

## Street Committee Minutes

Honorable Council  
July 14, 2015  
City of Newark, Ohio

The Street Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday July 13, 2015 following a meeting of the Finance Committee. These members were in attendance:

Curtis Johnson, Chair	Alex Rolletta
Dee Hall	Jeremy Blake
Carol Floyd	Doug Marmie
Jeff Rath	

We wish to report:

1. **Resolution No. 15-67** a resolution of intent to vacate a portion of a 16.5 foot wide alley as shown on the plat of the John R. Hughes addition, as recorded in plat book 3 at page 13 of the Licking County plat records, located between properties at 279 and 295 Wilson Street was considered.

**Brian Morehead, City Engineer**- this first request for an alley vacation is a little further along than the others because we received the legal description courtesy of the County Commissioners office so we went ahead and prepared a resolution of intent. I sent out a notice of intent to a list of City Departments and received no objections. The County owns the parcels on Wilson Street that adjacent to this alley and has signed the petition to vacate as well as the third property owner involved. When this occurs there is no publication required therefore no cost for publication is involved for this request.

**Beverly Adzic**- representing the County Commissioners who are requesting your consideration to pass this on to full Council. The property on Wilson Street transferred from the City a little more than a year ago. It is a couple of pole barns and the Commissioners used it last year to store some additional equipment from the highway garage during the winter. This spring and summer we have decided to do more with the site. We have been actively cleaning it up and installed additional fencing around and a gate. We want to use the site as our maintenance site. The alley way that is between the two properties could use some clean up and we will add some additional fencing there to secure the site.

**Motion by Mr. Rath to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rolletta**

**Motion passed by a 7-0 vote.**

2. Vacating an alley at W Main St and N 5<sup>th</sup> St was considered.

**Brian Morehead, City Engineer**-what we are looking for with the next four is as to whether we want to take the next step and create legislation. The alley for consideration here is between 108 and 112 West Main Street. There is actually a building in the alley so the request came from the property owner to clean this up. It seems appropriate that the alley be vacated since it is not actually being used as an alley. The committee was favorable

towards this alley being vacated therefore the City Engineer will prepare a resolution of intent and submit it to the Street Committee at a later time.

3. Vacating an alley on Clinton St was considered.

**Brian Morehead, City Engineer**- this alley is between 301 and 303 Clinton. We didn't receive any comments or opposition to this request. The property owner who made this request owns both of the properties across this alley and he eventually wants to combine it into one property.

The committee was in favor of vacating the alley.

4. Vacating an alley at Schuler St and S Cedar St was considered.

**Brian Morehead, City Engineer**- the address is 357 Schuler St and the request comes to us from the property owner. We did get a couple of responses regarding this request. Our Traffic Engineer pointed out that it is going to give some property owner's limited access considering the detached garages located on some of the parcels.

The Fire Department opposed the alley vacation because they were concerned they would have accessibility issues to the detached structures in the event of a fire.

**Mr. Rath**- asked if the property owners who have the detached garages were opposed to the alley being vacated and why this alley was requested to be vacated.

**Brian Morehead**- stated that when the request came in he forwarded it to the various city departments and a notice has not been sent out to adjacent property owners at this time. He deferred to Director Spurgeon regarding the reason for the request.

**Director Spurgeon**- there is a bit of a civil dispute concerning this alley. For purposes of this body I would recommend that we defer to the merits of the prevention bureau and not close that alley down for fire safety purposes.

The committee was not in favor of vacating this alley.

5. Vacating an alley at Woodlawn Ave and Fairlawn Ave was considered.

**Brian Morehead, City Engineer**- the alley is between 963 and 971 Woodlawn. The property owner at 963 Woodlawn made the request. I received a comment from the Development Department that the vacation would cause an odd discontinuation of the alley network for one block in a four block stretch. They were not in favor of the alley vacation.

The Fire Department said because the alley has structures off of it in the event of a fire to one of the structures they are concerned about accessibility. They are not in favor of vacating the alley either.

**Mrs. Floyd**- it appears that this alley goes straight through so by vacating it, it would then be blocked from going straight through and if the Fire Department opposing it then we shouldn't vacate that portion of the alley.

**Mr. Marmie**- I would say for the benefits of the citizens here that this does not appear to be something Council would support because of the alley continuation issue, Fire Department opposing the vacation and it appears that there is a detached garage that needs access from that alley.

**Diana Corder**, 964 Fairlawn Ave- is one of the property owners requesting that this portion of the alley be vacated. She stated that they were requesting both sides of the alley be vacated. She stated that the alley basically only serves as an access to their driveways. She

stated that the four property owners involved in the vacation are the only ones who will be affected by the accessibility to their detached garages. She also stated they have maintained the alley over the years and that motorist travel too fast down the alley and tear it up.

**Mr. Marmie**- restated to Ms. Corder that Council usually does not go against the recommendations of the Fire Department and that the request for this portion of the alley to be vacated would likely not get a majority vote of support from Council.

**Tanya Green**, resident of Fairlawn Ave- was not in favor of the alley being vacated because she uses it on a regular basis.

**Bob Atkins**, 1014 Woodlawn Ave- was not in favor of vacating the alley.

**Carolyn**, 986 Fairlawn Ave- was not in favor of the alley being vacated.

**Mr. Guthrie**-suggested that Council may want to look into legislation that would make alleys only used for local traffic.

The Committee did not favor vacating this portion of the alley.

Mr. Johnson asked that the Street Department patch and or repair the potholes in the alley due to the comments regarding the condition of the alley by the citizens.

Curtis Johnson, Chair