield Township Radio Frequency Coordination Letter of Concurrence. Moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Sergeant Phillips. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m. by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Imbesi. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Madeira
Borough Secretary