

ROADS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
July 1, 2021 5:00pm

**In Attendance:**

**Members:** Chairman Bill Farnham, Councilman Amanda Koren

**City Staff:** John Doyle, Miriam Jones, Tracey York, Jason Chapman, Amber Box, Michele Brown

**Guests:** Mayor Jerry Brown, Randy Brown, Cornell Miles, Darrell Maurino

**Absent:** Councilman Cecil Davis

- 1. Call to Order & Citizen Comments** – Chairman Farnham called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Citizen Cornell Miles discussed drainage issues in the ditches on his property and properties beside him on Ballew and stated that he needs the City's assistance in addressing the problem. At one point another drain was installed which helped a little bit but not to the point where water would drain fast enough. Mr. Miles stated that when the apartments were built behind his house it disrupted the foundation and when it would rain it would run off down into his neighbor's house. Mr. Miles found the owner of apartments and talked to him about issues. The owner came to look at it and patched area where the run off was coming from. This stopped the drainage but then water was going into the apartments which took another year to get that fixed. Mr. Miles has had to remove debris that runs down onto his property due to the drainage issues. Jason Chapman stated that the biggest problem the City faces in helping is that there is no easement to get in and clean drainage areas. They can't get through the culvert either due to its small size. At this time the City could put another drain in or a wider culvert however, unless the City can get an easement from the other property owners then they can't widen the areas. Committee discussed putting together a plan to divert drainage from the properties being addressed and seek permission from other property owners for easements. Citizen Randy Brown stated that everything from Benton down washes down to Bluff Circle and washes out area by his residence. Would like to figure out a solution to the drainage issue. Mr. Brown also stated that at the corner of North St and Benton across from post office use to be no parking sign, the sign has been removed. Mr. Brown would like the no parking sign put back up.
- 2. Approval of Minutes**- Councilman Koren made a motion to approve the minutes from June 3, 2021. Chairman Farnham seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- 3. Rocky Dale Dr**- Mr. Doyle provided plat of Rocky Dale Dr highlighting the portion of the road that was discussed at last Roads and Grounds committee meeting. The owner of Rocky Dale Dr is interested in the City taking over ownership. Councilman Koren made a motion to accept ownership of the road with intent to add the road to the City's Capital Improvement Plan. Chairman Farnham seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- 4. Glenda Drive Bridge**- There was discussion at the last Roads and Grounds committee meeting about the bridge on Glenda Dr. A citizen wanted the bridge to be opened up to foot and bicycle traffic. In 2018, MODOT did an inspection on the bridge and deemed it unsafe. There was a committee meeting in February of 2018 where the committee voted to close the bridge. After further discussion committee would like to keep the bridge closed.
- 5. Parking on South Benton**- Mr. Doyle discussed parking spaces at business location on the east side of South Benton. Councilman Koren made a motion to put two parallel parking spaces on the side of the business with a sign stating no parking from the end of the space to intersection so that the intersection does not get blocked. Chairman Farnham seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- 6. Street Department Updates**- Mr. Doyle provided pictures of the garden access path that the street department put in at the Farmer's Market. Mr. Doyle also provided pictures of Rosewood Dr to

show the patching of the road that the Street Department completed. Jason Chapman stated that the street department has been busy hauling top soil, brush hogging and tree trimming, patching on Rosewood Dr, School St, Morgan and Hospital Rd.

- 7. Other Business-** Mr. Doyle provided map of Pearson St which was brought to Councilman Koren's attention from a citizen that wanted the road to be repaired. Mr. Doyle stated that Pearson St has never been a City Street and the City has never provided maintenance. The road is not wide enough to meet requirements in order for the City to own.

Mayor Brown stated that a citizen had a concern about the '25 mph ahead' sign when driving down Frog Hill. A suggestion was made for the 25 mph ahead sign to be changed to a 30mph sign so that there is a gradual decrease in speed as you come down the hill instead of going from 40mph to 25mph it will be 40mph to 30mph to 25mph. Chairman Farnham stated that MODOT would have to change that since that is a MODOT road. Chairman Farnham made a motion to request MODOT to put in a 30mph sign at the 25mph ahead sign. Councilman Koren seconded the motion. Motion passed.

There was a need for a closed session. Councilman Koren made a motion to enter into closed session. Chairman Farnham seconded the motion. The motion passed and committee entered into closed session at 6:20pm.

Councilman Koren made a motion to enter into open session. Chairman Farnham seconded the motion. The motion passed and committee entered into open session at 6:24pm.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:24pm.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 5, 2021 at 5:00pm