

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF AVON, OHIO HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
AT 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Council Members: 1st Ward – Bob Butkowski; Council-at-Large – Brian Fischer; Council-at-Large – Tammy Holtzmeier; 4th Ward - Scott Radcliffe; Council-at-Large – Craig Witherspoon; Mayor – Bryan Jensen; City Engineer – Ryan Cummins; Service Director – Mike Farmer; Economic Development Coordinator – Pam Fechter; Law Director – John Gasior; Finance Director – William Logan; Safety Director – Duane Streator; Clerk of Council – Barbara Brooks

ABSENT: 2nd Ward - Dennis McBride; 3rd Ward -Tony Moore

1. ORDINANCE NO. 112-20 – TO AMEND SECTIONS 1222.02, 1278.03, 1280.05 AND 1280.06 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF AVON TO INCLUDE STORAGE CONDOMINIUMS UNDER MINI SELF STORAGE ON THE SCHEDULE OF PERMITTED AND SPECIAL USES IN THE M-1 GENERAL INDUSTRIAL AND M-2 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS Planning Referral

A Public Hearing was held on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 7:20 p.m.

Third of Three Readings at the Regular Meeting Immediately Following this Work Session

Ms. Fechter requested that Ordinance No. 112-20 be tabled during the Regular Meeting until Monday, February 22, 2021. She advised in speaking with Dennis McBride, Chair of the Legal Committee of Council, he is requesting a Legal Committee meeting be scheduled prior to the next Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on February 22nd to discuss final details as they relate to storage condominiums.

2. ORDINANCE NO. 4-21 – TO AWARD A BID FOR THE FRENCH CREEK ROAD PAVEMENT RESURFACING PROJECT, PHASE 2 Mr. Cummins

Mr. Cummins advised on January 28, 2021 public bids were opened at City Hall and there was a total of nine bidders. He said the company Chagrin Valley Paving Incorporated was the apparent low bidder. Mr. Cummins stated he reviewed all the bids and it is the City's recommendation that Chagrin Valley Paving be considered the lowest and best bid. He advised the lowest bid received was approximately 15% below the engineer's estimate for the project. Mr. Cummins noted that Chagrin Valley Paving Inc. has no affiliation whatsoever with Chagrin Valley Engineering, the company he is employed by.

3. ORDINANCE NO. 5-21 – TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE LORAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE CITY OF AVON TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LORAIN COUNTY WENS EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS SYSTEM

Mr. Logan

Mr. Logan advised this is a system the City has had in place for a long time and the Safety Director, Mr. Streator, could attest to that as well, but he believes the County is basically formalizing the agreement. He said the City has paid for this service and other years they have not, and he believes the County is getting back into the habit of invoicing the City under this MOU. Mr. Logan stated in reading through the agreement, he believes it is \$.05 per resident and is currently based on the 2010 census and that is how they came up with the \$1,060.00 annually and this agreement formalizes that annual payment. He said he discussed this MOU with Mr. Gasior and they agreed it should be approved by Council.

4. RESOLUTION NO. R-2-21 – IN SUPPORT OF SUBMISSION OF A SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL IMPLEMENTATION GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE NAGEL ROAD PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT Mr. Cummins

Mr. Cummins advised as part of the Citywide active transportation plan that was completed in 2019, part of that was a Safe Routes to School plan that identified a number of potential improvements to the areas of East

Elementary, Heritage Elementary and Avon Middle School to make it safer for students to walk and bike to school. He said once that plan is prepared, there is a separate application and pool of construction funds available that municipalities can apply for to implement portions of those identified travel plans. Mr. Cummins stated that is what they are putting forth here to submit an application to improve sections along Nagel Road to provide a consistent and safe sidewalk system along Nagel Road to get students in and out of East Elementary. He advised this application is due to ODOT at the beginning of March.

Mrs. Holtzmeier inquired with the applications due to ODOT at the beginning of March, when they would expect a decision.

Mr. Cummins advised this application gets evaluated through ODOT's central office and he believed it would be in the May or June time period before they would hear back.

Mrs. Holtzmeier asked if those funds would be available in grant form for disbursement in 2021.

Mr. Cummins believed it would be in the fiscal year of 2024 funding round.

Mrs. Holtzmeier asked if all the sidewalks being installed would be the new five-foot width.

Mr. Cummins advised they would be, yes.

Mrs. Holtzmeier asked if any of the new sidewalks would connect to a four-foot wide existing sidewalk.

Mr. Cummins advised there are existing four-foot sidewalks in some areas that are being replaced with five-foot wide sidewalks and be continuous as five-foot wide sidewalks to the school. He stated there would be existing sections that they are not planning on touching that would remain as four-foot wide sidewalks.

Mrs. Holtzmeier inquired if there are any particular drainage improvements planned for some of the sidewalks that are deteriorating because there are times that they are under water.

Mr. Cummins stated there are some various drainage improvements. He said they are not looking so much at the condition of the existing sidewalks, but they are looking at filling in gaps as well as there is an area where the sidewalk is very close to the existing roadway and they would like to move that away from the road to a safer distance. Mr. Cummins advised in order to do that they have to extend the culvert that is just to the north of the school so there are some drainage improvements at that location and there may be some drainage improvements in the areas where they relocate the sidewalk.

Mrs. Holtzmeier advised she noticed this is all part of the Safe Routes to School plan and it is encouraging to see some of the higher term projects that have a greater urgency being addressed here. She said the question they are always going to get from residents whenever they talk about sidewalks, whether it is a grant or otherwise, is are they going to have to pay for them out of pocket.

Mr. Cummins advised the ones in this project area would be covered under the grant at approximately 60% and how the City would choose, at that time, to reflect some of the City portion back to the residents would be up for discussion.

Mrs. Holtzmeier advised personally she has no problem supporting this application.

Mayor Jensen advised if he is Mayor in 2024, he would bring it back to Council and ask that the City supplement some of the costs to help ensure the sidewalks in that area were uniform in nature. He indicated that with Council's permission, he would like to replace the non-conforming sidewalks at no cost to those property owners with the understanding that the property owners would be responsible for maintenance and upkeep.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

MAYOR JENSEN welcomed Boy Scout Carson Bowman to the meeting. He explained tonight's meetings are not typical of what City Council normally does throughout the year because City Council is currently combining meetings on the same night with this one being the Work Session and at 7:30 p.m. they will hold the Regular Meeting where there would typically be some voting. Unfortunately, since 2 Council Members are absent tonight City Council will not be able to vote to suspend the rules as that requires 6 of the 7 voting members to be present. Mayor Jensen invited Carson to feel free to ask any questions he may have of them about meeting procedures or agenda items. He advised the Council President would be happy to sign any paperwork he might need as proof that he attended tonight's meetings.

MR. BUTKOWSKI, WARD 1 had no comments.

MRS. HOLTZMEIER, AT LARGE inquired if the Mayor or Mr. Cummins could provide an update on the status of the engineering study on French Creek Road.

Mayor Jensen advised the study is almost complete and he has spoken with some of the newspapers that are asking as well. He said they are holding off for now as they would like to present it when more of an audience is able to attend in person so that there can be support from the residents. Mayor Jensen stated it may be next month when they can open up the meeting for more to attend so that those who want to attend can. He believes the study is over three quarters complete and he said they want to make sure they allow residential input before they move the project forward.

Mr. Cummins advised they have done a substantial amount of work, both field surveying work and engineering work, and report preparation and exhibits etc. He said they are continuing to refine those reports and will be prepared for public presentation whenever it is deemed to be safe and ready to occur.

Mrs. Holtzmeier added to the point of getting input from residents, she encouraged Council to consider providing the sessions with some form of technology. She advised other communities are utilizing the Zoom format or they broadcast their meetings so that people have the opportunity to see and hear it. Mrs. Holtzmeier felt this was an excellent topic where residents who cannot attend in person for whatever reason would have an opportunity to view and/or participate.

Mrs. Holtzmeier asked if there is an update on the traffic study that was conducted at Hunter's Trail and Stoney Ridge Road.

Mr. Cummins advised they do have traffic counts that were completed, but they have not completed the study and report as of yet.

Mrs. Holtzmeier asked if he has an anticipated time for that to be completed as that was something that was gathered before COVID.

Mr. Cummins said they acquired the traffic study information, the counts, in February of 2020 and then there has been a number of potential property issues involved and he thinks those are coming to some clarity and they can then work in the final report any potential routing that may utilize those lands.

Mrs. Holtzmeier stated she knows many drivers and residents in that area are looking forward to hearing about that information.

MR. MCBRIDE, WARD 2 was absent.

MR. MOORE, WARD 3 was absent.

MR. RADCLIFFE, WARD 4 had no comments.

MR. WITHERSPOON, AT LARGE had no comments.

MR. FISCHER, AT LARGE reminded everyone that the next set of meetings would be on Monday, February 22, 2021 and that the Legal Committee of Council would be scheduled for 6:30 p.m. that night prior to the Work Session and Regular Meeting.

Mr. Fischer advised to Mrs. Holtzmeier's point he wanted to let Council know that he has a meeting tomorrow morning with the IT Coordinator Aaron Jenkins, to discuss a package he put together regarding the

recording and sound system. He said he would be discussing how much this would cost and what kind of capabilities it would provide.

DIRECTORS/ADMINISTRATION:

MR. CUMMINS, CITY ENGINEER had no comments.

MR. FARMER, SERVICE DIRECTOR had no comments.

MS. FECHTER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING COORDINATOR had no comments.

MR. GASIOR, LAW DIRECTOR had no comments.

MR. LOGAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR had no comments.

MR. STREATOR, SAFETY DIRECTOR had no comments.

AUDIENCE:

There were no comments from the audience.

6. ADJOURN: 7:14 p.m.
There being no further business, the Work Session of Council was adjourned.

PASSED: _____

SIGNED BY: _____
Brian Fischer, Council President

ATTEST: _____
Barbara Brooks, Clerk of Council