

MINUTES
REEDLEY STREETSCAPE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
June 6, 2000

The agenda for the Streetscape Maintenance Committee Meeting of June 6, 2000, was duly posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

A regular meeting of the Streetscape Maintenance Committee was held on June 6, 2000, in the Reedley City Hall Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

Members Present: Dale Melville, Richard Bedoian and Jan Minami.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Michael Olmos, Community Development Director; Jeff Viau, Public Works Superintendent; and Kay Pierce, Administrative Assistant.

Others Present: Steve Loeffler.

Dale Melville moved, Jan Minami seconded, to approve the minutes from May 2, 2000. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY

A. Richard Bedoian stated that the new bench just recently installed near Reedley Social Services has two cracked slats. This is a new bench and should be referred back to Kings River Casting for the new slats.

B. Steve Loeffler of Loeffler Landscape Maintenance reported that the maintenance activity is normal for this time of year. They are in a peak irrigation season where watering is set up to come on three times a day. The times are set up for 9 p.m., 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. He reported that the irrigation system is not totally balanced in regards to the decorative pots. Heavier potting soil was placed in the pots so that the pots won't dry out as fast, but he is trying to balance out the pots drying out and trees drying out, which is very hard to do. Some of the pots are under eaves and they get more shade and he realized this winter that even though it's raining, the irrigation is going to have to stay on because some of the pots are underneath awnings such as Reedley Hardware, because they aren't getting any of the rain. So, there might be some puddling in the gutters and the City might get some phone calls because of the puddling, but it can't be helped. The Bank of America corner has very little water going into the pots and the flowers are stressing. The water line is overloaded. Steve will speak to Public Works Superintendent Jeff Viau regarding the lack of water at this location. The tree wells might all have to be turned down so that more water gets into the pots. There was water going into those pots, but now there is none and this is a mystery. The flowers in the planters that have the remaining Magnolia trees are not doing very well because of the roots from the trees.

Jan Minami stated that the magnolia trees that have been pruned in front of the Burgess Hotel look very nice. Steve explained that he was experimenting with these trees. If you bring some sunlight into the center of a tree, the bigger branches will grow faster.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Staff distributed a list of those customers in the streetscape district. Jan Minami asked about people who do things with the City, is there any cross checking on their compliance with other things, referencing a business owner downtown who determined that he didn't need a conditional use permit and he asked the City for consideration, but he hangs banners which are in violation of City sign ordinance.

Dale Melville asked Mike Olmos what the City rules are regarding the A-frame sidewalk signs. Mike Olmos replied that the City did not always allow these sidewalk signs because they are placed in the City right-of-way. However, the City's position has generally been to bother the business people a little as possible and let them do their business. There is no enforcement against the A-frame sidewalk signs as long as they are out of the way and not very big. Dale Melville feels the A-frame sidewalk signs give Reedley a small town charm.

Jan Minami has had several people ask her what is going on with the White Water building, because they are remodeling the building and were do some roofing work on Sunday. Harley Buller is remodeling the building.

Dale Melville asked if interest could be charged on those businesses who paid the streetscape fee late all the time. Richard Bedoian replied that the only recourse the City has for late payers is to take them to small claims court and then the business owner has to pay for all court costs. This is only done if the business is more than 120 days delinquent. Finance Director, Lori Oken, told Mike Olmos that the City does not have any provisions to collect interest on any type of over due payments, other than on agreements made with the City by individuals. The Committee asked if Finance is sending out the notice of possible small claims action at 90 days? Staff will pass this inquiry along to Finance and report back at the next meeting.

B. Mike Olmos distributed the official Tree Removal Policy to the Committee Members.

NEW BUSINESS - None

CITIZEN REMARKS - None

COMMITTEE / STAFF COMMENTS / REPORTS

A. Steve Loeffler asked when the light standards on the Rail Trail would be unveiled? Dale Melville replied that once the City accepts the job from the contractor, the lights will be unveiled. But until that time, the contractor will keep the lights covered because he is liable for any breakage or damage to the lights. It was reported that one of

the new poles has already been stolen from the Rail Trail. It was unbolted, the wires were cut, and the whole light standard was stolen. City Engineer Benelli has since directed the contractor to replace all the bolts with vandal-proof bolts to deter any further thefts.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 a.m. Next meeting will be July 11, 2000.

Richard Bedoian, Chairman
Streetscape Maintenance Committee

ATTEST:

Michael Olmos, Secretary