Amberley Village Council – Streets, Public Utilities, and Sewer Committee
Minutes of May 3, 2018

In Attendance: R. Warren (Chair), R. Bardach (Member), E. Hattenbach (Member), T. Muething, N. Wolf, S. Lahrmer, W. Brown, T. Chesney, D. Marshall (Eagle Energy), and W. Doering

The meeting was brought to order.

The minutes from the Mar 5, 2018 meeting were distributed. The minutes were accepted as submitted.

There were six agenda items, (a) consideration of a Public Works Recognition Week resolution, (b) description of the 2018 Street Rehabilitation Program, (c) review of salt consumption during the past winter season, (d) traffic study update for Fair Oaks and Section Rd intersection, (e) 2018 Storm Water program, and (f) update on Natural Gas Aggregation program. See the attachments for supplementary materials that were distributed.

Recognition of maintenance staff during Public Works Recognition Week. Mr. Lahrmer shared a draft resolution for recognizing our public works staff (maintenance staff) as part of Public Works Recognition Week. Mr. Hattenbach moved to approve and recommend the resolution to Council. Mr. Bardach seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

2018 Street Rehabilitation Program. This is a follow-up of the program that was presented to the Committee in March. As described in March, the program was to include Matson Ave, Gwenwyn Ave, Gardner Ave, Lansdowne Ave, and Sagamore Dr. While some of these streets have a concrete base and full replacement would be prohibitively expensive, this program will improve the streets by replacing curbs and, milling and repaving. The last time these streets were repaired was between 1989 and 1995. CT Engineering estimated the cost to be $618,000. Bids from 5 vendors were opened Apr 18. The least costly vendor and one approved by CT, was Adleta at a cost of ~$460,000. With this savings, additional curb work is being planned for Elbrook at an estimated cost of $75,000 for a total of $534,743. Of this total, $329,501 will be allocated from the Village Road Fund and $205,243 will be allocated from the Storm Water Utility Fund. Mr. Bardach moved to recommend that Council approve the 2018 Street Program at a cost of $534,743. Mr. Hattenbach seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Brown reported that our Municipal Road Fund grant application for Kincaid Rd did not score high enough to be funded. We plan to reapply in September.

Salt Consumption for Winter Season. This past winter season we used 613 tons of salt. Typical salt use is 700-850 tons. We have ~800 tons left in the salt barn. We are in pretty good position for next year with a need to purchase a modest amount of additional salt.

Traffic Study Update. A traffic study was initiated in the last year at the intersection of Section Rd and Fair Oaks Dr to determine if a 4-way stop upgrade was needed from the
current 3-way stop. This was prompted by residents who expressed that the intersection was not safe for pedestrians and vehicular traffic. The analysis and report from CT Consultants found that the peak hour traffic (AM and PM) and reported accidents since 2012 did not warrant a 4-way conversion. During discussions Mr. Lahrmer reported that installing a crosswalk would provide a false sense of security to pedestrians. Pending the development of the Port Authority property on Section Rd, TIF funds might be available for the best solution for pedestrians, i.e., a Section Rd upgrade coupled with a pedestrian path from the railroad tracks to Ridge Rd. CT recommended that to improve visibility we consider trimming the tree canopy that obstructs the view of the southbound traffic on Fair Oaks looking to the west.

2018 Storm Water Program. The Storm Water Committee recently met with Mr. Chesney, Mr. Brown, and the Village Manager to review the upcoming program. The program was shared with the Streets Committee. The Storm Water Utility collects ~$230,000 annually. The program this year is estimated to cost ~$440,000. While this exceeds our collections the Utility had $340,000 prior to the start of this calendar year. The program this year has budgeted expenses of ~$168,000 associated with 2018 Street Rehab program, ~$38,000 associated with curb replacement on Elbrook Ave, and ~$203,000 associated directly with Storm Water repair. This includes repair of a retaining wall and erosion prevention by 2589-2601 Willowbrook Dr, replacement of pipe and/or catch basins at 6696 Fair Oaks Dr, 7707 Creekwood Ln, and 7000 Fair Oaks Dr. Until bids are obtained for this work no further action is being taken.

Natural Gas Aggregation. Don Marshall, our energy broker from Eagle Energy provided the Committee with an update on our natural gas aggregation program. The current contract with IGS Energy expires in Sept 2018 (or October billing). One option would be to bid out for a long term contract, i.e., 2 years, or to continue with our current variable month-to-month plan and possibly lock in a rate at a later time. Our rates with IGS have been lower than Duke’s rates. The Village has received no complaints from residents regarding IGS. Since securing a fixed rate ($0.0423-0.0433 for 12-24 month contract) will be more costly than a variable rate (<$0.04), the Committee felt we should continue with our current plan with the understanding we could lock in at a fixed rate in the future. Mr. Hattenbach moved to recommend that Council continue the gas aggregation program with IGS at a variable rate. Mr. Warren seconded and the motion carried 2-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Chair: __________________________________________
       Ray Warren