

**LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL  
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS  
Tuesday, October 13, 2020  
8:00 a.m.**

**Members:** Council Member Sterling Wilder  
Council Member Chris Faraldi  
Mayor Dolan, ex-officio

**Staff Present:** Reid Wodicka  
Kent White  
Gaynelle Hart  
Victoria Glasgow

**Others Present:** Timothy Mitchell, Director of Water Resources  
Ty Mosby, Representing Westward Corporation  
Greg Poff, Deputy Director of Water Resources

Council Member Wilder convened the PDC Meeting. Mr. Wilder announced that Council Member Chair, Treney Tweedy suffered a death in her family and he would be conducting the meeting in her absence.

**Recent/Pending Contract Awards:** Lee Newland

Mr. Wilder reported that there were no recent or pending contract awards.

**Priority Projects:** Lee Newland

Mr. Newland indicated that he would go through the priority projects one by one.

1. **John Capron Road** – That job is complete and will be removed from the list.
2. **Memorial Ave. Storm Drainage/Reconstruction/Repave** - Project is going on out front of 1700 Memorial Avenue. They have had some storm drainage concerns with the contractor who installed them. That is being mitigated and once that is complete we will be paving it. We are hoping to have a response from the contractor today. Hopefully the paving will get started fairly soon on that one.
3. **Main Street Renewal Project** – Construction is underway and going well there.
4. **Train Trestle Trail From Linkhorne to Ed Page Entrance** - That is complete. They are out there today taking down the scaffolding and I believe there is a ribbon cutting planned for October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
5. **Lakeside Drive Bridge Over Blackwater** - Construction is underway and going well on it.

6. **Wastewater Treatment Plant Project** – This is ongoing.
7. **Link Road Bridge** – We are in the bidding phase of that bridge project. It is being advertised and we are still working on trying to get the easements resolved.
8. **One Way Pairs @ 501/221** – Is proceeding to 60% plans.
9. **Downtown Watermain** – The second or next project is call Streetscape Phase 2. That design is at 90% and we are checking those and going to 100% design so it will be ready once the Main Street Renewal Project is done with. That has revenue sharing funds on it and if we don't start right behind it we are in jeopardy of losing those funds.
10. **Police Department Headquarters** – Pre-design phase is nearing completion. We are reviewing the budget estimate, value engineering and conceptual designs.
11. **Fifth Street Phase 4** – The design plans are underway on that one.

Mr. Wilder asked if there were any comments by committee members. Mr. Wilder spoke of the Lakeside Drive Project and there was a forum scheduled that had been cancelled. He questioned whether that had been rescheduled. Mr. Newland indicated that no it had not been rescheduled but that it was online and could be done virtually. Virtually by asking questions and being responded to. Mr. Wilder indicated that he had noticed pictures on facebook on the parts about Lynchburg and great pictures of Lynchburg. They were taking pictures of the construction and things going on down there. And there were comments about not understanding the process. They didn't know what was going on. Communication is so important. I didn't respond to them. Someone responded to them explaining what was going on and why it was needed and things of that nature.

### **General Business:**

#### **1. Bausch Health (Bausch & Lomb, Inc.) Expansion Water & Sewer Availability Fees -Presented by Timothy Mitchell**

Mr. Mitchell began by explaining that City Code requires that when we have an expansion or have a new building that is over 100,000 square feet we come to City Council to set the availability fees. The availability fees are relative to water and sewer connections. One is the availability fee and one is the connection fee. The availability fee is basically to buy into the capacity of the water or sewer system. In City Code there is a table that shows what the availability fee is for various square footage sizes. For example for 35,001 square feet up to 99,999 square feet it is \$9,650.00 for the water connection, no I'm sorry that is the sewer connection fee. So what we did to determine the Bausch Health Expansion, which is Bausch & Long on Graves Mill Road we prorated that per square foot. We took that 99,999 square feet and took that availability fee and divided that by the 99,999 to come up with the square footage price. And multiple that by 124,000 square feet to calculate the recommended availability fees for the sewer and the water. For example for the water rate is \$6,110.00 for 99,999. So our recommendation is to set the water availability fee at \$7,576.00 and the sewer availability fee \$11,976.00. In the near future one of the things we are going to be doing is making recommendations to some of these structures since they haven't been changed in decades. Typically what water utility does is set the availability fee based on the size of the meter that the customer is using. That is an indication of how much water and they are going to be using and also how much sewer they're going to be using. There are ratios the

way that is set up is based on equivalent residential meters so a typical residential meter is 5/8" so that's kind of the foundation. Basically you take the value of the water system and the sewer system and divide that by the equivalent residential meters to come up with the rate. For example, a 2" meter is equivalent of 8 residential 5/8" meters. A 2" can pass the same amount of water as 8 residential meters. But for now, we are tied to the code that we have so our recommendation is the fees that we have stated in the Agenda Summary. That is our recommendation and I would be glad to answer any questions you may have about that.

Mr. Wilder asked if there were any questions. Mr. Faraldi indicated that he had listened and tried to understand the best that he could. He questioned that it was stated \$7,576.00 for the water connection but you quoted a lesser amount of \$6,110.00. Mr. Faraldi questioned if that was accurate and asked if Mr. Mitchell could walk him through that again. Mr. Mitchell indicated that the current code is 99,999 square feet. The availability fees set in code is \$6,110.00. It is 24,000 square feet so it is 25% more to come to the recommended fee. Mr. Wilder questioned that based on consensus can we approve this resolution and pass on to City Council for approval. Mr. Wilder questioned if any other measures were required for this. There were no other measures required.

## **2. Hillcrest Renaming**

**-Presented by Victoria Glasgow**

Ms. Glasgow began by stating The City of Lynchburg is petitioning to rename a portion of Hillcrest Avenue to Caroline Street for E911 and postal service purposes. Currently the name changes from "Hillcrest" to "Caroline" in the middle of the street. The proposal is to name the section of what is currently "Hillcrest Avenue" between Page St and Caroline St as "Caroline Street".

The City's Technical Review Committee reviewed the petition on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and had no issues; the Planning Commission reviewed the petition on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and had no comments.

The renaming has no fiscal impact. Mr. Wilder asked if there were any questions. Mr. Wilder asked if this will affect any of the residents who own a vacant lot. Ms. Glasgow responded by stating that it affects 2 property owners but no residents. One is an empty lot that has been notified by certified mail and the other belongs to the City of Lynchburg. Mr. Wilder questioned comments back from the one that does own that property. Ms. Glasgow responded by stating no comments. Mr. Wilder indicated that this could be passed on with consensus to City Council for approval.

## **3. Sewer Vacation of 8004 Timberlake**

**-Presented by Lee Newland**

Mr. Newland indicated that there is a sewer line that runs across a piece of property at 8004 Timberlake Road. In 1988 the city acquired an easement to construct and operate a sewer line that runs all the way across the back of the property to the property on the far side. The owner of the property, Westward Corporation wants to vacate that sewer easement because it is in the way of their planned development and the property on the opposite side that it went to serve TPB Enterprises is using a sewer line down along Dreaming Creek for their entire sewer. So it comes up from the bottom so they don't need this sewer line. The owner has asked if we could vacate it and he be allowed to remove the sewer line from the ground. This has to go through City Council, full council since this is an ordinance and it will be coming at the next meeting if you approve it to go forward. Also here today is Ty Mosby; he is representing the client if you have any questions.

Mr. Wilder asked if there are any questions. Ms. Dolan asked what the negative of doing this. If there was any future negative. Mr. Newland stated that he didn't know of any and would need to turn to utilities. Tim Mitchell, Director of Utilities, stated that there was no negative to this.

Mr. Wilder indicated an approval of the resolution with consensus and pass this on to City Council for approval.

**Roll Call:**

Mr. Faraldi stated that anything that he had has already been addressed within the last 24 hours via email.

Mrs. Dolan stated no.

Mr. Wilder also indicated that his has been addressed by email. Mr. Wilder indicated a number of calls of blight property and overgrown grass at neighbors' houses with consistency. Especially with abandoned property or when the original resident lives outside the city so we continue to address those. Mr. Wilder indicated that the City has been working with him on this issue and thanked those who address these issues. Mr. Wilder indicated that he always received trash concerns. He indicated that he had a gentlemen call and curse him out. Unfortunately we cannot please everyone. Even with the notifications that go out as we continue to inform our community about all the changes that go forth. Mr. Wilder encourages people to read the flyers that come in the mail with their water bill. Especially when there is a form or open session in the community about changes in the trash can fee. It is important that citizens be aware of changes coming due.

Mr. Wilder asked if there were any other questions of the committee. Mr. Faraldi requested insight on the new brush and bulk collection, just in general. He realizes it's only been 13 days. He stated that that's not impossible. Ms. Hart came forward and stated that she had been in the field riding routes. She indicated that 2 weeks ago she did this and things are looking better. She stated that it feels like we are getting caught up from COVID. She also stated that this was being staffed far above what we should. Two extra trucks were purchased through CARES funding and so we have those on the street. I also asked permission from the City Manager, the previous City Manager for some trucks to be replaced to keep those in the field. So instead of running 3-4 brush trucks 6 days a week we are running 6-7 brush and bulk trucks 6 days a week. Ms. Hart indicated that it feels that we are getting caught up. Ms. Hart has seen some complaints and wrote those yesterday and checked them out. It appears that we got caught up on bulk but not brush in that particular area. Ms. Hart indicated that she is trying to go out and check as time permits.

Mr. Faraldi indicated that we are only 13 days in and we will work out the kinks just wanted to get an update. Mr. Wodicka indicated that at some point we will more heavily enforce the schedule and people will be starting to get violations and so that is coming. Hopefully we will be able to get people educated first but there may be times when you get some calls where folks are upset. Ms. Hart indicated that we have what we call a "friendly warning" that is yellow. It is just a notification/education. People are still going to get upset when they see it because some people take a lot of pride in how they operate and how they are a citizen but it is a friendly warning and we are trying to make it language friendly so that people understand that this is just educational.

Mr. Wilder indicated that if you go down Park Avenue towards 12<sup>th</sup> before you get to the round-about at Langhorne and 12<sup>th</sup> Street. He thought it might be Craddock Street there may be an illegal

dumping site. Consistently every time the City picks it up. He had seen a sofa there with some other stuff. Mr. Wilder asked if we need a no dumping sign there or something. Ms. Hart indicated that we can try to figure out who is doing it. With the new schedule they are only supposed to be putting stuff out once per month. Ms. Hart suggested educating them that this is your week to have brush and bulk picked up and you cannot put it out outside your scheduled time. Someone who routinely to violate with it not being a mistake or lack of education on their part we do have the ability to charge a minimum of \$250.00 and that may be to get people actually to comply. Mr. Wilder indicated that this part doesn't seem to be in front of a house. It's almost on the corner but there is no house right there. It would hard to determine who is doing that if it's just people driving by throwing their trash there. It appears to be every day that there is a pile of trash right there and then it would be gone. Then it would be gone, and I think great. Then the next week there would be another pile there with tires, sofas and beds. Ms. Hart indicated that are a couple of those areas around town that we are watching. Not sure if someone is illegally dumping or someone in the neighborhood that are trying to dispose of bulk separately. We will have to try and keep an eye on it.

Mr. Faraldi questioned Mr. Wodicka with the PR Campaign continued past the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Mr. Wodicka indicated that it will be until the end of the year. Mr. Faraldi indicated that he would not want someone to continue to get fined.

Mr. Wilder adjourned the meeting.

**Next meeting:** November 10, 2020