

- Any uses of the crossing by:
 - Trucks carrying hazardous material (None)
 - Vehicles carrying passengers for hire (None)
 - School buses (4 buses per day)
 - Emergency vehicles (Yield to Police and Fire Chief to respond)
 - Public or private utility vehicles, specifically including without limitation water, sewer, natural gas, and electric utility maintenance and repair vehicles; (None)
- Any other relevant factors (Union Grove Baptist Church is in the area)

This item was added to the Regular Agenda.

Councilmember Nealy inquired if the notices for the public hearing were sent to the adjacent property owners and/or facilities in the area.

Mr. Clark stated that he posted signs as he would for public hearings commensurate with Community Development. He added that signs were posted on both sides of highway 29, on the neighborhood side and in our legal organ. He concluded that the time restriction was met with regards to publishing the notice in the newspaper.

Councilmember Nealy asked Mr. Clark if he received any calls or emails regarding the matter.

Mr. Clark responded, "We did not get any emails." He added that he did receive a couple of phone calls, specifically from Union Grove Baptist Church, stating that they would likely circulate a petition to request that the railroad crossing remain open.

Councilmember Jones asked if any of the four accidents at the crossing resulted in a fatality.

Mr. Clark responded, "Yes, there was one fatality."

Councilmember Jones inquired if the grade at the railroad crossing in question was steeper than the railroad crossing near the Green Manor Restaurant.

Mr. Clark responded, "Yes."

Councilmember Robinson asked if the crossing was located on a one way street.

Mr. Clark stated that this is a two way street, but a left turn is prohibited if you are traveling east bound on Westbrook, approaching City Hall.

Councilmember Robinson asked if the railroad crossing closed, would it interfere with the services at Union Grove Baptist Church.

Mr. Clark stated that it may interfere, but there would be a minor redirection of traffic to proceed to an alternate crossing.

Councilmember Robinson asked if the four accidents, over the past five years, were due to human error or the grading of the railroad track.

Mr. Clark explained that in each instance the cars were pinned between the track and the slope. He added that the cars were pinned due to the grade.

Councilmember Robinson asked if the grade could be fixed.

Mr. Clark stated that a part of the frustration, especially with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), is that a project was recently completed to address the grade and CSX also provided additional asphalt to address the grade. He added that GDOT did a signing and pavement marking project with hopes that those projects would alleviate any further accidents. He further added that one month after the projects a vehicle was lodged between the tracks again; then the fatality occurred.

Councilmember Robinson then asked when was the last accident.

Mr. Clark stated that the last accident was in March of this year and it was a fatality.

Councilmember Mealing asked what does GDOT and CSX plan to do to alleviate the accidents if the crossing is not closed.

Mr. Clark stated that they informed the media that they have done all they can do to address those issues and have made it clear that they feel that the City should close the crossing.

Mayor Williams asked if GDOT and CSX were willing to entertain the repair of any structure issues.

Mr. Clarks stated that GDOT and CSX are not entertaining any further repairs.

This item was added to the Regular Agenda.

5. Council to consider approval of request to award the City wide Stormwater Improvement Project to Reeves Contracting Company in the amount of \$401,220.

Mr. Clark also led this discussion and stated that the purpose of this item is to recommend an award of the aforementioned project to Reeves Contracting Company. He added that based on the review of the bids shown on the documents submitted to the Council, staff believes that Reeves Contracting Company is the most qualified and responsible bidder. He further added that he has checked all references associated with the firm. Mr. Clark stated that Reeves Contracted Company was also the successful contractor for the 2013 CDBG Project with regards to Shannon Boulevard culvert replacement. He concluded that staff recommends awarding the contract to Reeves Contracting Company.

Mayor Williams asked if Reeves Contracting Company has been thoroughly vetted.

Mr. Clark responded, "Yes". He added that not only has Reeves Contracting Company been thoroughly vetted, but they have completed several projects for the City and he is very comfortable with their working relationship and looks forward to working with them on this project.

Councilmember Nealy inquired if this will include all of the City's capital improvement projects for stormwater infrastructure and manage the MS4 permits.

Mr. Clark stated for clarity that this particular project will be for the replacement of all of the remaining corrugated metal pipes in the City. He added that he will begin under the roadway because it poses the greatest danger to our roadway system due to failures and sinkholes. He further added that he would end with those areas that are parallel to the roadway.

Councilmember Mealing asked how much corrugated piping do we have remaining.

Mr. Clark stated that his rough estimates utilizing GIS reflects that we have approximately 50% to 60% of the system that remains corrugated metal pipes.

This item was added to the Consent Agenda.

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

City Manager Reports: None.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:

City Clerk Annual Evaluation

IX. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL:

X. ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Councilmember Jones seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, the meeting adjourned.