

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #6 MEETING
January 7, 2015 Sunnyside School Library

Council Members Present: Robin Baker, Darrell Beauchamp, and Cherry Loney

Council Members Absent: Carl Donovan and Julie Parker

The meeting was also attended by residents including several property owners on Marillyn Drive, Marlie Drive, and Ellen Drive along with students of high school government classes.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Old Business:

Minutes of the December 3, 2014 meeting were approved as written.

Committee Reports: No reports

New Business:

Election of Officers: By unanimous verbal ballot, election of officers was tabled until the February meeting when all members will be in attendance.

Pearson Addition SID: Jim Reardon, Jim Young, and Dave Dobbs, City of Great Falls Public Works Department, provided information on the steps necessary to develop a Special Improvement District (SID) if property owners wish to do so. The potential SID would include Marillyn Drive, Marlie Drive, and Ellen Drive. Interest was first expressed a few years ago and some preliminary work has already been done to determine interest/feasibility. The SID would include street paving, curbs, gutters, and storm drains and would not include sidewalks or lighting. Preliminary cost estimates have been developed by city personnel. They've also engaged Midwest Technical Assistance to do an income survey within the next month to determine the extent of low and moderate income families within the boundaries, as they may be eligible for financial assistance with costs through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. It is ultimately up to residents to determine if they want to proceed. Once the income survey is completed, each property owner will have an opportunity to vote on a yes/no petition as to whether or not they want to pursue. If over 50% of property owners are in favor, a resolution of intent will be forwarded to the City Commission. It will go through the standard steps for public review and input prior to being approved or disapproved. If approved, city personnel anticipate implementing the SID in November, 2015 based on timing of the CDBG grant. In the meantime, they will reconvene the work group that was established a couple of years ago composed of property owners and city personnel. They will also provide another update for property owners at the April Neighborhood Council #6 meeting. City personnel responded to questions from property owners (several are new) about the process, costs, and impact.

Upper/Lower River Road Drainage: City personnel and Shawn Arthur, HKM Engineering, provided a brief update on the drainage mitigation project. Easements are in place and permissions from BNSF are nearing finalization. The next step is to construct the outflow into the Missouri River on Lower River Road, which is planned for this summer. A loan to the city from the State Revolving Fund will be used to support the costs. A specific update for property owners is planned for late winter/early spring 2015. The city should have a disposition on the loan request in March and plans to bid the project shortly thereafter with construction taking place in spring/summer. They anticipate a 120-day project.

Neighborhood Watch: Robin Baker provided an update on efforts to revitalize the Neighborhood Watch program noting some residents of Pearson Addition have expressed interest in participating.

Other:

Darrell Beauchamp, Council member, stated that water runs down the road on 24th Avenue South rather than in the ditch. Jim Reardon said they would take a look at it and may be able to do some grading to help alleviate the problem.

Emma White, 1624 19th St. So., stated she has contacted the post office and they are working to determine how her mail was placed on hold despite the fact that she did not request it.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cherry Loney, Secretary