



Prosperity & Livability Committee

(Virtual Meeting)

Chaired by Councilman Hudson

Committee Members: Hudson, Holmes, Jefferson, and Peters

October 7, 2020 –9 :00 a.m.

3rd Floor, Council Chambers

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER (Virtual Roll Call)

Chairman Wesley Hudson called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Following a virtual roll call, the following attendance by Committee Members was duly noted.

Physically

Present (2): Chairman Wesley Hudson, and Committee Member Cyril Jefferson

Remotely

Present (2): Committee Member Michael Holmes, and Committee Member Monica Peters,

Staff Present:

Randy McCaslin, Interim City Manager; Greg Ferguson, Assistant City Manager; Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager; Matt Carpenter, Transportation Engineer, Sr.; Lisa Vierling, City Clerk; and Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

Staff Participating Remotely:

JoAnne, Carlyle, City Attorney

Also Present:

Hamza Alkadir

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

2020-400 Discussion-Laurel Oaks Ranch Traffic Calming Measures

Staff will provide information for discussion regarding traffic calming measures for the Laurel Oaks Ranch subdivision.

Randy McCaslin, Interim City Manager provided the committee with a copy of the old and revised traffic calming policy as well as a copy of the agreement for this particular project completed at the Laurel Oaks Ranch

subdivision in 2012; and recognized Matt Carpenter, Transportation Engineer, Sr., to provide more information regarding the traffic calming measures for this development.

Mr. Carpenter provided a background on the subdivision's project that dated back to 2010; spoke to the initial attempts of installing traffic calming measures that were unsuccessful which led to using a different section of the policy (which was a draft policy at the time) that would requirement the HOA to cover the cost for any work completed. A decision to install a mini traffic circle was made; and was installed in 2013. The traffic study for the traffic circle showed positive effects; and a current study showed that it was still effective. The subdivision made a request to have the traffic circle removed; the requirements for removal were met in both policies; the old policy would require that the HOA cover 100% of the cost for removal; and the new policy would allow the city to cover the cost for removal if funds were available. The engineering opinion for the traffic circle was that it was still effective; and there was no reason for it to be removed.

Chairman Hudson mentioned a complaint that drivers were not abiding by the traffic circle's intended route; spoke to the language in the old policy versus the new policy in regards to who would cover the cost for removal of the traffic circle; and mention one fatality.

Mr. Carpenter said the street's width was about 38 feet; and in observation the majority of drivers were making the proper movements through the circle; and that the issue was that drivers were not following those movements intended; said the fatality was DUI contributed; and if the city were to remove the circle, the subdivision would have to wait because of other projects, and available funding.

Chairman Hudson inquired on the subdivision applying for new traffic calming measures; and having on street parking. Mr. Carpenter replied with a recommendation to allow the traffic circle to remain in place because it was still effective; said they could apply for new measures, but would have to wait in line; said on street parking was allowed; and to the issues with homeowners speeding.

Interim City Manager McCaslin reminded the committee that due to budget constraints/COVID-19 this FY that the traffic calming budget was reduced; there were currently new projects that had met the criteria already out for bid; and that those projects were expected to use 100% of the available funding. The Engineering Department provided an estimate for around \$15,000 to remove the traffic circle and repair the pavement; said that another traffic calming measure would require another study conducted by transportation; said the vertical traffic calming measures would have an impact on emergency vehicles; and said that staff would look at other options and report back to the committee.

Committee Member Jefferson spoke to meeting with the HOA for further discussion ; to see what they were able to do financially; and recognized Hamza Alkadir in attendance, who is a Junior at High Point Central; said Mr. Alkadir was interested in learning more about government; and that he was shadowing him today attending meetings.

Mr. Alkadir thanked everyone; and voiced his interest in serving the community; and learning more about politics.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Prosperity & Livability Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk

Wesley Hudson, Chairman