

MINUTES
CITY & SAFETY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MARCH 25, 2024
7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Micah McCarey, Chair
Alan Swank, Member
Jeff Risner, Member
Jessica Thomas, Member

Administrators and
Other Elected Officials:

President Crowl
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Stone

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- City Fiber Network Project #347 (amend 0-02-24)
 - McCarey – the requested amendment is to increase the authorized expenditure from \$500,000 to \$610,000 – this expenditure is from the City's ARPA Fund
 - Mayor – this additional amount was placed in the 2024 budget, and this is simply correcting the authorization for expenditure on the project
 - Risner – asked about the parameters of the project
 - Mayor – there are at least (5) phases; Phase I was fiber to ARTS-West in 2020-2021; Phase II is connecting to the Armory location and traffic control boxes, future phases will be to EPW and the Service Garage; the pool and Community Center; and it will provide City Wi-Fi in the uptown area – this fiber communication service is replacing the City's aging microwave system that is over 25 years old
 - Swank – asked if this will address our telephone issues
 - Mayor – fiber vs copper will help correct

ITEMS NEEDED ON AN UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Project #347

MINUTES

MARCH 25, 2024

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance:

Jeff Risner, Chair
Beth Clodfelter, Member
Micah McCarey, Member
Michael Wood, Member

Administrators and/or
Other Elected Officials:

President Crowl
Mayor Patterson
Auditor Hecht
Service-Safety Director Stone

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Axon (APD body worn camera and taser contract renewal)
 - Clodfelter – asked about grant funding to assist with this purpose
 - Mayor – not aware of any programs for body worn cameras, but recalls past grants for storage of the data – shared that having body worn cameras is an absolute necessity for our officers; it would be a major miss-step to discontinue the use of this type of equipment – Police Chief was able to negotiate the cost down from \$95,000 to \$75,000 annually
 - Wood – questioned since it is an upgrade, if it is necessary at this time, or if it could be delayed
 - Mayor – recommended upgrading now – a lot of the upgrade is for technology advancements – can provide a detailed breakdown of the updated improvements
 - McCarey – would be interested in the benefits of the upgraded technology – it would be helpful in this budgetary climate to clarify why this is a good time to upgrade
 - Swank – appreciates the invoice itemization – would like to know the percentage of increase from the previous contract
 - McCarey – appreciates the Chief's proactive efforts to lower the costs
- 2024 NOPEC Energized Community Grant
 - Mayor – this annual award is based on the number of gas customers in the Aggregation Program, and can be used for energy efficiencies and renewable products – past projects have included solar bus shelters and personal device charging stations, and the near east side solar light project – this year the APR Director is exploring the possibility of moving the former indoor playground equipment at the Market on East State Street into the activity room at the Community Center, and this grant could pay for a split unit for more efficient heating and cooling of the space – receiving about \$11,000, which is comparable to past years
 - President – asked about the Meadow Lane Pocket Park lighting project funded with the 2023 Energized Community Grant
 - Mayor – the storm tunnel has been repaired, but there is still earthwork that needs to be completed – this project will likely not happen until 2025

- Clodfelter – asked about the location of this park near Meadow Lane
- Mayor – it is in the southwest corner of the Meadow Lane development, on the curve – it is 1/3 of an acre of City-owned property – this will add to the quality of life in that area

ITEMS NEEDED ON AN UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Axon Renewal
2. NOPEC Grant

MINUTES

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MARCH 25, 2024

Members in Attendance:

Alan Swank, Chair
Solveig Spjeldnes, Member
Jessica Thomas, Member
Michael Wood, Member

Administrators and/or Other Elected Officials: President Crowl
Mayor Patterson

Items Discussed:

- Title 49 Application (74 N. Court St., Uptown Realty Group, LLC)
 - Swank – request for a special right-of-way use permit for replacement of an existing balcony – asked the Administration about the depth of the right-of-way from curbside to the structure
 - Mayor – is typically about 11'
 - Swank – walked Court Street from President Street and counted 30+ properties with fixtures hanging over the City right-of-way – suggested an inventory of Court Street to bring these all into compliance
 - Thomas – clarified this balcony is roughly the same size, so no change, simply an improvement of an aging balcony
- Title 49 Application (32 W. Carpenter, Mount Zion Black Cultural Center)
 - Swank – request for a special right-of-way permit to create an ADA compliant patron drop off area – an aging Bradford Pear tree will need to be removed – it will be replaced with site appropriate vegetation closer to the building
 - Wood – asked about accessibility of the sidewalk adjoining this drop off area
 - Swank – there is adequate space for a new accessible sidewalk
 - Mayor – this is similar to the pull off at the College Street Methodist Church drop off with a sidewalk apron that is ADA compliant
 - McCarey – pointed out that the Mount Zion Baptist Church, recently changed to the Mount Zion Black Cultural Center, which is part of the renovation project underway, and is one of the goals of the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan in the diversity and inclusion section

ITEMS NEEDED ON AN UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Uptown Realty Group
2. Mount Zion Black Cultural Center