

**VILLAGE OF CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
MINUTES  
MAY 22, 2019  
6:00 PM**

Ms. Harris called the meeting to order. Clerk Unger called the roll.

**ROLL CALL: BLOAM CENTA HARRIS HENLEY SCHOEFFLER**

Also present were, Mayor Bacci, Assistant Law Director Ben Chojnacki, and Engineer Todd Sciano.

Council President Harris gave the floor to the Mayor for his report.

**Mayors Report:**

Tonight, the Mayor said he wanted to update Council on all of the projects going on within the Village. Mayor Bacci explained that this meeting is a precursor to a letter that will be sent out to all of the residents explaining all the projects and giving them an update.

With that, he turned the meeting over to Engineer Sciano.

Mr. Sciano gave Council printouts with information on all the projects currently going on in the Village to help them follow his presentation.

**1) Nicky Boulevard Storm Sewer Phase 1 & Phase 2:**

Permitting is 99.9% complete.

Funding is in place.

Improvement Plans are 95% complete.

Construction:

Commencement May 2019.

Completion Fall 2020.

This job was bid in 2018 and approved by Council in 2019. There are many players that needed to be lined up before the project is complete. The biggest roadblock to completion was in the property acquisition of a small easement from a property owned by Rich Mihelich doing business as RAM and JJM Properties.

Every resident on E. 49<sup>th</sup> has signed on to move forward with this project except Mr. Mihelich. This property owner has held up this project for a long time. We are currently going through the court system to try and resolve this issue.

Mayor Bacci said that all of the issues we are having with this project stem from this one property owner that refuses to work with us. Luckily, Mr. Schoeffler, who owns the property to the north of Mr. Mihelich, is going to let us use his property. We are very fortunate to have this alternative, and that Mr. Schoeffler has agreed to let us use his property. If not for him, this project would be at a standstill.

## **2) Canal Road Reconstruction:**

Preliminary Plan is 90% complete.

Funding is in place.

Improvement Plans are 80% complete.

Construction:

PHASE 1 – July to November 2019

PHASE 2A & 2B – March to November 2020

Mr. Sciano said that this project has its challenges on how to accomplish doing the work while maintaining traffic flow. Mayor Bacci said that this street has not been done in over 50 years, and we must suffer some downtime on E.49<sup>th</sup> Street to get this done. It is much easier for the contractor to shut the street down completely than to do it in sections. We are trying to limit the impact to our businesses and residents while keeping the price affordable.

## **3) East 49<sup>th</sup> Slope Stabilization:**

Preliminary Plan is 90% complete.

Funding is in place.

Improvement Plans are 80% complete.

Construction: July 2019 to September 2020

After looking at all options for stabilizing the hill, Mr. Sciano said it looks like good old-fashioned earth and embankment is the best and cheapest way to stabilize the slope. We are looking to do this at the same time we are doing the Canal Road Project. The Sewer District is doing all that it can to help us get this done. We are looking at a lot of trucks coming through to dump soil for the stabilization of the hill.

Mayor Bacci said that we are going to do everything we can to limit the inconvenience to the residents, but we can't fly the dirt in, it has to come from trucks. We will work with everyone in the planning stages to do everything we can to alleviate the inconveniences, but this project still needs to get done. Mr. Sciano and his group have been tasked with getting this project done in the shortest amount of time. We have to do this before we put in a new road. Timing is everything. These projects are very complicated.

#### **4) Canal Road Resurfacing:**

Preliminary Plan is 75% complete.  
Funding is in place.  
Improvement Plan is 50% complete.  
Construction: August 2019 to October 2020.

Mr. Sciano said this project came about as a result of neighboring communities of Garfield Heights and Valley View getting money to do their portion of Canal Road. It makes sense for all of us to get together to do this as a three city project.

We are doing a resurfacing, but Garfield Heights will be doing a full replacement. This will affect the bus traffic from the school, and this will be worked out before the project begins. Mr. Chojnacki said that we will be the lead agency in control. Mr. Sciano said this type of project with multiple cities is done all the time.

#### **5) East 71<sup>st</sup> Street Crossover:**

Preliminary Plan is 90% complete.  
Funding is in place.  
Improvement Plan is 10% complete.  
Construction: Summer / Fall 2020

Mayor Bacci said that the exit ramp project has to be complete before we are allowed to follow through with our project. They don't want to mix up the maintenance of traffic for two different projects, so they want to be done with their project before we start ours.

Mr. Sciano said that when we start this project, we can look at the slope pavement issue by the crossover where the dip is in the road. This is something that can be discussed at that time.

Mayor Bacci and Mr. Sciano went over the way the crossover is going to work. Mayor Bacci said we are going to get a good understanding for the folks in the Village to explain the traffic flow for this project.

**6) Multi-Purpose Trail Phase 3A:**

Preliminary Plan is 75% complete.  
Trail Termination Location – to be determined.  
Environmental is 10% complete.  
Funding is in place.  
Improvement Plans are 10% complete.  
Construction: June 2020 – December 2020.

Mr. Sciano said that they are exploring the end of the path to come out where the baby pool is located, and try to fortify the area behind the pool.

Mr. Sciano said we are on a very short time frame for this project, and must act at the next Council Meeting to put everything in place. The plans will be done by December 2019, and we need to have it bid in January 2020. The project will be awarded in April or May of 2020, and will be under construction beginning June 2020.

Mr. Sciano said that we need to make a decision soon if we are going to move forward with this project. Mayor Bacci told Council that if we don't go forward with this project, we will still need to move swiftly to stabilize the land behind the pool. This trail project is the best case scenario, but if we don't do it, we still have to stabilize the area. Mr. Sciano agreed.

**7) Property Demolition: 4945 E.72nd, 4937 E.72nd, 4585 E. 71st, 5037 & 5045 E. 71st**

**4945 E. 72nd and 4937 E. 72nd:**

Mayor Bacci said that he wants Council and especially Mr. Contipelli because this is his neighborhood, to know that we will have plans submitted to Council on how best to serve the people on the Courts with some overflow parking to help them out during parties and inclement weather. Mr. Sciano said that grading of these properties will be done in June this year.

**4585 E. 71st Street:**

Mr. Sciano said this is the old Harvard Refuse property. House demolition is going out for bid right now. There will be legislation for the demolition at the June Council Meeting.

**5037 & 5045 E. 71<sup>st</sup> Street:**

5045 E. 71<sup>st</sup> Street, the structure has been removed, and at 5037 E. 71<sup>st</sup>, the garage remains and is currently being used for storage on the project. The garage will come down in the spring. Mayor Bacci said once the garage is down, we can put a small parking area for people that want to go down the hill to the park.

**8) Hillside – East 71<sup>st</sup> Street Clean Fill:**

The map shows the footprint of the site. It is currently approximately 75% done. Mayor Bacci said that we have had a lot of interest from commercial companies to move here, but not anyone that has made a commitment. As soon as we do, the Economic Development Committee will be the first to know. We have some folks that are anti Rockside Road because of the traffic, yet want to be close to Cleveland looking at it, but nothing yet.

**9) Willowbrook Connector:**

**Clean Fill**

Original Design: 80% complete.

Funding is in place.

Project started in May 2018.

Construction: Active clean fill on hold due to water main break.

Mr. Sciano explained that there was a change in scope of the project to include Mr. Mallos property. We are currently waiting for the stability report. The current slope is less than stable in its current state.

**Slope Stability Analysis**

Existing conditions 90% complete.

Looking at design alternatives.

Funding is in place.

Project start and completion to be determined.

There are a bunch of ways to fix the slope, and we are looking at all of them. Right now it looks like an earthen embankment is going to be the most cost effective method for the Village. Mayor Bacci said it is the same process that we use for the E.49<sup>th</sup> Street Project. Mr. Sciano said the

only difference is we are going to need a significant amount of land from the owners to the south, and we will work through that as needed.

Mr. Sciano told Council that he went over historical data on the E. 71<sup>st</sup> Street slope from the 1960 and 1970s, and the same two areas of the slope failed back then, and they did some type of repair. Mayor Bacci said that this is a historical problem, nothing new that the connector caused as the Engineer described. The toe of the hill became saturated, and unstable. Mr. Sciano is working on a solution. We will engage the County, and the Thompson Aluminum family. They are great people, and they are willing to work with us on a solution that will protect their investment as well.

Mayor Bacci asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for Real Estate and Employee matters. Mr. Contipelli made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bloam. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.

Mr. Schoeffler made a motion to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Centa. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

#### **MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

Ms. Henley made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Bloam. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.