

Minutes

Friday, 12 November 2021

8:15 a.m.

City Commission Room, City Hall, 1101 Poyntz Avenue

1. MEETING OPENING

1.1. Sevin called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

1.2. Roll Call

Present: Nancy Baker, David Colburn, Annie Cook, Joseph Edmunds, Shanika Rose, Seth Scobee, Carol Sevin, Jared Tremblay (non-voting)

Absent: Chris Spooner

Staff: Brian Johnson, City Engineer; Wyatt Thompson, Assistant Director of Parks and Rec; Alfonso Leyva, Park Planner; Ben Chmiel, Planner III; John Adam, Senior Planner

Public: 1

1.3. **Minutes of 10/8/2021 meeting.** Edmunds moved to approve the minutes; Colburn seconded. Motion passed 8-0-0.

1.4. **Public Comments:** None.

2. REPORTS & UPDATES

2.1. **Public Works:** Johnson stated that they are awaiting an appraisal for condemnation of part of Parker Hannifin's property for the construction of the Hayes Drive Trail. This appraisal should come in sometime around Thanksgiving and more information will be available at the next meeting.

A consultant has been hired to help consider the logistics of filling the sidewalk gap on Fort Riley Boulevard. There is hope to have concepts ready by mid-2022.

Has also hired a consultant for realignment of the sidewalk on the northeast corner of 5th Street and Leavenworth Street.

A pre-construction meeting occurred with the contractor responsible for improving the levee. Construction is likely to begin in early 2022. The contractor stated that they would begin construction with the berms and pumps which fall between Casement Avenue/Hayes Drive to the wastewater treatment plant.

The underpass for the new bridge on Fort Riley Boulevard will likely open in about a week or two.

The underpass at Marlatt Avenue and Tuttle Creek Boulevard has been filling

with mud so Public Works and Parks and Recreation will be looking into the issue and what might be causing it.

The trail on the north side of Kimball Avenue near Seth Child Road is now open.

There was a pedestrian hit at Platt Street and Denison Avenue. There was a second pedestrian hit at Walters Drive. Colburn stated that the pedestrian hit by campus had to be airlifted to Topeka.

Riley County is interested in doing a joint project on Marlatt Avenue for Denison Avenue to Browning Avenue to add trail on the north side. Current plans put this project in 2025–26.

Johnson stated that he would be communicating with the Board about CIP projects soon.

Johnson stated that he just received an email about additional issues with the cycle track on North Manhattan Avenue north of Anderson Avenue and would share that information at the next meeting.

- 2.2. **Parks & Recreation:** Leyva stated that the Parks and Recreation Department is applying for the Recreational Trails Grant for equipment, concrete repair on Linear Trail for South Manhattan Avenue to Richards Drive, and adding a segment of trail by the animal shelter. The applications are due on Monday.

The Clarendburg Trail is open with seeding and final grading occurring shortly.

The Anneberg Park Trail project has had concrete poured two weeks ago from the neighborhood to the west bridge. The final part of the trail should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

- 2.3. **Community Development:** Adam stated that there was a Planning Board adoption hearing for the Manhattan Development Code (MDC) last Monday, and they made a recommendation of approval. The first hearing of the MDC for the City Commission will be next Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Adam stated that he has been looking into bike/ped projects that could utilize the new infrastructure bill that has been passed.

Sevin asked if there was any update on the new Strategic Plan. Adam stated that the resolution for the plan would be coming up shortly. Chmiel stated that it was his understanding that the goal is to have the plan adopted before the end of the year.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- 3.1. none

4. NEW BUSINESS

- 4.1. **US-24 Asphalt Shoulder Letter of Support**

Diane Novak shared that she had learned that Highway 24 is going to be

repaved east of the mall all the way to Wamego. She contacted KDOT to see if there was a possibility of paving the entirety of the existing shoulder rather than having all or most of it be gravel. Novak suggested that BPAC write a letter of support for the extended concrete shoulder to be included in the project bid.

Tremblay stated that the state is doing a study of shoulders of highways for the purpose of creating intercity routes for cyclists. Tremblay stated that he would also reach out to KDOT to discuss options for paved shoulders.

There was general consensus from the members of BPAC to create a letter of support for this project.

Colburn moved to have BPAC send a letter of support for fully paved shoulders on Highway 24 to KDOT. Edmunds seconded. Motion passed 8-0-0.

5. ADJOURNMENT

5.1. Updates and comments from members

Sevin stated that there was a forum in which Mayor Wynn Butler used the glossary of funding sources that had been created for BPAC and stated that there was almost \$5 million per year that comes from these sources for bike/ped projects, and that this was an incorrect interpretation of this document since the City does not regularly get grant funds. Sevin suggested regularly reading passages from books about bike/ped infrastructure/economics and discussing how to educate the City Commission on bike/ped issues, benefits, and accurate information. Johnson stated that he just got information about how money has been spent on bike/ped projects throughout the year and could provide that information at the next meeting.

Colburn stated that he is renewing his board membership.

Cook stated that she attended the last School Board meeting, and one of the members of the board's leadership spoke about the importance of the creation of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Plan. Cook also stated that it might be worthwhile to involve the School Board in Bike/Walk Month events. Tremblay stated that the process for updating the SRTS plan would begin in January. Colburn suggested talking more with the Site Council than the PTO for issues regarding the SRTS plan since the Site Council deals more with policy.

Tremblay stated that there is a Thanksgiving event/ride on Sunday the 14th at Bosco Plaza.

5.2. Meeting adjourned at 9:06 a.m.