

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, HELD JULY 12, 2011, AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS BUILDING, 826 NORTH MAIN STREET, COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA.

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CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Joens called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Diane Joens, Mayor  
Karen Pfeifer, Vice Mayor  
Jesse Dowling, Council Member  
Tim Elinski, Council Member  
Ruben Jauregui, Council Member  
Linda Norman, Council Member  
Terence Pratt, Council Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Doug Bartosh, City Manager  
Steve Horton, City Attorney  
Matthew McLean, Deputy Clerk  
Dan Lueder, General Services General Manager  
Morgan Scott, Public Works Staff Engineer  
Troy Odell, Utilities Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT

Tom Pender, Pender Engineering

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF:

DESIGN OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT FROM FIR STREET TO SR 89A

Council Member Dowling declared a conflict of interest on this item and recused himself from the dais.

Mr. Lueder, Mr. Scott and Mr. Pender presented to Council for consideration three different areas where staff and Mr. Pender needed direction in regards to the design of the 12th Street project.

Mr. Lueder stated staff had a meeting with all the utilities to discuss the possible relocation of utilities along 12th Street. Staff and Mr. Pender have designed some alternatives to make it a safer street and save money.

Mr. Scott stated staff has held two public meetings regarding 12th Street and the public expressed two concerns. The first concern they had was slowing down the vehicles that travel on 12th Street. The street has become a collector street when it was originally designed to be a residential street. The second concern is the installation of sewers. Staff

was looking for direction on the overhead electric lines and whether to bury them underground.

Mr. Scott continued and stated the public has asked for speed bumps and humps that would not normally be placed on a collector street. The engineering department and Mr. Pender have proposed narrowing the street. On the current design people could be traveling 40-45 miles per hour. Staff is recommending that the road be narrowed from 29 feet to 25 feet. One way to narrow the street would be to remove the bike lane and combine it with the multiuse path and it could meander along the road to accommodate expensive utility relocation. The multiuse path would be designed to meet with bike standards and be approximately 8-10 feet wide.

Mr. Lueder stated it would cost approximately \$500,000 in relocation of utilities to do the standard 29 foot wide street. Narrowing the street down would avoid that cost. Also the wider street would require purchasing additional right-of-way access.

Council Member Pratt asked how the multiuse path would cross from west to east.

Mr. Scott stated they were considering a crosswalk and further narrowing the street at that crosswalk. Mr. Scott pointed out that this portion of 12th Street will not have on street parking due to the wider residential lot sizes.

Mr. Pender stated he has done research in regards to traffic calming and the impacts to the residents in the area. One of the best ways to calm traffic is to reduce the width of roads and the research shows reduced accidents.

Council Member Pratt stated that makes a lot of sense to him. Blackhills Drive in Clarkdale is good example of street that is too wide for the posted speed. He likes the crosswalk to connect the multiuse path and hopes there would be some signage to indicate the crosswalk.

Mr. Pender stated that was part of the traffic control plan. They might even do something different in the road at the crosswalk. There is opportunity to do landscaping to make it aesthetically pleasing.

Mayor Joens stated her concern is that Cottonwood did not plan for streets to accommodate traffic. This street was built to accommodate Verde Palisades. She is concerned that we are going to make a collector street into something that is not very usable. She likes the sidewalks and combined bike lanes, because it is illegal to ride bicycles on sidewalks.

Mr. Pender stated it was not originally a collector roadway, but has turned into one over the years because the traffic is there. It was originally designed for a neighborhood and it has a posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour. There is need of a collector road and would prefer designing a new collector road. If the road is made wider with sidewalks on both sides, drivers tend to drive faster and pedestrians could be in danger.

Mayor Joens stated she is concerned about providing ways for people being able to drive somewhere because there are very few streets designed to get somewhere.

Mr. Lueder stated he drives 12th Street every day. It is a straight shot and believes that once it is paved, the traffic will go up. The complaints that are received right now is that the road is too rough.

Council Member Pratt stated he has talked to a lot people that drive it and it is convenient to them. He also has heard complaints from people wanting a left turn signal at 89A.

Mr. Lueder pointed out that by removing the bike lane it will make drivers more aware of the curb and slows traffic down.

Mr. Scott stated staff can study whether or not a left turn signal at 89A is warranted and petition ADOT to provide a left turn signal. Council agreed that would be good.

Council Member Elinski asked if bicyclists would be able to stay on the street if they choose to, rather than use the multiuse path.

Mr. Scott stated it is still legal for a bicycle to use the street and it would be one of the things the bicycle advocacy groups will push for is their right to be in the roadway. The bicycles will likely be traveling at the same speed as the traffic and will physically fit on the roadway.

Mr. Lueder stated if this is the direction Council wants to take, staff would present a conceptual plan at a later work session.

Mayor Joens stated the next time this was presented to make the presentation a little bit clearer with some examples of roads that would be similar.

Vice Mayor Pfeifer stated she liked the idea for the road.

Council directed staff to move forward with designing the street as presented by staff.

Mr. Scott stated staff has done a quick budget for installing sewer on 12th Street. There are 18 residences that would be served by the sewer, and the costs would be \$487,000, or an average cost of \$27,000 per resident. The major benefit of installing sewer with this project is it could be used to serve all of the Verde Palisades area in the future. To install sewer for the entire Verde Palisades area would cost \$2.1 million or roughly \$22,000 per resident. The city would be paying the cost, not the citizens.

Council Member Elinski asked how much it would cost the residents to connect to the sewer.

Mr. Lueder stated it would be approximately \$2,500 per resident to connect. One thing staff can do is they can put sleeves under the roadway for future use.

Council Member Elinski asked if there is any future development in the area.

Mr. Lueder stated the area is about 80% developed.

Mr. Scott stated it would cost a resident about \$3,000 to \$5,000 to connect to the sewer system which includes the contractor cost. It would cost about \$5,000 for a new septic system.

Council Member Pratt stated we shouldn't go ahead with this one, because of the cost.

Mayor Joens stated she is concerned that impact to the river and our drinking water is a lot less if we do install sewer.

Mr. Odell stated a conventional septic system would last about 35 years. Some of the newer systems could last up to 70 years. Ten years from now, the Council could be looking at resurfacing the road and it could decide to install sewer at that point.

Mr. Lueder stated that the sleeves would cost about a \$1.00 per foot and would lower the cost to install sewer lines in the future.

Council directed staff to not include sewer installation in the plan at this time.

Mr. Scott stated there is a small portion of overhead electric lines on 12th Street. APS estimates about \$5,000 per box and were unable to provide an estimate per line. They don't have a cost estimate at this time.

Mayor Joens stated whatever we can put underground is what we should do. It would beautify the City.

Council Member Pratt asked how many boxes would be needed.

Mr. Scott stated he doesn't have a full count, but does know there are different sizes.

Mayor Joens stated if we are saving money on the width of the street, then there should be some funds available for moving the electrical underground.

Mr. Scott pointed out the multiuse path and that the city might be able to contain it in that right-of-way for the electrical lines. It could lower the cost in bringing the lines underground as well.

Council Member Pratt stated this makes sense, but would like to see how much it would cost.

Mayor Joens stated she would like to see sidewalks on both sides of the street.

Mr. Scott stated since we are considering an 8-10 foot wide path on one side of the street, would the Council consider a 4 foot wide sidewalk on the opposite side.

The Council agreed with that idea, and Mr. Scott stated they will design that.

Council directed staff to provide a cost estimate to move the electrical underground.

Mr. Lueder stated the goal is to have plans and come back to the Council within 60 days and have it out to bid in January 2012 with construction to start in March or April 2012. Staff is hopeful to have it built by the same contractor for the 12th and Mingus projects.

Mayor Joens asked about meetings for the public.

Mr. Scott stated the public meetings were advertised on the radio and was generally attended by the residents on that street.

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 38-431.03.(A) THE COUNCIL MAY VOTE TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION ON ANY AGENDA ITEM PURSUANT TO § 38-431.03(A)(7)—DISCUSSIONS OR CONSULTATIONS WITH DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC BODY IN ORDER TO CONSIDER ITS POSITION AND INSTRUCT ITS REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE, SALE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY

Vice Mayor Pfeifer moved to convene into executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Norman, and carried unanimously.

After discussion under executive session, Council Member Pratt moved to convene back into public meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Norman, and carried unanimously.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Joens moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Pfeifer, and carried unanimously. The work session adjourned at 8:08 pm.

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Diane Joens, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Matthew McLean, Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the minutes of a work session of the City Council of the City of Cottonwood held on July 12, 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called, and that a quorum was present.

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Matthew McLean, Deputy Clerk

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Date