MINUTES
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY
SALES TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2016
4:00 P.M.

Call to order:

The Capital Improvement and Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee met in regular session on Thursday, August 18, 2016. Present were committee members Joshua Bard, Chris Churchwell, Leslie Cypret, Harvey Hutchinson, DeWayne Patton, James Richards, and Richard Schlottke. Committee members Tom Beisner and Ryan Jackson were absent.

City Staff present were Leslie Haase, Finance Director; Paul Bloomberg, Interim Parks Director; David Hertzberg, Capital Improvement Project Manager; Dan Johnson, Civil Engineer; Andy Nimmo, Deputy Fire Chief; and Matthew Stewart, Police Chief.

Lori Haun and Clifford Wert were present in the audience.

Mr. Churchwell stated Mr. Beisner and Mr. Jackson have reported to the City staff that they are unable to attend this meeting.

MR. PATTON MOVED, SECONDED BY MR. RICHARDS, THAT TOM BEISNER AND RYAN JACKSON BE EXCUSED. THE MOTION CARRIED, WITH MR. BARD, MR. CHURCHWELL, MR. CYPRET, MR. HUTCHINSON, MR. PATTON, MR. RICHARDS, AND MR. SCHLOTTKE VOTING "AYE"; AND WITH MR. BEISNER AND MR. JACKSON BEING ABSENT (7 IN FAVOR, 2 ABSENT).

Approve minutes from the meeting of May 19, 2016:

Mr. Churchwell asked for additions or corrections to the minutes from the meeting of May 19, 2016.

Mr. Churchwell mentioned the phrase in the fifth paragraph under "Parks" where Mr. Patton asked if the construction company has the responsibility to make things good because of problems with the tennis courts at the athletic center. The minutes state the City does not have any obligation at this point, and Mr. Churchwell asked if the City or the construction company didn't have any obligation. Mr. Bloomberg thought that was the problem with the tennis courts, and Mr. Hertzberg thought the contractor shouldn't have any obligation. That project was constructed during 2008. Mr. Churchwell stated the minutes should state the contractor or construction company didn't have any obligation, instead of the City. Mr. Hertzberg stated the contractor's performance bonds are in effect for a year after the final payment has been made.

MR. HUTCHINSON MOVED, SECONDED BY MR. PATTON, THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 19, 2016 MEETING BE ACCEPTED AS AMENDED. THE MOTION CARRIED, WITH MR. BARD, MR. CHURCHWELL, MR. CYPRET, MR. HUTCHINSON, MR. PATTON, MR. RICHARDS, AND MR. SCHLOTTKE VOTING "AYE"; AND WITH MR. BEISNER AND MR. JACKSON BEING ABSENT (7 IN FAVOR, 2 ABSENT).

Review sales tax collections and projects:
Parks and Stormwater Sales Tax:

Ms. Haase gave those present reports outlining the revenues and expenditures for the parks and stormwater sales tax through July 31, 2016. Revenues are no longer being collected in Phase I. The parks projects are all completed, with only stormwater remaining to be completed. Report 1 lists expenditures of $123,262, with the remaining estimated project costs being $107,358.

Report 2 contains the list of projects in Phase I, with the only project remaining being Eighth Street and Patterson Avenue. This work is included in the proposed budget for FY 2017.

Report contains the project analysis for Phase II. Revenues for FY 2016 total $1,074,989 for parks and $1,546,935 for stormwater, with $260,967 being collected on the state allocation grant.

Parks expenditures for FY 2016 total $228,438 for parks, with $64,179 being paid to the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) developers. Just over $4.8 million remains to be spent on parks projects. Stormwater expenditures for FY 2016 total $1,536,262 for stormwater, with $92,355 being paid to the TIF developers. Just over $14.3 million remains in stormwater projects.

Report 4 contains the list of projects in Phase II. For parks, the skate ponds, the aquatic center, and the off-leash dog park are complete. Stormwater projects that are complete include the regional detention on the northeast side of Murphy Boulevard south of 15th Street, the culvert system on Michigan Avenue between 30th and 27th Streets, Joe Becker Stadium, and the Airport-Public Safety Training Center. No projects were completed during the third quarter of FY 2016.

Ms. Haase stated the City Council will be reviewing the progress of Phase II on the parks and stormwater tax to see where the City stands financially, and if all of the projects still make sense.

Mr. Churchwell noted the projected sales tax receipts seem to be up and asked if that is a trend the staff is seeing. Ms. Haase replied this seems to be a trend so she has included a two (2) percent increase in the FY 2017 budget. She has projected an increase of 1.5 percent each year thereafter.

Stormwater:

Mr. Johnson discussed the stormwater maintenance activities and stated the crew time was spent on heavy ditch maintenance, along with more mowing than usual and cleaning inlets following rain events, as well as replacing catch basins. The crew is trying to work in tandem with the City's overlay program in making stormwater repairs on streets that will receive overlay.

Six positions were maintained during the third quarter of FY 2016. The operations expenditures totaled 48 percent of the overall budget, with small repairs also being made to the minor drainage system during this quarter.

Ditch maintenance totals include 103,679 feet of ditch maintenance, with 174 catch basins being cleaned, and 2,306 miles of street sweeping being logged.

Mr. Johnson stated Eighth Street and Patterson Avenue is the only remaining project in Phase I. The design work is complete, with construction easement acquisition beginning next month. Construction will begin this fall.

Mr. Johnson discussed the projects in Phase II. The regional detention west of Arizona Avenue and north of 32nd Street is currently under construction.

Final plans and specifications are progressing for the storm sewer improvements on Illinois Avenue between Seventh and Ninth Streets and the regional detention at 15th Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The staff is trying to schedule the construction in a way that doesn't interfere too much with all the other upcoming projects in this area. Part of this project includes the closure of Seventh Street while a box culvert is being placed underneath the street.

The ditch and culvert improvements at Fourth Street and School Avenue will be divided into two phases, with the first phase lying north of Joe Becker Stadium. The first phase will be constructed during the winter, with the second phase beginning next spring.

Drainage and construction easement acquisition is progressing on Euclid Avenue and Odessa/Rolla Streets, with construction being advertised for bids this fall. This project needs to be complete before the St. Louis Avenue widening project begins since Euclid will be an important part of the various detours around the work on St. Louis.

Construction has just begun at 10th Street and Peters Avenue. The new culvert system on Hill Street between Division and Mineral Avenues is substantially complete.

Mr. Hutchinson asked about the work currently taking place on 26th Street west of Maiden Lane. Mr. Johnson replied that is a sanitary sewer project that was being designed when the roadway improvements were almost complete. Utility excavations have also been made on 26th Street for a new building that is being constructed.

Parks:

Mr. Bloomberg stated the L-Screens for the softball complex amenities were purchased during the third quarter of FY 2016 at a cost of $1,200. The demolition of the Naval Reserve building is complete for $140,000. The improvements at Parr Hill Park and Cunningham Park consisted of trees and landscaping.

Bids are being solicited for playground equipment for Parr Hill Park, Humphrey Park, and Ewert Park. The equipment for all three parks is being consolidated into one bid. Bids are also being solicited for a storage building to be erected on the Naval Reserve site. The Parks Department does not currently have a storage facility to keep their equipment out of the weather. The bids for the storage facility are actually for a kit that the parks personnel will put together themselves.

Mr. Patton asked about the size of the building, and Mr. Bloomberg replied it would fit on the concrete pad utilized by the Naval Reserve building. The existing foundation walls would be used for the stem walls.

Ms. Haase stated the City Council hasn't officially decided where the building is to be erected. Mr. Bloomberg stated two locations are proposed, either on the Naval Reserve building site or where the Schifferdecker tennis courts used to be. Ms. Haase will let the committee members know which site the City Council chooses.

Mr. Richards asked if the building would be away from Schifferedecker Avenue if the tennis court site is used, and Mr. Bloomberg replied everything from the tennis courts would be moved into the storage building.

Capital Improvement Sales Tax:

Ms. Haase gave those present reports outlining the revenues and expenditures for the capital improvement sales tax through July 31, 2016. Revenues are no longer being collected for Phase I. Expenditures for FY 2017 total $4,941,887, with just over $3.7 million to be spent in Phase I.

Report 8 contains a list of projects in Phase I. The overlay program is being completed at this time. Work is progressing on Zora Street from Range Line Road to Main Street, St. Louis Avenue from Broadway to Zora, and some additional traffic signal upgrades.

Ms. Haase discussed the projects in Phase II, with $3,932,816 being collected during FY 2016. Interest income for the current year totals $109,169. Expenditures total $735,390, with the TIF developers being paid $219,148. Just over $51.2 million remains to be spent in Phase II.

Report 10 contains the project list, with a lot of design work progressing. None of the projects have been completed at this point.

Mr. Hutchinson asked if 32nd Street from Schifferdecker Avenue to Central City Road is still on the same schedule in that it is to be completed first due to safety reasons.

Mr. Churchwell asked Ms. Haase if revenues from the TIGER grant are still being received for projects in Phase I. She replied yes, although the City is almost at the end of the grant cycle. The final grant payment is still remaining but cannot be collected until all the projects are completely finished. Mr. Churchwell asked about the grant total for the current year, and Ms. Haase replied a total of $12 million over the various years the City has received the funding.

Mr. Hertzberg discussed the projects in Phase I and stated that construction is progressing on Zora Street from Range Line Road to Main Street. The right-of-way acquisition is complete on St. Louis Avenue from Broadway to Zora except for one property that the City Council has given authority for condemnation. The tree and stump removal is complete, with the utility companies relocating their lines at this point. The construction contract will be advertised for bids this fall, with work beginning next spring.

The City staff is working with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) on potential traffic signal upgrades.

Mr. Hertzberg discussed the projects in Phase II and stated the City staff is continuing to meet with the property owners along 32nd Street between Schifferdecker Avenue and Central City Road. Preliminary plans are complete at this point. Right-of-way acquisition will begin this fall. Right-of-way acquisition and utility relocations typically take about a year to complete, so the staff anticipates construction during 2019. The staff anticipates widening 44th Street from Range Line Road to Connecticut Avenue at about the same time. The property owners along the north side of 44th Street have verbally donated the right-of-way, which is why that street has moved up through the process.

Mr. Hertzberg reported the City of Joplin was not selected for the 2016 TIGER grant program, with no projects in the state of Missouri being selected.

Mr. Hertzberg discussed the neighborhood transportation improvements and stated there are several railroad projects for which street surfacing will be improved. Survey data is being compiled for the crossings on Pennsylvania Avenue south of 10th Street.

A contract was awarded for adjustment of manhole frames and covers as part of the 2016 resurfacing program. Another contract has been awarded for manhole frames and cover replacement and height adjustment on arterial and collector streets.

Mr. Schlottke asked if the contractors are also providing GPS services to input where the improvements have taken place, and numbering each improvement. Mr. Hertzberg replied the City surveyor is placing these on the GPS since an inventory of the sanitary sewer system is maintained by the City staff.

The City staff is working with MoDOT on some applications for some cost-share projects. Connecticut Avenue has been divided into two projects, from 32nd Street to the I-44 overpass, and from the I-44 overpass to 44th Street. The staff is currently in the selection process for an engineering consultant on those projects.

The staff is currently negotiating donated right-of-way on the north side of 44th Street between Range Line Road and Connecticut and is in the selection process for an engineering consultant. The staff has made an application to MoDOT for cost-share funding for the Connecticut Avenue overpass. An engineering consultant has been selected and has begun the conceptual design phase.

Mr. Schlottke asked if off-ramps are being planned, or just another set of lanes. Mr. Hertzberg stated this program includes only the widening of the bridge.

Mr. Bard asked about upgrading the traffic signals at 32nd Street and Connecticut Avenue at the same time the roadway is being widened. Mr. Hertzberg has made application for MoDOT cost-share funding for that intersection.

Mr. Patton asked if the overpass will contain four lanes, and if it will include bike lanes. Mr. Hertzberg replied there will be four driving lanes, along with a sidewalk and bike lane.

Mr. Hertzberg discussed Zora Street from Range Line Road to Route 249 and stated the City staff has met with the property owners. The consultant has completed the preliminary plans, with the staff giving the property owners an opportunity to review those plans. An open house will be scheduled to solicit public input on the preliminary plans.

Mr. Hertzberg discussed the Jackson Avenue bridge replacement at Shoal Creek and stated the consultant is still in the conceptual design stage. The staff is looking at two locations, one at the site of the existing Low Water Bridge, and another location upstream by which the existing bridge would be saved. The consultant is modeling those from a flooding and cost perspective, so the conceptual plans can be brought to the property owners and the public to solicit input.

Mr. Richards discussed turning issues with large trucks at the intersection of Zora Street and Duquesne Road. He asked about the considerations for that intersection for the truck traffic that

wants to come through there instead of going back to Webb City. Mr. Hertzberg is investigating the possibility of constructing a roundabout that would accommodate the large trucks.

Mr. Hertzberg stated right-of-way negotiations are almost complete for the Schifferdecker Avenue bridge at Turkey Creek and connection with Zora Street. The staff will be advertising for bids for a clearing and grubbing contract. The predominant movement will be for Zora to curve to the south over a new bridge and line up with Schifferdecker. Mr. Hertzberg stated utility relocations will begin once the clearing and grubbing is complete. It will be at least another year before construction begins.

Mr. Richards has seen camera systems photographing the traffic on Schifferdecker Avenue at the Belle Center curve. He asked how the City's improvements would tie into that. Mr. Hertzberg has submitted a cost-share application to MoDOT for a future long-range project. He sees the north-south movement becoming predominant, and that traffic on Route P coming from the west would stop or yield for that north-south movement. The north-south movement will become the commercial vehicle bypass from the downtown.

Mr. Bloomberg asked about installing traffic signals at the entrance to the Schifferdecker Pool, and Mr. Hertzberg discussed long-range plans for signalization at Fourth Street and Schifferdecker.

Public Safety Sales Tax:

Ms. Haase gave those present reports outlining the revenues and expenditures for the public safety sales tax through July 31, 2016. Report 12 shows a beginning fund balance for FY 2016 being just over $10.2 million, with $5,243,124 being collected through July 31. Expenditures total $250,456 for street lights; $1,944,763 for police; and $1,695,895 for fire. A total of $571,670 has been spent on the public safety training center, with $339,676 being paid to the TIF developers. Expenditures total just over $4.8 million, with the ending fund balance being $10,687,992. Report 13 contains the list of expenditures.

When the public safety training center is complete, Ms. Haase will determine how much money is available for the east side fire station. Once that station is, all the one-time capital expenditures will be done, and the public safety sales tax will just be funding ongoing operations.

Police:

Police Chief Stewart stated all the Police Department's public safety tax positions are filled. The department currently has six general fund vacancies. Seven individuals are being sent into the police academy that begins next week, with seven more being about halfway through their full training. That leaves a total of 20 positions that are not filled in the Police Department.

Chief Stewart discussed training center operations for FY 2016 and stated 900 seats have been filled by Joplin Police Department officers. They have also filled 276 seats from regional police departments. The construction on the training center is progressing well. Construction has begun on the tactics room, which will also serve as the safe room for the building. The facility is to be complete during March, 2017.

Fire:

Deputy Chief Nimmo stated all the Fire Department's public safety positions are filled. A recruit academy begins on Monday, August 22, with five new firefighters attending the academy. The department has changed its hiring process and the recruit academy considerably to where it is now a 16-week academy, with Firefighter I and II and EMT courses being taught, instead of trying to find recruits who already have that training. This is an accelerated course with six weeks for Firefighter I and II and six weeks for EMT, followed by a four-week finish school.

Deputy Chief Nimmo discussed training center operations for FY 2016 and stated his department has already met its ISO requirements for yearly training due to the training tower site being open for six months. Personnel from other regional fire departments have been using the training tower as well.

Schedule next meeting of the oversight committee:

The next meeting of this committee will be held on Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

Mr. Churchwell asked for a motion to adjourn.

MR. RICHARDS MOVED, SECONDED BY MR. CYPRET, THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED. THE MOTION CARRIED, WITH MR. BARD, MR. CHURCHWELL, MR. CYPRET, MR. HUTCHINSON, MR. PATTON, MR. RICHARDS, AND MR. SCHLOTTKE VOTING "AYE"; AND WITH MR. BEISNER AND MR. JACKSON BEING ABSENT (7 IN FAVOR, 2 ABSENT).

There being no further business to come before the Capital Improvement and Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee, the meeting stood adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Chris Churchwell, Chairman

Susan Champlin, Secretary