COUNCIL PRESIDENT-JENNIFER WASILK COUNCIL AT LARGE-DAVID JANIK COUNCIL AT LARGE-MARTIN HEBERLING COUNCIL AT LARGE- PHIL VAN TREUREN

## **CITY OF AMHERST, OHIO**

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL (440) 988-2420 (440) 988-2570 fax OLGA SIVINSKI 206 SOUTH MAIN STREET AMHERST, OH 44001 council@amherstohio.org

THIS MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

Minutes of the Building and Lands Committee Meeting held March 1, 2021 at 7:01 P.M. Present were Chairman Nahorn, Mr. Janik, Mr. Dembinski, Mr. Wachholz, Mr. Cowger. Mr. Heberling. Also present were Council President Wasilk, Mayor Costilow, Auditor Pittak, Treasurer Ramsey, Law Director Pecora, Assistant Law Director Ward, Safety Service Director Jeffreys. Mr. Van Treuren was absent and had a letter on file. Mr. Dembinski motioned to excuse Mr. Van Treuren as he had a letter on file. Seconded b Mr. Janik. Roll call vote 7-0 to excuse.

A-21-11 Accepting Amchester Drive's existing storm sewer infrastructure and roadway improvement and dedicate for public use. With emergency

> Chairman Nahorn opened the meeting and introduced the item for review. Mayor Costilow stated that something like this as an agenda request usually is in a new development. Amchester Drive is not dedicated as a public street and everyone might assume it has been public. It does need improvement and in order for the city to do this work, it needs to be a dedicated street to the City. Looking at the maps provided, the area outlined in yellow is the most important area. It is basically all owned by one property owner. It is a simple matter and and important part of economic development. If the road was ever closed by the private owner, there would be a catastrophe. The emergency is requested as it could included in this year's road program. Over the past 50 years or so, it has remained private.

Mr. Janik asked about the work planned for the roadway: when the work is being done, will it close at Kresge and Amchester? Mayor Costilow was not entirely sure at this point and likely the traffic study would be done. But during construction, there will be effort to try to keep it open and closed very little, just as any other project

Mr. Janik mentioned that Giant Eagle traffic uses this roadway often instead of Kresge Drive. Mayor Costilow stated that engineers will look at this and discuss options, such as possible nighttime work. Mr. Janik stated nighttime closures might be good, especially with the competition Giant Eagle is getting, we don't want to close the entry/exits to the store. Mayor Costilow stated that closures will be as little as possible. Mr. Dembinski was thankful to read through the diagram provided which answered most of his questions. He noted Amchester goes behind Amherst Plaza, but the city is taking only the straight portion. His concern were also about the status of the road, such as if it matched our current standards, being older and private. But if re-surfaced, then we can match those standards. He inquired as to weather the current owners have to agree to making the street public. Mayor Costilow stated normally is goes the other way around. This time the city approached the developer. They are on board with this plan, and they have ideas regarding redeveloping the area. This is the first stage. After first surveys, the developer needs to sign off.

Mr. Dembinski asked if there would be any major costs associated with this plan? Mayor Costilow stated no, but the city would like to take care of the survey costs. Mr. Dembinski stated that Williamsburg is also private. Are there any plans to make that public? Mayor Costilow said he does not see that as public.

Mr. Janik motioned to take this to the floor of Council with the emergency. Seconded by Mr. Cowger. Mr. Cowger mentioned that this roadway provides access to the park, and if it is not a city road, the private property owner could close off that access. He wants to ensure citizens have access to the park. Roll call vote 6-0 to take to the floor of council with emergency.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to adjourn. Second by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 6-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

Matthew Nahorn, Chairman Building and Lands Committee