

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2017
Meeting #811**

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Paula Schwach at 7:07 p.m.

Present: Mayor Schwach, Jennifer O'Neill, Rosemary Podrebarac, Karen Shelor, Ludwig Villasi, and Beth O'Bryan. City Attorney Jim Orr and City Treasurer John Martin were also present. John Weedman was absent.

Sandra Sanchez and Donna Lauffer with United Community Services (UCS) were present.

Citizens Mike Fox, Lizann Kesse, Jay and Loretta Nichols, Willoughby Johnson and Christy Miller were in attendance.

Podrebarac moved to approve the agenda, but move item 11a of new business to the next item of business prior to taking up old business. Shelor moved to amend the agenda to strike agenda item 10a. Shelor asked to strike because she is satisfied by prior action taken by the council. Second by Villasi. Podrebarac abstained. The rest aye. Motion approved.

Previous motion to move item 11a prior to old business and approve the agenda seconded by Shelor. All in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Podrebarac to adopt the Consent Agenda. Second by Shelor. All aye. Motion approved.

Old Business:

Adoption of Larkin Lampe Rynearson's (LLR) recommendation concerning street and storm water and authorization for debt financing – Schwach brought attention to page 16 of the street report from LLR, which makes a recommendation for street and storm water system repair. The estimate is to make the proposed repairs is \$476,893,000. The scope of work would include repairs to three broken storm water pipes, storm inlet repairs, resurfacing streets, and replacement of streets in some limited areas. This work should give the City's interior streets a 15-20-year useful life. **Shelor moves to accept the report and the recommendations by LLR. Podrebarac seconded. All aye. Motion carries.**

Schwach advised council that the City needs to locate funds to pay for the repairs. Last year's mill levy increase and the reserves from the past five years are not enough to fund completely the needed repairs. We have approximately \$290,000.00 available cash, assuming no other project runs over budget, and the

storm water repairs along Rainbow Boulevard do not exceed the amount of the grant awarded to the City. The construction bids for the Rainbow storm water repairs go out on June 21, 2017, and the City will have more information by August on actual costs for these repairs. In order to pay for the interior street and storm water system repair work, the City will need to borrow money. Mayor has done research and would like to file an application with the municipal section of the department of water of KDHE. KDHE has Federal pass through funds available for municipal projects involving storm water or pollution control. If KDHE does not award the City funds for the repairs, the City will investigate other possible methods of financing the cost of the repair. Schwach mentioned that if the City needs to issue bonds to finance the interior street and storm water system repairs, the costs of the project could easily increase to \$600,000. Schwach asked council to give her authority via resolution 2017-2 to negotiate a deal with KDHE for funding for the interior storm water system repairs. **O'Neill moved to adopt resolution 2017-2. Podrebarac seconded.** Repayment of a KDHE loan, assuming an interest rate not to exceed 3% and few additional fees, will be made using the \$40,000 budgeted for carryover each year. Those funds, in addition to the City's share of the recent courthouse tax, will be used to make payments on the loan. **All in favor. Motion carries.**

New Business:

United Community Services (UCS) 50th Proclamation – Schwach informed council that this is the 50th anniversary for UCS. Donna Lauffer from UCS informed council that there will be a luncheon celebration on December 6, 2017, to celebrate the UCS 50th anniversary. Schwach read the 50th anniversary proclamation. Schwach asked for a motion to approve execution of the proclamation. **Podrebarac moved, and Shelor seconded. All in favor. Proclamation executed.**

River Birch Removal on The Green – O'Bryan reported that the River Birch tree located on The Green, near 1914 W. 50th Terrace, needs to be removed. A survey was done by the homeowner, and the tree belongs to the City. Three quotes we obtained to remove the tree and grind the stump:

\$750.00 – Without a Trace Tree Service, LLC

\$680.00 – KC Arborist

\$850.00 – Country Club Tree

Podrebarac moved to encumber \$680.00 to remove the River Birch on The Green, seconded by O'Neill. All in favor. Motion carried. Funds to remove the tree will come from Projects budget line item.

Fountain Pump Replacement – O'Bryan reported that the pump is broken on the Fountain. The estimate to replace, replumb and rewire the fountain is

\$230.00. Council asked O'Bryan to check to make sure Green Lawn is licensed to do the rewiring and electrical work. **Shelor moved, and O'Neill seconded, to encumber \$230.00 to replace the fountain pump. All in favor. Motion passed.** The funds will come from repairs budget line item.

Sprinkler Control Panel on The Green – Villasi reported a problem with the control box on The Green. When any time any zone is turned on, the South zone sprinklers also come on. The problem is not simply a problem with the labeling of the various control panel functions. He did indicate that the box is old and that the south zone is likely getting more water than it needs. O'Bryan spoke with Craig and Green Lawn, and this issue is something they can fix. The cost is \$80.00 an hour plus any materials. Council discussed whether it is worth paying Chris Hedges two hours of time to assess the box. **Shelor moved to encumber \$200.00 to retain Hedges to assess the sprinkler control panel on The Green. O'Neill seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.** Money for this assessment will come from the repairs budget line item.

Informational items – no action to be taken

Issues from Citizens in Attendance:

No Parking Sign at 50th St. & Glendale - Shelor spoke with Council regarding the past parking situation on 50th & Glendale. Moving the “No Parking” sign addressed and resolved a situation that previously made visibility at the intersection difficult. Citizens on Glendale feel that removing additional parking spaces would create a difficult parking situation for the Glendale residents. Residents asked for council to send direct emails to residents if they will be effected by any change. Residents also expressed concern with cars running the stop sign at Glendale and 50th St. and with the “high” speed limit in the City. Residents asked if council would consider lowering the speed limit if funds were privately raised to pay for new speed limit signs.

Willoughby Johnson does not feel that the speed tables are effective as cars can roll through them and was hoping the City would consider speed bumps versus tables.

Leaf pick up scheduled for December 2, 2017 - The Governing Body of Roeland Park is reviewing alternatives to its current leaf pickup procedure. The Roeland Park Public Works Department has provided its council with different alternatives to handle the leaf pickup program using different equipment, etc. Any changes to the program will not take place until Fall 2019 at the earliest, but they provided Westwood Hills with the information because any change would impact our leaf pick up program also. Roeland Park recently performed a cost per hour analysis of their leaf pickup program over the last several months. Because of this study, Roeland Park has developed a new, better developed cost

per hour, and the City of Westwood Hills will see these results when Roeland Park Public Works forwards the new agreement for our 2017 leaf pick up.

Lizann Kesse informed council that the HOA renewed the contract with WCA, and yard waste will be picked up once a month in January, February and March. There will no longer be a city-wide large item trash pickup.

Budget timeline – Schwach proposed the budget hearing be held immediately prior to the next council meeting scheduled for July 10, 2017. John Martin said this timeline can be met provided that the county provides the assessment valuations by June 15. If this happens on time, Martin believes we will be ready to send the Notice of Budget Hearing to the publisher by June 23, 2017, to be published the following Tuesday June 27, 2017. O'Bryan will check with The Legal Record on the deadline date for publishing.

Villasi reported that the City needs another case of doggie waste bags for The Green. O'Bryan will research less expensive distributors and will bring the search results to council in July.

Motion to adjourn by O'Neill. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.