

Infrastructure Committee

August 6, 2012

ATTENDEES

Councilors:

Patricia Blanchette
Cary Weston

Geoffrey Gratwick
James Gallant

Benjamin Sprague
Charles Longo

Susan Hawes
Joseph Baldacci

Staff:

Art Morgan, City Engineer

Cathy Conlow, City Manager

Guests:

Meeting convened at 5:15 p.m.

Councilor Blanchette stated the Committee was working from a revised agenda and item #4 would move to Executive Session directly after the meeting.

1. Easement Request: Bangor Natural Gas to Provide Service to 186 Exchange Street

Art Morgan explained the easement was requested to provide service to 186 Exchange Street. The easement area was in an alleyway and would not interfere with future development on that parcel.

Moved and seconded to pass.

Vote: Unanimous

2. Easement Request: Bangor Natural Gas to Provide Service to the New Arena

Art explained this request was for service to the new arena off the existing gas service that would run between the old auditorium and the new arena. Councilor Weston asked for name clarification of the new arena, Cross Insurance Center (recently named).

Moved and seconded to pass.

Vote: Unanimous

Councilor Longo asked Art about the past problems with Bangor Gas ripping up the roads and sub-contractors not fixing them, what was the status of their work this year and what was the probability of proper repairs at the end of their construction year.

Art said that permits were done differently now, that they were done in electronic form and could be tracked more easily. Bangor Natural Gas now provides repair lists to the Public Works Department. The current process was much more effective. He stated it was hard to forecast the demand for securing service, and couldn't predict without any doubt that they wouldn't have difficulty meeting those challenges of service requests as the season got later, but he knew they would try to.

Councilor Blanchette asked if Cianbro be repairing the portions of Main, Buck and Dutton Streets when the new arena was completed. Art stated there was upgrading of the infrastructure that had state funding available to improve Main Street. Public Works would do the repairs on Dutton and Buck Streets.

Councilor Blanchette stated they would need to report to the City Engineer any other locations that were caving in due to Bangor Natural Gas not build up the streets.

Vote: Unanimous

3. Quitclaim Deed: Springer Place Development Corporation for Springer Drive Right-Of-Way

Art distributed the revised Council Order and Council Action. He explained Springer Drive was widened in 1991 to accommodate development of the original Walmart and widened by Webber Energy and at the time the City didn't acquire rights. He stated on Friday, August 3rd City Solicitor Paul Nicklas received a call stating the City could expect a quitclaim from Cobalt, the second owners of the property. Before the Committee was an amended Council Order and Council Action that would allow the City to enter into an agreement to acquire the property.

Councilor Longo asked if there was a conflict as he worked in that area at the Christmas Tree Shop. The Committee felt there was not a conflict.

Moved and seconded to pass.

Vote: Unanimous

Councilor Gratwick asked for clarification of the location. Art explained the new property line was the solid line immediately behind the gas line, which would allow Cobalt to keep their sign on their property and allow Bangor Natural Gas utility location in that area of the property.

Councilor Weston asked Art about the status of revoking the no left turn off the interstate onto Stillwater Avenue located at the Parkade area. Art explained he had just received the traffic study for the Stillwater Crossing (old Proposed Shaw's on Stillwater across from the Parkade). He would analyze and summarize the results and implications involved, as well as review the signal phasing at that location and Drew Lane. Councilor Weston asked, if the study was favorable, what would be the timeline be and the next steps involved. Art explained the traffic study didn't address the no left turn specifically, but did provide accurate information for him. It would be advantageous for the State to undertake the improvement rather than the City. With regards to the timeline, a public hearing would need to be held and the State would have to petition the Federal Highway Administration to lift the left-hand turn prohibition. Councilor Weston asked about the timeline if the City were to undertake. Art responded that it would be a significant investment for the City but it would shorten the timeline by a couple of years.

Councilor Gallant asked if they were on the timeline for the proposed new facilities in the "old Shaw's parking lot. Cathy responded that they were.

Councilor Blanchette stated the Committee had gotten off track and if the members wished to have information or discuss the topics not on this agenda, to contact the City Engineer or the City Manager to have it on an upcoming agenda for discussion.

Councilor Blanchette stated this concluded the meeting and they would go "off air" into Executive Session for the last item regarding the execution of an agreement to accept property on Kittredge Road as part of the Kittredge Road Relocation project.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn at approximately 5:30 p.m.