

Tuesday – January 31, 2012 – 6:30 p.m.  
Haw Creek Elementary School

Community Meeting - East Asheville

Present: Mayor Terry M. Bellamy, Presiding; Vice-Mayor Esther E. Manheimer; Councilman Cecil Bothwell; Councilman Jan B. Davis; Councilman Marc W. Hunt; Councilman Christopher A. Pelly; City Manager Gary W. Jackson; City Attorney Robert W. Oast Jr.; and City Clerk Magdalen Burleson

Absent: Councilman Gordon D. Smith

Mayor Bellamy opened the meeting, welcomed the audience and introduced City Council members.

City Manager Jackson provided the audience with an overview of the City Council Strategic Goals.

Director of Transportation Ken Putnam provided the audience with an overview of the sidewalk program. He said recently completed projects consist of (1) Tunnel Road, from Asheville Mall to New Haw Creek Road; (2) Tunnel Road, from New Haw Creek Road to Avon Road; (3) Patton Avenue, from New Leicester Highway to Regent Park Boulevard; (4) Short Coxe Avenue, from Biltmore Avenue to Southside Avenue; and (4) Future Drive, from Wood Avenue to Ledgewood Village Apartments. The recently completed projects consist of 1.93 miles, at a cost of \$641,090, and \$63 per linear foot. Projects under construction include (1) Kenilworth Knoll/Tunnel Road, from Kenilworth Knolls to Chunns Cove Road; and (2) Lakeshore Drive, from Merrimon Avenue to Mt. Vernon Circle. The projects under construction consist of 0.42 miles, at a cost of \$167,300, and \$75 per linear foot +/- . Projects in the design stage are (1) Tunnel Road, from Governor's View Road to Maple Springs Road; (2) Tunnel Road, from Maple Springs Road to Craig Circle; (3) Tunnel Road, from Pleasant Ridge Drive to Veteran's Quarters' (4) Lakeshore Drive, from Osborne Street to Shorewood Drive; (5) Overlook Road, from Springside Road to Long Shoals Road; (6) Patton Avenue, from Regent Park Boulevard to Westgate Shopping Center; and (7) Patton Avenue, from New Leicester Highway to Parkwood Road. Projects in design state consist of 2.56 miles, at a cost of \$1,886,000; and \$140 per linear foot +/- . Potential projects for Fiscal Year 2012-13 in the north consist of (1) Lakeshore Drive, from Mt. Vernon Place to Osborne Road; (2) Lakeshore Drive, from Sherwood Drive (north) to Pine Tree Circle; and (3) Long Street, from Asheville Pizza Brewery to East Larchmont Road. Potential projects for Fiscal Year 2012-13 in the east consist of Riceville Road, from Tunnel Road northward for 600 feet +/- . Potential projects for Fiscal Year 2012-13 in the south consist of (1) Shiloh Road, from Hendersonville Road to the community center; and (2) Overlook Road, from Springside Road to Briarcliff Drive. Potential Fiscal Year 2012-12 projects in the west include (1) Brevard Road, from Fairfax Avenue to I-240; (2) Michigan Avenue, from Haywood Avenue to Waynesville Avenue; and (3) Sand Hill School Road, from Acton Circle to Sand Hill Road. Potential Fiscal Year 2012-13 projects consist of 1.35 miles; at a cost of \$821,337; and \$115 per linear foot +/- .

Director of Public Works Cathy Ball reviewed with the audience the Azalea Flood Control and Road Improvement Project. She explained how the projects element include (1) new entrance road; (2) repave Azalea Road; (3) relocate Swannanoa River Road; (4) stabilize Azalea Road embankment; (5) waterline extension to soccer complex; and (6) dam rehabilitation for flood mitigation.

Ms. Kim Engel, representing the East Asheville Sidewalk Initiative, thanked City Council for the sidewalks in east Asheville. Their focus now is on the future development along the Tunnel Road corridor from I-240 to Exit 55. Their goal is to create a more shopper friendly, attractive and safer environment for this part of Tunnel Road. Some of the ways this could be done are evaluating the number and configuration of traffic lanes, consideration of adding a median, evaluating speed restrictions and parking. They asked that City Council instruct staff to conduct a "Tunnel Road Corridor Study." They have contracted with a local artist who designed a mural that they will have installed on the retaining wall at the corner of Beverly Road and Tunnel Road to help create their identity.

Mayor Bellamy then opened up the meeting for questions. Questions/comments responded to consisted of: need for City's assistance with the parking lot and entrance road to Masters Park; request for portion of sidewalk on New Haw Creek Road; East Asheville library is in the need of a new roof; awareness of what is happening at the Nature Center; small old building on Masters Park property is a safety hazard and needs to be demolished; Municipal Golf Course could be an asset for the City with simple changes; request for more police patrols at Azalea Road soccer field during high use days; need for strong unified stand on why Asheville should keep our water system; urging that Asheville citizens become educated on the issue of the issue of losing our water system and get involved by calling, e-mailing or attending meetings with our legislators on this matter; and request for 62-slide presentation made by the City to the legislators regarding our water system be placed on the City's website.

Economic Development/Civic Center Director Sam Powers invited the public to attend the upcoming Southern Conference Men's & Women's Basketball Tournament at the Kimmel Center and the newly renovated Asheville US Cellular Center on March 2-5, 2012.

Mayor Bellamy and Council members expressed their appreciation for the community involvement.

At 8:00 p.m., Mayor Bellamy adjourned the meeting.

---

CITY CLERK

---

MAYOR