

**COMMITTEE: INFRASTRUCTURE**  
**DATE: MARCH 1, 2010**  
**TIME: 10 A.M.**

**In attendance:** Council Members Baker (Chair), Ritenour, Whittle, and Vena; Town Manager Fauber, Director of Public Utilities Tewalt, Director of Public Works Rhodes, Town Planner Rex, and Town Clerk Keller.

Action Item:

The minutes of the February 1, 2010 meeting were approved as presented.

Updates:

- **Public Transit Survey** --- Planner Rex said a letter has been included in this month's water bills asking all citizens to take the survey which is on the website or a paper copy can be sent to those asking.
- **Transportation Plan** --- Planner Rex has gotten touch with Mr. Terry Short with VDOT and they will be meeting in the near future to review the plan.
- **Strasburg Fire Department Roof** --- Town Manager Fauber said the RFP will be advertised in the Northern Virginia Daily starting on Saturday, March 6; other sources of advertising will also be used. The bids will be due on March 25 and then reviewed at the next Infrastructure Committee meeting and it is hoped a vote will be taken by Council at the April meeting.
- **Trash Collection Contract** --- Town Manager Fauber said he does not have anything new to report at this time except to say an article was printed in the Northern Virginia Daily. Council Member Ritenour asked if bids were going to be solicited from other companies before the trash contract expires and Town Manager Fauber said they were. Council Member Vena asked about the different type of truck that was now being used for recycling and if this was changing the recycling in any way. She said she had seen the workers previously separate the recycling at the truck, but they are not doing this now. Town Manager Fauber said the recycling collected has always been co-mingled and the truck being used now was compacting it. Council Member Vena said her garbage is about half of what it was previously and wondered if tipping fees will be lowered due to this. Town Manager Fauber said there is some tonnage decrease, but it fluctuates. Council Member Ritenour says the reports show how much has been recycled, but he doesn't see where the tonnage at the landfill has been reduced. Town Manager Fauber said the tonnage increases, too, due to weather because if the garbage is wet, it increases the cost. Town Manager Fauber added he has not heard of any increase in cost to recycling.

Discussion Items:

- **Light-pole bump-outs on King Street** --- Planner Rex explained that on the proposals for the Downtown Enhancement Project, light poles are shown on bump-outs along King Street.  
Kevin Conner, representing Gay and Neel, showed the drawings of the project with the bump-outs. Mr. Conner said they are a six-inch raised curb that would project out about 4 ½ - 5 feet.  
Planner Rex said residents wanted to utilize sidewalk space. Mr. Conner also explained how in some areas the sidewalk is so narrow that he doesn't know what else to do with the pole, but there are some areas that you would not have to do this.  
Director of Public Works Rhodes said it would cause a maintenance issue for his department with the hauling away of snow and street sweeping.  
Mr. Conner asked how the snow is removed and Mr. Rhodes said it is plowed and then hauled away, depending on the amount of snow, but VDOT plows Route 11. Director of Public Works Rhodes will talk with other localities to see what problems they have, but

Mr. Conner said he is not sure this has ever been proposed on other projects as far as the lights, but the bump-outs at the intersections should not present too much of a problem. Planner Rex said he would recommend using the light-pole bump-outs wherever necessary, but put in the sidewalk area where allowable. Consensus was to keep each area of the project as close to the same as possible. Mr. Conner said he has to have 6' of space for sidewalks and if he can't do this, then he would have to come up with another plan.

Mr. Conner was asked about the problem of lost parking spaces near the Post Office and he explained how this was going to be remedied.

Council Member Baker asked if there had been any discussions with the power company as to the type of poles they have available. Planner Rex will have information on this at the April meeting.

Carla Wallen asked where the bump-outs are being recommended and Mr. Conner said they would be located at Fort and Holliday, in front of the Town Hall, and a small one at Sharpe Street, but none at Massanutten. Mrs. Wallen asked about the tree islands and Mr. Conner said most of the people he has talked to at VDOT are fine with these, but he will need to discuss this further. Director of Public Works Rhodes said the tree islands look nice, but maintenance is hard as it decreases your travel lanes with snow removal --- narrows the road down. The islands are about 80' long and are proposed on each end of the project area. Mr. Conner said this area can be planted with shrubs and trees that are low maintenance. Director of Public Works Rhodes added his department would learn to deal with this. Council Member Vena asked about the island near the museum and if there would be enough room for tractor trailers to turn out of the milk plant and it was felt there was.

**Consensus of the committee was to keep the islands, and to use the light bump-outs where absolutely necessary.**

Planner Rex said the finished plans will need to be approved by the entire Council, but this is only giving guidance to keep the project moving forward.

- **King Street Sewer Line Upgrade** - Planner Rex said when Council approved the contract, there was much discussion on what else needed to be replaced underground. Since working with Gay and Neel, it has been found out some surface grinding, etc. will need to be done. Planner Rex was asking if it were felt if the sewer lines should be replaced while this is being torn out. Director of Public Works Rhodes feels this can mainly be done in-house. As the grant does not cover infrastructure, the actual infrastructure work would not count toward the in-kind donations, but some of the cost could be covered such as the resurfacing. Director of Public Works Rhodes said there are some areas that will need to be addressed anyway and that most of the cost would be for materials only; **Director of Public Works Rhodes will find out how much it would cost for materials.**

**His department will “camera” the area to see what needs to be done and figures will be gotten by the April meeting; the numbers can then be updated as necessary.**

Ms. Wallen asked if sidewalk type was going to be discussed at this meeting and Mr. Conner said they are not at this point yet. Ms. Wallen suggested having the bricks on the bump-out areas and around the street lights and have the cement sidewalk everywhere else.

- **Suggestion for “Doggie Bags” and sign on King Street** --- Town Manager Fauber said this was a suggestion made by a citizen and left in the “Suggestion/Concern” box. Michael Terndrup had suggested having such a sign fixture in the downtown area. Council Member Whittle said he feels these would be good in the park and on the Walking Trail. Director of Public Works Rhodes showed a picture of the sign and said they would cost about \$300 each.

**The consensus was to not have these in the downtown area, but will look into it at the park and walking trail. Town Manager Fauber will respond back to Michael Terndrup on this.**

- **Orchard Street Mirror** --- Council Member Ritenour said Mr. Joe Bly, a resident on Orchard Street, had called him to say it is difficult to see when coming off of Franklin Street onto Orchard Street.

Director of Public Works Rhodes said he does not know there is a real problem there and the issue with the fence is actually a problem between neighbors. You could limit parking on Orchard Street for site help. He added there is a slight grade coming up to the intersection, but he does not feel there is a site issue. A stop bar can be added to Franklin Street so drivers know where they should stop or a sign could be added about a “blind intersection” ahead. Council Member Vena suggested having the Police Department patrol this area more to see if there is a problem with people not stopping.

Town Manager Fauber will contact Mr. Bly and let him know this was discussed at the meeting and that it was suggested the police patrol the area more.

Council Member Ritenour discussed the traffic lights and how they are still out of sync. Director of Public Works Rhodes said this is a VDOT problem and there are cameras on the lights that should “trigger” them to change, but apparently they don’t work. Town Manager Fauber will speak to Chief Sutherly about the concerns and he will also speak to Mr. Jerry Copp, VDOT, about the concerns.

Council Member Whittle said there had been discussion on the pipe sizes and changing the price points for larger pipe sizes. He feels this should be a discussion item for the Infrastructure Committee. Comparisons will be given at the April meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.