

**STREETS COMMITTEE MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2017**

The Streets Committee meeting was held on January 3, 2017 at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Vice Chair Larry Antoskiewicz, John Nickell; Council: Gary Petrusky, Dan Langshaw, Paul Marnecheck, Dan Kasaris; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik, Law Director Thomas Kelly, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer, Service Director Nick Cinquepalmi, Asst. Wastewater Supt. Scott Shantery, Asst. Law Director Donna Vozar; Other: Lou Krzepina, Jessica Fenos, Bob Havenga.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Nickell, seconded by Mr. Antoskiewicz to **approve the November 1, 2016 Streets Committee minutes**. Roll Call: Yeas: 2. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Issue 1 Funding

Mr. Schmitzer said that we were unsuccessful this year in being awarded any funding. He said that he has submitted an application to the county for the last portion of the Edgerton Road resurfacing. He said we should know in the next week or so what the results are. He said we requested the maximum of \$250,000. Mr. Kasaris asked if there was anything regarding Tilby Road. Mr. Schmitzer said no. This is one of the roads that we have consistently submitted but it is actually not a county road. He said that we will continue to seek funds for this anywhere we can. He said that what we requested for Edgerton Road is a single pass with a 3 inch asphalt overlay. This is a 15 year design.

2. North Royalton Alternative Transportation Study

Mayor Stefanik said that they will be asking NOACA to perform a traffic study for State Road from Rt. 82 south to Akins Road to see if we can reduce the speed limit to 25 mph. He said that Broadview Hts. did a study a few years ago between their new City Hall and the parkway but were turned down to reduce the speed limit to 25 mph. Mr. Nickell asked if we are waiting on this information to determine whether we just widen the berm. Mayor Stefanik said yes.

3. Service Department Report

Mr. Cinquepalmi reviewed the report, a copy which is attached to these minutes. He said that due to the warmer temperatures, they have been able to do more road and ditch work. He said that he spoke with the county last week regarding the crack sealing program grant money. He said that no funds have been awarded yet but they know that North Royalton is very serious about this program. As soon as we receive approval, we will move forward with the maintenance. Mr. Nickell said the berms on Rt. 82 between State Road and the Broadview Hts. border are in bad shape due in part to the mail trucks driving on the berms and asked if there is anything we can do to address this. Mr. Cinquepalmi said that when the ground is soft like it is at this time of year, the berms take a beating from the mail trucks. He said we have been trying to keep some of the areas flat so that they do not hold water in the ruts. He said that any work that we would do that would result in any type of real fix will have to wait until spring/summer. Mr. Petrusky asked if the third shift could maybe sweep the streets at night in places like Royal Valley because there are a lot of leaves that are ending up in the catch basins. Mr. Cinquepalmi said that unless it gets over 40 and stays there for a while everything freezes up on the brushes. He said without the sun, it freezes up very fast.

4. Outstanding punch list items

Mr. Schmitzer said that the 2015 Road Program is complete. All of the apron work is done. Catch basin adjustments have been made and we will revisit any items that need to be touched up in the spring because they will still be under warranty. Mr. Nickell said that he has received no complaints about the driveway apron work.

5. **2016 Infrastructure Program**

Mr. Schmitzer said that the 2016 road program is complete. The punch list work has been finished with the exception of one small item with a driveway apron on Lytle Road that will be addressed in the spring. He said that the first phase of the water main project is complete. He said that the final cost came in about \$60,000-\$70,000 under the bid. This is a 100% reimbursable project from Cleveland Water and we will be finalizing the paper work shortly. Mr. Nickell asked who will repair the street on Gregory Road where Cleveland Water did a water main repair. Mr. Cinquepalmi said that this is the city's responsibility and this will be handled in the spring. Mr. Kasaris asked about the possible fire hydrant leak on Lytle Road. Mr. Schmitzer said that we did not get a clear answer on what was leaking, but it has been repaired and the leak has stopped. Mr. Kasaris said that he saw that we did some patching going up Bennett Road hill where the concrete boxes slid down or dropped. Mr. Cinquepalmi said that we had to ramp them with cold patch temporarily. Mr. Kasaris asked if we will fix this next year with concrete. Mr. Cinquepalmi said that at some point they will have to be done from the top down. Mr. Kasaris asked if the road was still under warranty. Mr. Schmitzer said no. He said that it is unfortunate that this occurred as it did. The road and box outs were not poured by the same contractor. We will adjust our bid specs to ensure that this is addressed in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Rubbish and Recycling bids

Mayor Stefanik presented the committee with documents pertaining to the bids for the city's solid waste collection, disposal and recycling services and went through each page with them. Copies of these documents are attached to these minutes. Jessica Fenos, Planner for the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District addressed the committee. She said that she assisted in putting together some of the scenarios contained in these documents. Mayor Stefanik said that she also assisted in the preparation of the bid specifications as they do with many other communities throughout the region. Ms. Fenos said that the 15% decrease in the disposal tonnage by switching to carts might actually be low. She said that there are 59 communities in Cuyahoga County and currently there are 39 communities that have gone fully automated with both a rubbish cart and a recycling cart. She said that she tracks the tonnage from year to year for communities that have switched to automated to see what their tonnage was before and after. She said it varies, but 40-45% is about average for recycling increase after switching to the carts. She said that a typical family can fill up a 65 gallon recycling container each week. She said that the carts are sturdy and are easy to move, and they cut down on litter blowing around. She said that it increases recycling participation because of the amount of room in the cart which makes people more apt to use it. This is where the recycling increase will come from and will decrease the solid waste disposal and decrease costs because less is being sent to the landfill. She felt that the recycling cart was a good compromise. She said that the blue bag system is going away and that is why many communities are going to the automated systems. She said that it is easier to throw everything into the cart and not have to bag it. She said it also decreases injuries to the workers. She said that Orange and Seven Hills are two communities that went to the automated system for just their recycling and not for the solid waste. She said that Orange increased recycling by 56% and in Seven Hills it went up 64%. Seven Hills has now switched over to fully automated. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that of the companies that bid, only 2 still offer the manual option so he sees that this is becoming an obsolete option and somewhere down the road it will not even be offered as an option. Ms. Fenos agreed. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that the last report we received from the county, North Royalton was ranked fairly low on recycling. He said that one of our goals has always been to try and boost our recycling in order to save on tipping fees. He said that it appears that what we are doing now is not working because we are lower than most communities in Cuyahoga County. He said that he has also recently paid attention to how people place their garbage on their tree lawns and one thing he has noticed that at least half of the households use some type of can for their solid waste. Recycling is just kind of thrown to the side. He said that items such as pizza boxes, cardboard, etc. are just set out on the lawn and end up getting blown away. He said that he thinks the automated recycling is something that we really need to look at. It puts us in the middle between no automation and fully automated and would serve as a good test of how the carts will work and the pros and cons, and it will give us a good idea of what we will

want to do 5 years from now when it's time to renew the contract. He also said that with the 15% minimum projected increase in recycling, this becomes our lowest cost option. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that North Royalton has a unique terrain in that we have long unpaved driveways and a lot of open ditches. He asked Ms. Fenos if she was aware of any other communities with similar terrain circumstances that use the carts. Ms. Fenos said most communities have at least some of these similar circumstances. She said that the City of Parma is fully automated and share many of the same streets that border North Royalton such as Sprague Road and there have been no problems with getting the carts to the curb regardless of weather. She said that all communities that look into this option have these same concerns and she agreed that they are valid concerns. But most of these concerns can be answered or have a solution. Mayor Stefanik said for circumstances such as Christmas where there will be a lot of extra items like boxes, etc. Rumpke has said that they will allow for this to be placed next to the cans should they already be full. However during normal collections times, you will not be allowed to place things such as pizza boxes by themselves on the lawn; they must be in the cart. Rumpke would notify the residents that this is not allowed should a situation like this occur. Mayor Stefanik said that landfill costs are going up year after year and we must start encouraging our residents to recycle more, or within the next few years we may be going to our residents and tell them that they have to start paying for rubbish removal. The prices are going up and someone is going to have to pay for it unless you are willing to cut back on other city services. Mayor Stefanik said that he understands that there are some senior citizens who say that they will not be able to maneuver the carts. He said that they will review this on a case by case basis to see if there is a solution. He said that residents are going to have to get used to this change. These carts will not be that difficult to use. We are trying to save the tax payers money at the end of the day. This is why the administration is recommending the partial automated process with Rumpke. He said that legislation will be on the next Council agenda but he knows that Council has some questions tonight. He said that Bob Havenga from Rumpke is here tonight as well to answer any questions. Mr. Nickell said that he would not be in favor of the fully automated option at this time, but the semi-automated might result in more recycling and he is open to this option. He suggested that we do additional education for the residents on recycling. Mayor Stefanik said that we receive a \$5,000 grant every year from the Solid Waste Management District and our goal would be to get a newsletter out the public before we would transfer to this system. Mrs. Vozar said that the contract states that Rumpke would actually do an education process for the residents and do a mailing as well. She said that there is a lot that can be done to educate the residents. Mr. Petrusky said that we are assuming that because someone now has a cart that they are going to recycle more. He said that many residents use the dumpsters throughout the city for recycling newspapers and cardboard as well as dropping off materials at the Service Department. He asked how this is figured into the calculations for the recycling in North Royalton. Ms. Fenos said that the Service Department numbers are factored in and the dumpsters are factored in to the annual recycling report figures. Mr. Nickell said that he has received calls from residents that the metal recyclables are being taken out of the smaller bins and this could possibly eliminate some of this. Mr. Petrusky said that the difference between the manual scenario and the semi-automated with 15% disposal decrease is only \$2,300.00. Even if you go up to the 20% the difference is only \$124,000.00. Over 5 years that is not a lot of money and for all of the grief that he has been getting from residents he did not think it is worth it. He said that there is no guarantee that we are going to increase our recyclables. Mayor Stefanik said the only thing that is guaranteed is that if recycling increases by 15% it is cheaper to do it this way. Anything over that will be icing on the cake. \$100,000 or \$200,000 will pave a few streets. Mr. Petrusky said that we are going to have a \$1.5 million carry over and residents he has spoken with did not deem that it was a valuable point since we have such a large carry over. Mayor Stefanik said that this has nothing to do with the carry over. We are talking about rubbish, recycling and the associated costs. If we can realize a 30% savings, that is over \$350,000. He said that he is hearing that 30% is not an outrageous goal and is probably on the low end. Just increasing the recycling by 15% will still save the tax payers money. Ms. Fenos said that 15% would probably just naturally occur because it is easier to recycle with the carts. Assuming recycling will increase is based on the numbers from all of the other communities that have gone through this program and said that 15% is on the low end. She said 30% or higher is more realistic based on what we have seen in other communities. Mr. Petrusky said that he has friends in Parma who hate the service because they have large families. They say that they have one can but if they want a second can they have to pay for it. He said that they are also aggravated because they

only have bulk pick up once per month. He asked how often North Royalton will be able to have bulk pick up. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that the regular rubbish pick up is going to remain exactly the same as we are doing now. The only thing that is changing is that the recyclables will now be placed in a cart.

Bob Havenga, General Manager for Rumpke Waste & Recycling, addressed the committee. He said that he has worked for all of the large waste companies throughout the Midwest and he said that they have almost always seen a minimum of 40% increase in the recycling volume just by putting the carts into use. He said that North Royalton can expect to at least double and possibly triple the recycling being done in the city and at the same time maintain the same services you currently have regarding solid waste disposal. Mr. Nickell said that while he is not in favor of using the carts for solid waste disposal, he is ok with trying it for recycling and see if we can indeed increase our recycling and save money over the 5 year contract. Mrs. Vozar said that if a resident does want an additional cart, they would be able to rent one from Rumpke for \$3.00 per month. Mr. Langshaw said he has heard from his residents and agrees that the support is not there yet for a fully automated program. He said that he still needs to hear more from his residents about the semi-automated program. He thinks it is a good compromise. He said that one thing he has heard from his residents is that they like Rumpke. Mr. Langshaw asked if the carts for the residents would be free of charge. Mr. Havenga said yes. This cost is included in the bid price. He said in addition, we also maintain the cans over the life of the contract. So if a wheel falls off or a lid breaks, they will come out and replace the carts upon request. Mr. Langshaw asked if the carts were the same size as a typical trash can. Mr. Havenga said that the average trash can is 32 gallons. These carts hold 65 gallons so you are basically doubling the volume with only a slightly larger footprint. So for storage purposes, the carts are a huge gain for the resident. He said that a 65 gallon cart for recycling is an ideal size for weekly pick up for a large family. Discussion regarding special events such as shred days, etc. held by the Solid Waste District occurred. Mr. Nickell asked if a resident purchases a large appliance and places the box next to the recycling bin, will it be picked up. Mr. Havenga said yes, it happens all the time. Mr. Nickell too said that he receives compliments about Rumpke's service to the residents. Mr. Havenga said that they have received complaints, but most are for recyclables blowing around. These cans will be a solution to this problem. The Mayor agreed that this is the reason for about 80% of the complaints they receive. Mr. Kasaris asked if yard waste would continue to be handled as it is now. Mr. Havenga said yes. Mr. Kasaris said that he agrees that Rumpke has been very attentive to the residents in his ward and their concerns and has done a very good job for the city. Mr. Havenga said that the crew that currently services North Royalton will remain regardless of which direction the city goes in. Mr. Kasaris asked what we currently pay for rubbish and recycling pick up. Mr. Dean said it is approximately \$1.12 million per year. Mr. Kasaris said that this new bid is \$1.38 million. Mr. Kasaris said that North Royalton is unique in that we have a range in population from dense subdivisions to very rural areas. He said that we have a lot of long, hilly driveways in the rural sections and he asked if Rumpke has seen less recycling in rural areas vs. the more populated areas because of the terrain issues. Mr. Havenga said no, and as a matter of fact they just fully converted Bath Township which is exactly what Mr. Kasaris is talking about; long driveways, hills, no curbs, all ditches, to both trash and recycling automated pick up. He said that they have increased their recycling to the 40% level. Mr. Kasaris asked at what percent does North Royalton currently recycle. Mr. Havenga said curb side and service center drop off is at about 15% for 2016. Mr. Kasaris said that he looked at past figures and said that we were at about 20% in 2009 and asked what would be the reason for the decrease. Mr. Havenga said that he does not have an answer to that and is unsure of how the numbers were being tracked back then. He said that his numbers do not include the fundraising dumpsters that were talked about earlier. Ms. Fenos said that in 2009, the city was still doing its own collection and yard waste collections, which counts towards the recycling rate. She said that she is the one who puts all of these figures together and said that she noticed a big drop in our recycling numbers once the yard waste program was discontinued. Mr. Marnecheck asked if there was a cost formula that could be applied if we recycled 18% instead of 15% or would we pay the same amounts indicated on the spreadsheets. Mr. Havenga said that the way the contract is written is that North Royalton will pay a per home price as well as the cost of the tipping fees. The savings shown on the spread sheets reflect the reduction in the disposal costs. Mrs. Vozar said that anything diverted from the landfill results in savings. Mr. Marnecheck asked what happens to the carts at the end of the contract. Mr. Havenga said that it depends. If they are selected as the next

contractors, the cans will remain. If not, Rumpke would be responsible for picking them back up. Mr. Marnecheck asked if the drivers will notify Rumpke when a new can is needed, or is up solely up to the homeowner. Mr. Havenga said that the drivers will pay attention to this and report if a can needs to be replaced but if the homeowner has an issue with a cart such as a sticky wheel, etc., they can contact Rumpke directly for assistance. Mr. Petrusky said that he has located the 2015 residential recycling report and said that North Royalton's 2014 total recycling rate was 17% and in 2015 the total was 15%. Mr. Havenga said that the numbers show that 2016 is on track for about 15.6%. Mr. Langshaw asked if the recycling is collected faster with the automated system. Mr. Havenga said that they receive a number of benefits from the automated system. One is that it is faster down the street. Two, there is not a second person on the truck. Third, they don't have the workers comp claims that you typically have with the current method. This is why many of the companies are only bidding the automated services. Another benefit to this is as our drivers get older, they typically would not stay in the residential business. Now we have drivers that are 60 years old that are still driving residential routes. He said that they do not gain margin with this system; actually they lose margin. But with the other gains this is how we are able to save municipalities money. Mr. Petrusky said that a can this size would not fit in a single family garage like those found in townhouse complexes. Mr. Havenga said that they always get this complaint at the start of a contract, but those complaints go away rapidly because residents love the carts. He understands that if space is an issue that this is something they will have to address in some form, but quite frankly these carts fit in most places and in the long run take up less space than other options from a square footage standpoint. Mayor Stefanik said that legislation will be on Council's next agenda. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that we can take it out of the Streets Committee tonight, but he will take it into the Finance Committee in case there are any additional questions or issues before voting on the legislation. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that in driving around the city he has noticed, even in the rural areas of the city, that about 50% of the households have rubbish cans and they are getting those cans to the curbs somehow. So some of the myths that even he perceived a few years ago may not be totally accurate. Mr. Kasaris asked if the contract will be for 5 years. Mrs. Vozar said it is a 5 year contract with a 2 year option. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that he feels that choosing the semi-automated program is a good way to ease into the automation because he believes that in 5 years when we bid this out again, we may not have the manual option. Mr. Havenga confirmed that this is already occurring in different areas throughout the country. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that this will allow us time to iron out any problems before we are forced to go to the fully automated system. Mr. Petrusky asked if any of our building ordinances prevent these cans from being stored outside. Mr. Kelly said that he believes that the only stipulation we have on outside storage of rubbish containers is that they have a lid to keep animals out. Ms. Fenos said that 18-19 communities within Cuyahoga County charge their residents for rubbish and recycling pickup. Mr. Petrusky asked if she would forward a list of these communities to Council.

Moved by Mr. Nickell, seconded by Mr. Antoskiewicz to **remove this item from committee with a recommendation to Council for approval of the semi-automated program submitted by Rumpke Waste & Recycling**. Roll Call: Yeas: 2. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Antoskiewicz, seconded by Mr. Nickell to **adjourn the January 3, 2017 meeting**. Roll Call: Yeas: 2. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Street Department & Storm Water Monthly Report – November 2016

10/31/16-MON.

Joint Repair-continue in Timber Ridge.

Storm Water-install a catch basin to the storm line at 18596 Bennett Rd.

Catch Basin-rebuild one basin on N. Star.

11/1/16-TUES.

Joint Repair-Timber Ridge.

Storm Water-18596 Bennett Rd. finish grading the ditch line and set up the driveway apron.

Concrete-pour the apron on Bennett Rd. and the catch basin on North Star.

Garage-start setting up salt trucks for plowing.

11/2/16-Wed.

Lowered culvert at 4694 Maple Ln asphalted apron.

Asphalted along new sidewalk in front of cemetery.

Crafco along new sidewalk in front of cemetery

11/3/16-THUR.

Joint Repair-Timber Ridge.

Memorial Park-start the new retaining wall up at the park.

Landscaping-seed and straw all new concrete jobs.

11/4/16-FRI.

Concrete-finish the last slab [rip out, set up and pour] on Potomac Dr.

Memorial Park-continue to build the retaining wall.

Joint Repair-Timber Ridge.

Landscaping- along the new sidewalk by the cemetery.

11/7/16-MON.

Memorial Park-continue to build the retaining wall.

Joint Repair-Timber Ridge.

Landscaping-finish along the new sidewalk by the cemetery. 4694 Maple lane, pipe job from last week.

11/8/16-TUES.

Memorial Park-continue to build the retaining wall.

Joint Repair-Install two asphalt strips on York Rd. then sent the crew over to Timber Ridge.

Crack Sealing-finish Camelot Estates, Start sealing Timber Ridge Estates.

11/9/16-WEDS.

Joint Repair-finish Timber Ridge Estates.

Memorial Park-work on the retaining wall.

Cemetery –we are replacing the bad asphalt with concrete next to the building.

11/10/16-THUR.

Concrete-set up the cemetery lot for a Friday pour.

Memorial Park-work on the retaining wall.

Rec. Dept.-sent 6 guys to help Jason set up the city green.

11/11/16-FRI.

Concrete-poured 30yds up at the cemetery.

Joint Repair-start on Tradewinds Dr.

Memorial Park-continue working on the retaining wall.

11/14/16-MON.

Joint Repair-finished Tradewinds Dr. and moved over to Cedarwood Drive.
Crack Seal-Tradewinds Dr. then moved over to Applewood Dr.
Memorial Park-continue to work on the retaining wall.

11/15/16-TUES.

Crack Seal-continue on Applewood Dr.
Joint Repair-continue on Cedarwood Dr.
Memorial Park-continue on the retaining wall.

11/16/16-WEDS.

Joint Repair-continue on Cedarwood Dr.
Crack Seal-finish Applewood Dr.
Memorial Park-continue working on the retaining wall.

11/17/16-THUR.

Joint Repair-continue on Cedarwood Dr.
Culvert Pipe-storm water crew is going remove and replace the crossover pipe on Donmar Rd. Also install a new catch basin.
Memorial Park-continue working on the retaining wall.

11/18/16-FRI.

Joint Repair-finish Cedarwood Dr.
Culvert Pipe-storm water crew; continue to work on the pipe and new catch basin.
Memorial Park-continue to work on the retaining wall.

11/21/16-MON.

Culvert Pipe-storm water crew; finish the crossover pipe and the catch basin on Donmar.
Asphalt-the intersection of Highland & Akins, then did Donmar Rd. [the new crossover pipe].
Memorial Park-finish the retaining wall.

11/22/16-TUES.

Joint Repair-Potomac Dr.
Culvert Pipe-storm water crew; remove & replace the pipe at 8028 Wallings Rd.
Rec. Dept.-sent two guys down to help out.

11/23/16-WEDS.

Joint Repair-Potomac Dr.
Landscaping-topsoil seed & straw the culvert pipe jobs we did this past week.
Storm Water-Hydro excavate a sink hole and repair at 13521 State Rd.

11/28/16-MON.

Joint Repair-Shenandoah Dr.
Saw Cutting-saw cut all recent concrete pours, [for crack sealing].
Cemetery-storm water; dig up the field drain and replace with new pipe.

11/29/16-TUES.

Patching-Vista Dr., State & Wiltshire and Edgerton Rd.
Cemetery-storm water; finish the pipe job.
Vac. Truck-start on Beckenham [clean all catch basins & crossovers].

11/30/16-WEDS.

Crack Seal-Potomac Dr., Cedarwood Dr., and start Oak knoll.
Cemetery-form up a section of road that the pipe job went through. [To be poured tomorrow].
Vac. Truck-continue on Beckenham.