

CITY OF BURTON
WORKSHOP MINUTES
AUGUST 10, 1998, 8:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Workshop was called to order by Paula Zelenko, Vice President, at 8:20 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Centilli, Cox, Hammon, Martinbianco, Walls and Zelenko.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cross.

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Major, DPW Director; H. Throop, Street Supervisor; R. LaDuke, Building Supervisor; B. Becker, Treasurer/Controller and C. Ladd, Deputy City Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP: Discussion of Major Street Reconstruction.

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Major gave a brief presentation regarding the status of the takeover of the County secondary roads. He gave a handout and said it is no different than the one that was given at the August 3rd Council Meeting, other than the resolution, passed by Council, is attached. The priorities of the streets have not been changed. He explained that the County is unable to give the City an accounting of exactly how much has been spent on these secondary roads unless a project number is assigned. Mr. Ayres is unable to tell how much has been spent in Burton versus how much was spent in other communities.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Pauline Dargel, 6119 Hugh, spoke concerning the resolution that was passed by the Council on August 3rd. She asked if, in the resolution, it eluded to the turn back of the roads to the City. She was advised yes. She said she thought Mr. Ayre would be at this meeting.

John Stapish, 5160 E. Atherton Rd., asked if there would be an ditching included in the road repairs. He asked if other items would be done on a complain basis.

Mr. Major noted there was no ditching included in the street reconstruction. However, the DPW is aware there are some drainage problems on some of the roads and they intend to ask the County to install county drains. The initial purpose was to repair the roads so they are driveable and to try and get as many roads done as possible.

Diane Boling, 4224 E. Potter Rd., said she has lived on this road for the past 26 years and never had a drainage problem. The last two weeks, 3 ½ foot ditches have been dug in front of her home and now she has water in the ditch that is stagnant. She contacted the County and they said it is Burton's problem.

Mr. Major explained that the Road Commission chose to ditch Potter Road and asked the City to ditch around the corner on Lanning Drive. When they were told they would have to restore the driveways as they found them, and they refused to do so. We now have to send our crews out to repair what they have done, or petition the Drain Commission. We were told it would be done their way and they dug and said we could take care of it. The ditches on Lanning Drive will be deep if they are left the way the County dug them.

Mr. LaDuke stated the Road Commission was told not to do any ditching until the driveways could be restored to the original state. When the City tears out a driveway, they are restored the way we found them.

Mrs. Zelenko asked if Mr. Ayre is aware of this situation and if not, possibly DPW could give him a call and inform him of the problem.

Karen Howe, 6051 Bellingham Ct., inquired what the City's definition of reconstruction is regarding the roads. She also inquired about the pay back from other municipalities. She stated she thinks the drainage problems should be repaired when the roads are be reconstructed.

Laurie Tinnin, 2340 Harmony, asked if the City could afford to take the roads over and if the bonds would be enough to take care of this project. She also asked how many bond issued the City has had and the length of time it takes to repay. She inquired why the City chose to take over these roads. She would like to have seen this issue on the August 3rd Council Agenda under the resolutions.

Larry Petrella, 1081 Howe Rd., inquired as to what the budget is for the roads for 1998-99. He also inquired about extra manpower being needed.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION:

Mr. Centilli asked about the drainage problem on Vassar Road and also on Maple Road across from the Elk's Club and the soccer field.

Mr. Major said these areas both drain into Burton and Grand Blanc Township would have to participate in any drainage assessment, if one is set up. This would be the decision made by the Drain Commission.

Mr. Centilli asked if it would be a good idea to put in culverts so there are no water pockets.

Mr. Major said the budget is set up only for resurfacing, not drainage work. He stated he would prefer to have the roads in better condition and they could petition the drain commission for the drainage projects.

Mr. Martinbianco said the County Road Commission would be responsible for their drains at large. If the City takes over the streets, then the Drain Commission escapes their responsibility of replacing the drains. He said he thinks the drainage should be put in place before reconstruction of the roads.

Discussion continued regarding whether the drainage should be improved in the flooding areas prior to the reconstruction of the roads.

Mr. Centilli asked Bill Hohloch, Engineer for CHMP, if he could give any insight on the drainage subject, and also what the advantage would be for the City to take over the roads.

Mr. Hohloch suggested each area be looked at on an individual basis. The City's problem is repairing the roads. He said the roads that are in bad condition need to be repaired and the City would get a healthy revenue from Act 51 money, which is about \$11,000 per mile. You have a bond issue and have the money for the repairs and should continue with the road repairs.

Howard Throop, Street Supervisor, said we don't want any more water into Burton than what currently is coming in.

Mr. Cox asked if Bill Ayre was invited to attend this workshop, as requested at the Finance Meeting.

Mr. Major said he did not invite Mr. Ayre. Discussion continued regarding this issue.

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Mr. Cox asked if the County could give the City some money for the road repairs. He also stated that if it

is not cost effective for the County to have the roads, would it be cost effective for the City to take them over.

Mr. Major said the County receives no more funds for the secondary roads than what the City receives for our local street system. They receive less than \$2,200.00 per mile of road. Mr. Ayre doesn't have any money to assist us in this project. He has stated he cannot maintain the roads the way the City could.

Mr. Martinbianco said there had been discussion about us taking over segments of the roads, but the County's policy was if you take over one, you take over all. He said Mr. Ayre should have been at tonight's meeting to discuss this issue.

Mr. Major disagreed, stating the County is willing to give up the secondary roads to the City, but their position on the primary roads is, take all or take none.

Mr. Cox questioned what the dollar amount would be according to Mr. Ayre, when repairs are made on the County primary and secondary roads, if there is a partnership agreement.

He was advised 50% of the cost would be Burton's share. Mr. Major stated the City would have to pay 100% of the cost on Genesee Road.

Mr. Cox stated that the County has held the City to a 50% agreement, but when we get to the secondary roads, there is no County participation, which causes the citizens to be taxed twice. He said he understands there are three different types of reconstruction when bringing the roads up to standard.

Mr. Major noted that this information would be given to Council when Mr. Hohloch puts the figures together.

Mr. Cox inquired about drainage problems on Maple Road, because drainage is the key to the life span of the roads. He asked if any insight has been given to the need for additional maintenance, equipment and manpower.

Mr. LaDuke said Mr. Rizzo paid to take care of the drainage problems on Maple Road near his development.

Mr. Throop said the winter maintenance is more prevalent, but he could use the existing personnel through the winter months, because inspectors are not as busy.

Mr. LaDuke stated that whether the City takes over the roads or not, Mr. Throop could use additional personnel with the increase in development throughout the City.

Mrs. Walls said it is her understanding that when the County gets the money for Burton's roads, they don't necessarily just spend it in Burton, but put it in a pot and use wherever necessary for road repairs.

Mr. Becker noted that the City is obligated to spend some of this bond money in a short period of time. The schedule that Mr. Major has laid out, has covered the bulk of roads. If we have a couple major drainage projects and a large drain culvert, we would still have bond proceeds that could cover these additional expenses. If there are other major streets that should go to the top of the list, we still have a balance of almost \$900,000.00 in the street budget.

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Mr. Hammon asked if any resident had the right to petition the Drain Commission for a drain improvement. Does this hold true for the City?

Mr. Major replied drain improvements would be handled as they have been done in the past.

Mr. Centilli asked how long the roads would last once they were resurfaced.

Mr. Major said probably at least 15 to 20 years or longer.

Mr. Hohloch said if the job is done well and the maintenance is done on a continuing basis, the roads should last for a number of years. However, once they go beyond a certain point, it takes a great deal to bring them back into shape.

Mr. Hammon said he thinks we are at the point where we should have the roads brought under the City's jurisdiction.

Mr. Major said after Council action on August 3rd, he sent a letter out on August 7th asking the County to turn over the roads and also a copy was sent to the State Transportation Department.

Mr. Hammon said these roads are to the point where they are dangerous to our residents, as well as those of other jurisdictions and it looks like it would be a good time to take control of them. We will be providing better roads for our residents and this needs to be our primary concern. He said he can't see any reason to not have the roads turned over to the City.

Mr. Martinbianco said he hopes it becomes a profitable and safe investment. He said he is unhappy with the publication of last week in regards to the roads. Also, the Council hasn't seen a design print and we don't know how far our money will go. He reviewed the street list and a brief discussion was held concerning increased cost on several of the streets, as well as extra work that may be needed on these particular streets. Mr. Martinbianco asked about the timetable for completing the roads. He would like to see included in the road improvements the addition of Hemphill Road from west city limits to Grand Traverse.

Mr. Major stated that the schedule would be modified once Mr. Hohloch get the cost estimates to the DPW. There is no reason we cannot get as many projects done this year and spend the bond money that is required of us for this year.

Further discussion continued.

Mr. Major said he would give the Council updates on the road repairs as they occur.

Workshop Adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

Cheryl M. Ladd, CMC/AAE
Deputy City Clerk

CML