

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACHSE

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 1, 2016

The City Council of the City of Sachse held a workshop meeting on Monday, February 1, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Sachse City Hall, 3815-B Sachse Road, Sachse, Texas. Those present were Mayor Mike Felix, Mayor Pro Tem Brett Franks, Council Members Charlie Ross, Paul Watkins, Bill Adams, Jeff Bickerstaff, and Cullen King. City Manager, Gina Nash; City Secretary, Michelle Lewis Sirianni; Director of Public Works and Engineering, Greg Peters; Community Development Director, Dusty McAfee; Chief of Police, Bryan Sylvester; Interim Fire Chief, Marty Wade; Finance Director, Teresa Savage; Parks and Recreation Director, Lance Whitworth, and Human Resources Director, Stacy Buckley.

Mayor Felix called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

DISCUSS SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE POLICIES:

Mr. Peters introduced this item by providing an overview of the City's current replacement methods, which include the standard replacement and using a sidewalk sucker. The City's current policy is to maintain all sidewalks in the public right-of-way and is handled within the Public Works Street Department. Mr. Peters explained that the cost of this work has historically been paid for through the Public Works Budget. However, for 2015-2016, a separate budget line item for sidewalk and alley replacement was included. The City currently has 107 active requests. Staff typically receives six to eight requests per month and visits each site to assess the condition. Repairs are made based upon priority determined by the condition of the sidewalk panel and the potential trip hazard. Mr. Peters stated that the challenges staff face include condition challenges, the amount of requests received, and the cultural challenge of either not knowing a problem exists or requesting sidewalk replacement for cosmetic appearance. Mr. Peters discussed policies that have been implemented in surrounding cities as well as condition types. Staff is seeking feedback on the current policy for sidewalk replacement, including any potential changes.

Councilman Adams liked the idea of using the 1" trip hazard as a determining factor; the idea of using a 50/50 cost match depending on the socioeconomic conditions; and would be opposed to paying for cosmetic repairs, but if property owner was insistent on repair, then maybe using the 50/50 cost match.

Councilman King suggested prioritizing repair based on the 1" or greater trip hazard and if a property owner requested for it to be done sooner, then possibly using the 50/50 cost match; if a cosmetic repair was requested, then property owner would pay 100%. Councilman King stated his primary concern would be safety first.

Councilman Watkins asked how often the Public Works Department re-evaluates the condition of the requests and how much a one to two panel replacement would cost. Mr. Peters responded they are done annually or by the citizen contacting them. If the replacement is done by the City, the

estimated cost is \$5.00 per square foot and would be higher if a contractor was hired. Mr. Peters commented that a four panel replacement takes roughly two hours to complete. Councilman Watkins also liked the idea of using the 1" or greater trip hazard guideline and suggested some form of split (80/20 or 90/10) for cosmetic.

Mayor Pro Tem Franks stated that he likes the idea of a 50/50 cost sharing with fixing the worst sidewalks first. Mayor Pro Tem Franks stated that he would like to see the cost comparison of the city replacing versus a contractor.

Councilman Bickerstaff asked if the department has done PASER ratings for the sidewalks. Mr. Peters responded that they have not rated the sidewalks with PASER ratings. Councilman Bickerstaff stated that he also likes the 1" or greater trip hazard and the possibility of using the 50/50 cost sharing or a 'buy down program' based on the property owner negotiating time repair is completed based on contribution.

Councilman Ross questioned what would help alleviate the labor intensive part of these repairs. Councilman Ross asked if the department relies on the citizens to report issues or is the department proactive in checking, and if the request are always placed on the list or have they ever been denied. Mr. Peters responded that staff does look around if they are out on other projects, but the majority are based on citizens reporting their concerns, and the requests are always placed on the list. Councilman Ross suggested that if the requests are cosmetic only and have less than a 1" trip hazard, they would not qualify therefore, would not be placed on the list. He would consider 50/50 cost share or having property owner pay 100% for cosmetic repairs, but would like to see specific cost data. Safety gets top priority.

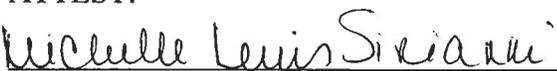
Mayor Felix stated that he is in agreement with using the 1" or greater trip hazard, using a 75/25 or 50/50 cost share with the property owner in order to have completed sooner, and agrees with having a property owner pay 100% for cosmetic repairs.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:24 p.m. Mayor Felix adjourned the meeting.


MIKE J FELIX, MAYOR

ATTEST:


Michelle Lewis Sirianni, City Secretary

