

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Tuesday, September 17, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Gonzalez, Vice Chairman Andreano, Alderman Witte, Alderman Crawford, and Alderman Smith. Others: Alderman Dougherty; Alderman George; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Ring, Director of Public Works; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

1. Roll Call

Alderman Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meetings (Tuesday, August 20, 2019)

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2019 meeting was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

3. Unfinished Business

None

4. New Referrals for Consideration

a. Discussion – Greene Street Entrance of Franchot Park

A map and photo were handed out to the committee, and Alderman Gonzalez explained that on West Greene Street, two houses were torn down and now consist of an empty field adjacent to Franchot Park. He explained that he has asked Mr. Ring for an idea of a cost effective, new entrance to the park. He explained that in this location, you would basically enter the park right next to the pool. He explained that this would be a nice approach for the neighborhood. Mr. Ring is still working on costs and it has not been determined where the funding will come from. Alderman Gonzalez noted that there is a sign to say “Franchot Park” in the plan which matches the aesthetics of the new signs at Lincoln Park.

Alderman Dougherty noted that there is a lot of on street parking and congestion on Greene Street, and asked how this will affect that. Alderman Gonzalez explained that there is no parking on the south side of the street, and “No Parking Here to Corner” on the opposite side. However, this is a very valid point.

Alderman Witte asked if the neighborhood would park in lot if it was built here, and Alderman Gonzalez explained that there are a lot of houses on the street with no off street parking.

Alderman Witte asked about the winter months, and Mr. DiCerbo explained that although the residents cannot park in the lot overnight, they would be able to for snow events and during street sweeping.

Alderman Smith asked if Mr. Ring anticipates using asphalt or gravel for the parking lot, and Mr. Ring explained that he imagines that millings will be used to save costs.

Alderman Andreano explained that the road entering the park off of South Union Street is very bad, and asked if there is any talk about redoing this. Mr. Ring explained that there has been talk about replacing the roadway, but that replacing roadways with houses on them takes priority over a roadway with no houses that only leads into the park.

Alderman Crawford explained that he feels that long term, at the entry that Kelly mentioned a matching sign to match the sign at the new entrance would help tie the park together. He explained that he feels that parks should start being prioritized. Alderman Witte noted that part of the presentation for the City's DRI projects focused on connecting parks.

Alderman Gonzalez explained that this park entrance is a small investment for this neighborhood and how much investment and improvement they need. Alderman George explained that this will be a great connection to the neighborhood and added that it will be a great investment.

Alderman Gonzalez asked that the Council consider what was presented. Alderman Andreano mentioned possibly tapping into Ms. Stephen's resources to find funding, and Alderman Crawford added the possibility of converting the wading pool to a splash pad.

Alderman Witte explained that the new entrance would help give the park an identity, and that the entrance at the other end where the City would like to tear down a house they own would help as well. Alderman Gonzalez noted that Franchot is grossly underutilized.

5. Approval of Committee Reports

None

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.