

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
TRAFFIC & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

DECEMBER 11, 2019

The Borough of West Reading Traffic & Infrastructure Committee met on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, with the following persons present: Chairman Christopher Lincoln; Public Works Director Dean Murray (arrived at 6:18 p.m.); Police Chief Stephen Powell; Mayor Andrew Kearney (arrived at 6:09 p.m.); Borough Manager Nicholas Imbesi; and Borough Secretary Cynthia Madeira.

Visitors: Karen Livingood, Resident

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve the Traffic and Infrastructure Committee minutes of Wednesday, November 13, 2019 by Chief Powell and seconded by Mr. Imbesi. **Motion carried.**

Old Business

Penn Avenue Parking – Mr. Imbesi reported that the fifteen-minute parking interval is now available through the kiosk and Mobile Now App. With the increased surcharge through the App, the cost for fifteen-minute parking is \$0.65. The free parking on Sunday message has been removed from the kiosk and Farmers' Market personnel are alerting patrons to this modification. At this time Mr. Imbesi was unsure of the pay-as-you-go feature availability through the App and hopes to have further information next month. Paid parking revenue for the month of November totaled \$3,800. Also, the West Reading Community Revitalization Foundation will be requesting repayment of the kiosks in the New Year.

Chief Powell noted the parking lot owner's request to obtain contact information for the Parking Enforcement Officers and stated that this request would be denied. Also, Chief Powell stated that there were no complaints received on Small Business Saturday, nor any further parking complaints were received from residents that live one block off of Penn Avenue.

Parkview Road Pedestrian Bridge – Mr. Imbesi requested clarification of the engineer's previously quoted cost to construct this bridge. Mr. Lincoln recalled a cost of \$88,000 and Council's decision to budget half of the project cost for 2020 in the amount of \$51,000. Modifications to the existing plans would be needed to support the additional load caused by the installation of a UGI gas main, however a commitment from UGI is preferred prior to the Borough incurring additional expenses. Mr. Lincoln recommended obtaining updated price quotes at this time in order to be prepared to respond to UGI's proposal. Mr. Imbesi stated that he has been in contact with UGI to answer additional questions and is currently waiting for a response.

In-Street Pedestrian Crossing Signs – Chief Powell noted the receipt of six additional signs from PennDOT and the planned placement of these signs at the intersections of: Third Avenue and Pine Street; Fifth Avenue and Spruce Street; and Fifth Avenue and Pine Street.

Missing Stop Sign Inventory – Chief Powell indicated that this review would begin in January when street sweeping activities have ceased and the additional Parking Enforcement Officer hours are established.

Penn Avenue Infrastructure – Mr. Murray reported that three additional trashcans have been refurbished, and due to weather conditions the removal of tape residue and touchup painting of poles along Penn Avenue has been delayed.

Third Avenue and Grape Street – Mr. Lincoln reported that following his review of feasibility to install additional signage in an effort to prevent traffic from traveling in the wrong direction within this alley; it is reasonable to add a One-Way sign near the intersection of Grape and Yarnell Streets and a second Do-Not-Enter sign near the intersection of Third Avenue and Grape Street.

Penn Avenue Paving – Contact was made with PennDOT to inquire about their timeline to repave Penn Avenue, and they indicated a target date of early April. West Reading event dates and land development plans were provided to PennDOT. The engineer has been asked to review the parking stall layout for possible modifications to the area in front of 428 Penn Avenue where two additional spaces will be added following the curb cut removal.

Verizon Underground Penn Avenue Repairs – Chief Powell stated that Verizon has indicated a work start date of tomorrow, Thursday, December 12th at 6:00 p.m., which would restrict eastbound travel. Chief Powell requested to delay the start time to 8:00 p.m.

New Business

Linden Lane Sewer Project – Mr. Imbesi stated that Systems Design Engineering has submitted an online grant application, which met the deadline to apply, and a hard copy will also be mailed along with endorsements from Senator Judy Schwank and State Representative Mark Rozzi.

Project Related Curb Repairs – Mr. Imbesi noted his contact with M&T Bank to establish an opportunity for residents along Pine Street, Sycamore Road and Fifth Avenue to obtain a Line of Credit to replace their curbing prior to the budgeted 2020 paving projects. The average cost to replace curbing would be \$90 per linear foot and the average length of curbing per property is 30-40 feet. Systems Design Engineering and the Public Works Department would be tasked with marking the curbs that are in need of replacement and it was recommended to identify a minimum section length for replacement. Property owners will also have the option to replace their entire curb area with the Line of Credit. Mr. Murray indicated that tree damaged curbing should have steel plates installed.

There was an option discussed where the Borough would hire one contractor to complete these repairs that could potentially reduce the cost and provide uniformity of curbing. It was recommended to obtain feedback from the Borough solicitor regarding this option. Following adoption of the budget, letters will be mailed to residents with a deadline to complete curb replacement prior to commencement of the 2020 paving projects.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m. by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mayor Kearney.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Madeira
Borough Secretary