

NESCA MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2020

ZOOM Meeting

1. Welcome, Introductions, Announcements, Approval of Minutes: Mike Beringer, Chair
Mike welcomed and introduced everyone and opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

A motion to approve the January 19 meeting minutes, as provided, was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Mike mentioned that two guest speakers on tonight's Agenda were not able to participate but we look forward to having them join us at a later date. Tammi Starrs, Program Manager of the City of Salem Public Works will hopefully join us next month to discuss the 5-Year Capital Improvement Program. Bridget West, Hoover School Principal, was also on the Agenda and is welcome to join us at any time to bring us up to date on happenings at the school.

2. Police Officer Report: Lt. Jason Van Meter

- Because of the recent ice storm, Lt. Van Meter said SPD has been dealing with many safety issues.
- There was a homicide at the Rodeway Inn on Portland Road.
- An arrest has been made in the shooting near Hoover School that resulted in the car crash and a death. Follow up to that arrest has resulted in a number of guns and drugs being taken off the street. To clarify, the shooting was the result of a confrontation at Hoover Park, not actually at Hoover School.
- A good line of communication has been established with Bridget West, Hoover School Principal, with a Project Management platform regarding information sharing.
- Lt. Van Meter said he wanted to publicly thank the City Councilors for their leadership during this time of weather crisis, as well as Public Works for the incredible job they have been doing.

3. City Councilor: Chris Hoy

- Chris reported that the City has a supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that is available for non-profits as well as for-profit businesses while supplies last.
- The "Our Salem" visioning process has the latest information on-line for viewing. Everyone is encouraged to check on this.
- Chris mentioned Salem water turbidity issues. Because of the debris flowing into the Santiam River from the wildfires, the slow sands filtration system does not function as well. However, with the good planning of a couple of years ago with the Ozone Treatment for algae bloom issues, Salem still has good clear water. The City is working with the US Geological Survey and Army Corps of Engineers, as well as the DEQ and US Forest Service to stay on top of any water situations.
- Homeless issues:
 - An agreement regarding trash collection has been made with ODOT for the homeless camps at the I-5 and Market Street ramps.
 - ODOT has said they will not displace individuals during the COVID crisis unless there are safety issues. Chris mentioned there have been several accidents and some deaths from individuals wandering across the ramp areas and the City is trying to get more done to prevent these situations.
 - The State Fairgrounds Pavilion has been turned into a temporary shelter. Capacity is limited to 100 and was filled in less than 24 hours. 24 Hour on-site supervision is being provided by ARCHES.
 - There are approximately 1,500 homeless individuals city wide and the number at I-5 is increasing.
- Ice Storm:
 - There are hundreds of trees and branches down across the city and still many thousands without power. The City will work to help where they can but they City does NOT have anything to do with power.
 - Debris Collection:

- The City has established FREE drop-off sites for storm debris, daily from 8 AM to 6 PM. Drop off sites are:
 - McKay Park
 - Geer Park
 - Wallace Marine Park
 - Woodmansee Park
 - Downed trees are a high priority for Public Works. Debris from city street trees should be kept off the streets and Public Works will clean it up as quickly as they can. It will take a while as they are doing triage to determine areas that are a priority for public safety.
 - A meeting regarding the future of the Salem Airport will be held. To be discussed:
 - Potential passenger service
 - Air cargo
 - Maintenance of facilities
 - to encourage business growth in the city and around the airport
- Chris mentioned there is also a whole other group that is opposed to any increase in air traffic.

3. City Councilor: Virginia Stapleton

- A request has been made to ODOT to add caution signs at I-5 and Market to aid with traffic issues because of the homeless camps.
- Councilor Stapleton recommended people take the Climate Action Plan survey on the City website.
 - <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/understanding-how-climate-change-affects-salem.aspx>
- Center 50+ has been helping to get people to COVID vaccine appointments.

4. Guest Speaker: Richard Berger, The Neighborly Way, The Jory Development

- The Jory development has been working with the city on the street trees, conforming to all issues, some of which are causing a few problems. The developer has been working with an arborist to determine exactly how best to construct the required sidewalks to save trees. The company's intent has always been to keep as many trees as is possible. Richard said he was saddened to see the severe ice storm damage to several trees and especially to the "signature" tree. The damage revealed there is some rot in the "signature" tree and it may have to go, although he hopes not. He will keep NESCA informed regarding saving trees or those that have to come down. The ultimate decision on which trees must be taken down will be with the City.
- Negotiations are underway with a local builder to construct the private homes on D and Park. There should be some architectural designs available in 30 days. The houses will not be built, however, until the D and Park road improvements have been completed. All houses will be by the same builder with the plans as previously discussed, front doors facing the streets and garages in the back. There will only be a limited number of rentals allowed, approximately 16 out of 45

4. Guest Speaker: Evan Sekulic, The Neighborly Way, The Jory Development

- Some of the exterior fencing was damaged from falling limbs but has now been repaired and the fence is back up.
- They have building permits to begin some foundation work.
- Part of 25th St NE and D & 23rd
- Part of 25th St. NE and D & 23rd streets are closed for improvements. NO closures are scheduled for D and Park until summer.
- The first building to go up will be the Community Building and Offices. Then the apartments will be started.

5. Committee Reports:

- a. Land Use/OSH North Campus Ian Johnson
- Ian will check with Darrin Brightman (DAS) regarding the Center Street portion of the North Campus property to see if there any potential plans yet for development.
 - Councilor Hoy pointed out that all the delays by DAS regarding the Yaquina Hall property have cost the city thousands of dollars. There will be some pushing of the legislature to get this off-center.
 - Knowing that citizens may want to help with some park clean up, the answer is “not right now,” as it is still too dangerous and it is best to leave it to the city at this time.
 - Councilor Stapleton mentioned that the City Forester is compiling a list of damaged street trees and looking at trees along the 12th Street Promenade, learning what trees actually did well. Information from this listing will be helpful when planting new trees.
 - Councilor Stapleton is working with the City Manager and Milan Davis regarding possible incentives to the public for tree canopy density, possibly a credit on water bills. She is pushing for a \$50 rebate for trees planted on private property, other incentives to help.
- b. Transportation Julie Redden (not in attendance; no report)
- c. Parks Eli Brody (not in attendance; no report)
- d. Hoover School Teri Lupoli
- e. Watershed Gary Pullman (not in attendance; no report)

6. Other Business:

Marilyn Moritz brought up the subject of the light pole on the Park Avenue extension south of the State Hospital that is still down. She called Public Works, but it seems there is no agreement as to which entity is responsible for the pole. Chris Hoy said he will check on this.

There being no further business, Mike Beringer, Chair, thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM. **Our next scheduled meeting will be held via ZOOM, March 16, 2021, beginning at 7:00 PM.** The meeting link will be provided to those on the NESCA NEWS mailing list ahead of the meeting.

Submitted by: Teri Lupoli
NESCA Secretary/Treasurer

Attending:

Mike Beringer*, Marilyn Moritz*, Teri Lupoli*, Ian Johnson, Jim Lupoli, Lucy Beringer, Bob Stainbrook, Chris Hoy City Councilor, Virginia Stapleton City Councilor, Lt. Jason Van Meter SPD, Richard Berger The Neighborly Way, Evan Sekulic The Neighborly Way

*NESCA Board Members

Traffic Report Submitted by Julie Redden

Power and traffic signals out throughout NESCA.

*2 powerlines still down on D between 23rd and Park.

*line down on Evergreen close to D

*line hanging down on Evergreen at Englewood.

*25th Street closed to through traffic as trees down in street.

*23rd street tree branches hanging down at Ellis.

*Line hanging low on Englewood just West of Park.

*Trees branches down in roadway on Park,south of Center.

*Branches down in road leading to Greer Park and in Greer park, passable

*Low hanging wire on Ellis between Park and Savage

*Branches down on many locations.

*Traffic signals out throughout NESCA.

The days prior to outage, there was D construction on private home sewer line that closed street with flagged control for about a half a week at D And Evergreen.

Ongoing construction if north campus has closed traffic on 25th between D and Center as construction continues.

Construction work has closed 23rd between D and Center. Work ongoing.

Week prior to freeze traffic counter was up on D street just West of Park.