

Special City Council Meeting
February 23, 2015

The City Council met in special session at 5:00 PM at City Hall with the following members present: Mayor Zimmer and Council: O'Brien, Conklin, Engel, Strutz, Forward, and Harris. Visitors present: Doug Sitzler-Special Assessment Committee, Steve Ketterling-Special Assessment Committee, and Jerod Klabunde-Moore Engineering. Employees present: Gary Neuharth and April Haring.

2015-1 Street Improvement Project

Mayor Zimmer discussed project scope and recommendations of Street Committee regarding assessments. Currently the project includes curb and gutter to be installed on the north side of Fir Avenue, North 14th Street from Fir Avenue to the railroad tracks, and the cul-de-sac on North 13th Street. There was a discussion regarding necessity of curb and gutter on 14th Street and how much it will improve drainage.

Strutz and Forward commented that property owners receiving the benefit of curb and gutter need to pay the entire extra assessment for it; the curb and gutter is not a necessity. O'Brien agreed to cost share and believes curb and gutter should be installed in these areas. Conklin and Engel agreed to need of curb and gutter to improve drainage and aesthetics but believes there should not be an extra assessment on Fir Avenue and 14th Street due to heavy traffic use. Harris believes if the City Council forces curb and gutter the cost share should be reduced, although he is still unsure if 14th Street curb and gutter is a necessity. Gary Neuharth commented that installing curb and gutter is the best management practice and the property owners along 14th Street and Fir Avenue should not have to pay 100% for the extra costs due to the heavy public use of the streets. The special assessment committee members were asked for their thoughts, Sitzler stated there has been cost share in the past and support the property owners receiving the extra benefit to pay a little more than the rest of the assessment district.

Forward moved, O'Brien second to make recommendation to have 50% of the costs of curb and gutter for the one block of North 14th Street be assessed to those property owners. Roll call: Strutz-no, Forward-yes, O'Brien-yes, Conklin-no, Harris-no, Engel -no, motion fails.

Forward stated Fir Avenue property must be assessed for curb and gutter along with 14th Street and 13th Street.

Engel moved, Conklin second to make recommendation to have additional assessment of \$26,500 (half the cost of curb and gutter and storm drainage) to property owners in North 13th Street cul-de-sac. Roll call: Strutz-no, Forward-yes, O'Brien-yes, Conklin-yes, Harris-yes, Engel-yes, carried.

Harris left meeting at 5:50 PM.

Conklin moved, Engel second to make recommendation to no additional assessments for curb and gutter for property owners on Fir Avenue. Roll call: Strutz-no, Forward-no, O'Brien-no, Conklin-yes, Engel-yes, motion fails.

Forward moved, O'Brien second to make recommendation to have additional assessment of \$18,500 (half the cost of curb and gutter for North 14th Street) to property owners on the north side of Fir Avenue and North 14th Street based on front footage. Roll call: Strutz-no, Forward-yes, O'Brien-yes, Conklin-yes, Engel-yes, carried.

Will notify property owners of additional assessment before protest hearing scheduled for February 26, 2015. Letters will be delivered by police department.

O'Brien moved, Strutz second to adjourn meeting at 6:10 PM

MAYOR Marty Zimmer ATTEST April Haring
(minutes subject to correction and approval at the next regular meeting)