

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CONTRACTS COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 24, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: Matthew McCarthy, Co-chair; Jorge Cruz, Ernest Newton, Maria Pereira, Rosalina Roman-Christy; Jeanette Herron Co-chair; (5:09 p.m.)

OTHERS: Council Member T. Mack; Atty. Michael Jankovsky, City Attorney's Office; T. Gaudett, Mayor's Office; Jon Urquidi, City Engineer; Atty. M. Anastasi, Esq.; Call-in User 1, Call-in User 2

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

75-21 Proposed Property Access Agreement concerning the Rooster River Watershed Project.

Atty. Jankovsky explained that they had a MOU and the Property Access Agreement at the last meeting but only the MOU made it on to the agenda. He reviewed the details of the agreement that Fairfield would have to restore the grounds to their original condition and the project timeline.

Mr. Urquidi said that they would need to have some permits issued for the work.

Council Member Pereira pointed out that the contract says April 2022. She asked if it would need to be amended.

Council Member Pereira asked if Fairfield would be doing all the work. Atty. Jankovsky explained that Fairfield already had an engineer and plans ready to go. Bridgeport will have to pay its fair share of the work, which will come from ARPA funding.

Council Member Herron joined the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Council Member Pereira asked if Fairchild Wheeler would lose any property on this. Mr. Urquidi said that the area that will be worked on is already wetland with scrub on it. It will be dredged for a pond.

Council Member McCarthy said that it will enhance the golf course as a waterway. Mr. Urquidi said that the Golf Course had asked the City to actually create the pond because it will enhance the play.

Atty. Anastasi joined the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

Council Member Newton asked if the pond would be retaining the rain when they create it and if that would be the same kind of pond that other courses have. Mr. Urquidi said that he was not a golfer, but he thought it would simply be a pond feature.

Council Member Newton said that while there may still be flooding, this pond will alleviate some of the flooding. Mr. Urquidi said that there was more work to be done on the upper reaches of the Rooster River and the Ox Brook River. There will still be some flooding but this is a first step.

Council Member Roman-Christy asked how much this project would cost. Mr. Urquidi said that it was an amount not to exceed \$750,000 that would be paid from ARPA funds. Bridgeport will only be paying for the portion of work done on the course. Fairfield has a much larger project underway.

Council Member Pereira asked if Mr. Urquidi knew which streets would be impacted by the retention pond. Mr. Urquidi said that it would be taking water that would be flowing downstream out of the river. He explained that it would be difficult to determine which areas would have less flooding because rainstorms deposit different amounts of water on the ground.

Council Member Herron said it would definitely help the North End and the 135th District. She said that the last two storms have resulted in 6 to 8 feet of water in homes. There are discussions underway to obtain more funding.

Council Member Herron asked if there would be any infrastructure funding used for this project. Mr. Urquidi said that they would be using ARPA funding. This is a first step in the project, and Ox Brook and Island Brook also need to have work done on them.

Council Member Cruz said that the funding was coming from ARPA. He asked how deep the ponds were on the course. Mr. Urquidi said that the area was very shallow now. He expected it to be about 4 feet deep, but noted that when there were storms, it would be deeper.

Council Member Cruz asked if they would have some protections if someone fell in. Mr. Urquidi said that it would be the same for any park grounds that have water on them.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ MOVED AGENDA ITEM 75-21 PROPOSED PROPERTY ACCESS AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE ROOSTER RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira asked if the first line of the document names April 2022 as the start date. Atty. Jankovsky said that the only important date was the end date of December 31, 2025. The other date can be changed.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services