

CITY OF BURTON

The Meeting was called to order by Ted Hammon, President, at 7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Centilli, Cox, Hammon, Martinbianco, Walls and Zelenko.

Members Absent: Cross.

Others Present: Mayor Charles Smiley; J. Major, DPW Director; C. Abbey, Personnel Director; R. Hamilton, Attorney and G. Webster, Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Discussion and possible action regarding resurfacing

County Roads and funding.

PRESENTATION:

Mayor Smiley has been in contact with Genesee County Road Commission Director, Bill Ayers. They have been discussing proposed improvements for the infrastructure in the County, including Burton. Mr. Ayers is hopeful that we will be able to micro-surface 17 miles of roads this year, weather permitting. Ace Asphalt said the work could be done, if the funding is available by the deadline. After Senate Bill 225 is signed, the Mayor will contact Council.

Mr. Major spoke with Dennis Grylicki this afternoon and Senate Bill 225 hasn't been signed yet. He expects the bill to be signed soon. Timing and weather conditions are very important. Mr. Grylicki's recommendations for Lapeer Rd. included joint, shoulder and ditching repair work. He advised us not to use overlay in this area. This project would cost \$30,000 to \$50,000, with matching funds from the County. Joint repair would provide a good riding surface until this area is programmed for state and federal funding.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Larry Petrella, 1081 Howe Rd., wanted to know why the Genesee County roads weren't addressed during the budget process and why it took so long to do something.

Mr. Cox said the money was not entered into this budget, however, the roads are

not a new issue. We have known about them for the last eighteen months. We have been working with the Road Commission to find extra dollars to help repair County roads. This proposal hinges on the passing of Senate Bill 225.

Mr. Major said we did not want to go this route. Our position has always been to have the Road Commission find some alternative funding for the County roads. We would like to keep our money to repair Burton's major streets.

Mr. Petrella asked for a copy of Exhibits A & B, pertaining to the road projects.

Mr. Hammon gave Mr. Petrella a copy of the information.

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COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martinbianco commented on the City's share of \$200,000, transferred from the Major Street fund, being tied to a stipulation by the Genesee County Road Commission, contingent on the passing of Senate Bill 225. He wanted clarification on our commitment of the \$200,000 share, regardless of the Road Commission and what happens with the passage of Senate Bill 225. His understanding is that the County Road Commission will participate in selected projects that are mutually determined, up to the amount of transferred funds, less the money transferred from a portion of the \$69 million, which is a one time transfer from the state's rainy day fund. Will the County participate up to that level, even if Senate Bill 225 isn't passed?

Mr. Major said yes, if Senate Bill 225 doesn't pass, there would have to be a scaled down version. It would be brought back to Council to determine a \$400,000 package. Another option would be not to do anything. He predicts the bill will pass.

Mr. Martinbianco said Council would expect the Road Commission to come back for an alternative package, if the original proposal was not carried out.

Mr. Major said the minutes will reflect our intentions and will be sent along with the contract. Also, he will make sure Mr. Grylicki understands our position.

Mr. Cox said the Finance Committee met August 7, 1997, to review and discuss the proposed agreement. The Committee recommended by a 3-0 vote to send the proposal to Council. We discussed our upcoming local road repair needs. In the future, we prefer closer communications with the County, so we will have more input into our future road projects.

Mrs. Zelenko wanted to know when Lapeer Rd. between Center and Belsay Rd. would be repaired and if it would be financed using a 50/50 formula. It wasn't included in the current proposal.

Mr. Cox reported there was some discussion on new projects and Lapeer and Vassar Roads were mentioned. Two bond debts will be paid off within the next few years, freeing up an additional \$300,000 a year for some new road projects. Also, we have to maintain our own roads.

Mayor Smiley said some roads proposed in this package were included in this year's budget and \$60,000-\$70,000 will go back to the unappropriated road fund. He is very hopeful that Senate Bill 225 is going to be signed. If the bill is not signed, Burton will have a \$150,000 shortfall for the 17 mile road project. The Council needs to be prepared if that should happen. We will need to decide if we should come up with the extra \$150,000 or not, which roads would be fixed and who would make that decision. These decisions will have to be made immediately, pending the outcome of the Bill. If we are serious about getting these roads done, we will have to be prepared. In reference to Mr. Martinbianco's comments, the Genesee County Road Commission will not contribute any more than the \$150,000, which is their share of Bill 225. If that bill doesn't happen, we will have to make up the \$150,000 shortfall or we will not be able to participate in the proposed package.

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Mr. Martinbianco clarified, if Bill 225 doesn't pass, the County would experience a \$150,000 shortfall in their contribution to the program. Then we have two options, we could scale back the project to see how far \$400,000 will go or we could make up the difference. The Finance Committee would need to make a determination where the other \$150,000 would come from to help finance the balance.

Mayor Smiley said our original share was \$376,000 before Senate Bill 225.

Mr. Martinbianco said the contingency clause was added to excuse the Road Commission from much of their liability toward that repair. If the bill was not passed, the \$150,000 would be taken off. We would still contribute \$200,000 and the Road Commission would contribute \$200,000. A list of suggested roads would be generated along with a proposal for funding the additional \$150,000, with the understanding the County would do something of that value in the future. Then I think we could buy that. The agreement that's put before us today commits us to the \$200,000 and certainly commits the Road Commission to that.

The Mayor said seventeen miles of roads would be fixed for the total project cost of \$785,000. You add the City's share, Flint's share, and the Road Commission's share and our costs after the bids came in dropped from \$400,000 to \$336,000 for this package. Because of Senate Bill 225, the County is sharing some of that, which is \$150,000. If they don't receive the funds from Bill 225, they don't receive \$150,000. That means we're going to have a shortfall and we're back to \$336,000, if we are going to do the seventeen miles of roads. Council will have to decide if we're going to this project or reduce it to \$200,000. We have not discussed that with the Road Commission.

Mr. Martinbianco referred to the last micro-surfacing projects that were completed. He said everybody understands this project is a temporary fix. In a few years, after our bonds are paid off, we will have the financial capabilities to repair the roads the way they should be done now.

Mr. Major said in the future we would be able to contribute \$350,000, as our half to projects every year without bonding. This would be \$700,000 a year cash work. Then we wouldn't be making those big interest payments.

Mr. Hammon thanked the Finance Committee for their time and efforts in reviewing this issue before bringing it to Council.

COUNCIL ACTION:

Centilli moved and Zelenko seconded the following motion:

1. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with the Genesee County Road Commission, on behalf of the City of Burton and its City Council, to resurface certain existing roadways under the jurisdiction of the Genesee County Road Commission as outlined on exhibits A & B, contingent upon passage of Senate Bill 225, in an amount of (not to exceed) \$200,000.00 City share, with a transfer from the 1997-98 Major Street Fund Balance.

Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Gayle Webster
City Clerk

