



Streets and Utilities Committee

MEETING AGENDA

Berryville-Clarke County Government Center

101 Chalmers Court, Second Floor

Main Meeting Room

Regular Session

October 27, 2020

1:30 PM

Item

Page

---

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**3. Unfinished Business**

Complaint Regarding Water Intake	3
Stormwater	5
Transportation-related Improvements in Fairfax Street Area	6
Lighting in the Downtown Area	8

**4. New Business**

Dangerous-tree Ordinance	10
Train Traffic	11
Web-based Parking Meter Payment System	14

**5. Other**

**6. Closed Session**

**7. Adjourn**

Background

Mr. Jay Corbalis attended the September 8, 2020 Town Council meeting and voiced concerns about the Town's water intake. Mr. Corbalis stated that he had visited the property on which the Town's water intake is located and observed several problematic conditions. Mr. Corbalis provided a report detailing his findings to the Town Manager.

Issues (in black) Town staff findings/comments to date (in red)

Mr. Corbalis highlighted concerns about:

Trash –

- Litter/waste on the site
- Need for signage
- Need for bollards and other measures to limit access

Litter is collected from the Town's site as a part of routine maintenance. Signage is posted periodically but is removed. Signage will continue to be posted.

Bollards have been erected several times but were destroyed or removed. It is important to note that putting a chain across the Town's property does little to limit access to the area in question. The Town is working with the adjacent property owner to permit installation of a bollard on their property. This too, while better than just placing a chain across the Town's frontage, will only go so far in limiting access.

Vent (intake pit) -

Concern about pumps not having sufficient ventilation / a vacuum created at existing "cap"

The current configuration has been in place for at least 25 years. Seemingly, the original configuration was a curved vent pipe. Staff is exploring changing the configuration of the vent. Staff was at the location when two river pumps were operating and no vacuum was detected.

Stairs (below intake pit) -

Portion of stairs undermined  
Handrails gone

One corner of the stair is starting to be undermined but the stair is stable. Staff will shore up the area in question.

Staff is of the opinion that stairs are not part of the original design and a handrail on the intake structure would not long survive flood conditions.

Erosion/Scour (around structure)

Erosion on downstream side of structure  
Concern that structure is being undermined

Staff has examined this matter and sees no issue regarding undermining the intake structure; however, placement of rip rap on the sides of the intake is advisable for the long-term maintenance of facility. Permission has been sought to permit installation of rip rap along the sides of the intake structure.

Trash rack

Allowing leaves etc. in and increasing creation of chlorination by-products

Staff will examine the rack as river conditions permit.  
Mr. Tyrrell will brief the Committee on concerns about debris in the river water and how it affects the level of chlorination by-products.

Isolation valve

Isolation valve not being exercised

The improvement is not what was described in the report. Staff will not discuss the function and configuration of improvements that are a part of this infrastructure in open session.

Electrical Panel

Growth around disconnects, signage insufficient, support structure needs painting

Growth was pruned but generally some level of camouflage of the improvement is preferred.  
New signage has been installed.

Mr. Tyrrell will be present at the meeting to address any concerns the Committee has.

History

In 2018, from May through December, the Town of Berryville received 54.4 inches of rain. The average rainfall for this same period is 26.5 inches. In the first half of 2019, the above-average rain continued with 27.5 inches of rain having fallen. During this period, residents in several areas of Town experienced storm water ponding on their properties and asked the Town Council to address the matter. Accordingly, the Town Council appropriated funds in the FY2019 Budget to complete two drainage related preliminary engineering reports.

The preliminary engineering reports (Dorsey/Treadwell Area and Ashby/Archer Courts drainage area) were completed in August of 2019. The estimated budget for recommended improvements totaled approximately \$240,000.

It was recommended that, prior to making a decision on whether to proceed with any or all of the drainage projects referenced above, the main stem of Town Run be examined.

In the FY2020 Budget the Town Council appropriated funds to complete a preliminary engineering report on Town Run.

The Council also appropriated funds to complete a preliminary engineering report and design for stormwater management improvements on a portion of Virginia Avenue.

At the last Committee meeting the Town's engineer presented a draft of the Virginia Avenue design.

Recent Developments

The Town Run preliminary engineer report is expected to be completed by the end of October. The Town's engineer will be present at the meeting to provide an update on this matter.

Attachments

- none

Recommendation

Review this matter with the Town's engineer and staff to determine what should be the next steps in this process (including budgeting for work).

### History

#### *East Fairfax Street*

East Fairfax Street has been constructed in a piecemeal fashion.

The street section in Battletown Townhouse subdivision (from Price's Lane to Page Street) was developed in the 1970's. The area was annexed in 1989. This section does not have sidewalks.

The street section from Page Street to Fairfax Street was developed in the 1980's. The area was annexed in 1989. This section was improved in the 2000's as a part of the work on the Darbybrook development. Sidewalks were constructed on one side of this street section as a part of the Darbybrook work.

The street section from North Church Street to Price's Lane is being constructed as a part of the Fellowship Square subdivision. This section will have sidewalks on both sides of the street.

#### *West Fairfax*

West Fairfax (from North Buckmarsh Street to North Church Street) was developed in the 1950's and 60's. The area was annexed in 1989. This section does not have sidewalks.

In the mid 2000's as a part of discussions about the development of the Fellowship Square property, the Town was in discussions to receive proffers that would have provided a good portion of a match (Revenue Sharing) for improvements to this street section (discussions at time included the following improvements and would have required acquisition of at least 12' of ROW along much of the road and a larger acquisition near the intersection with North Buckmarsh Street): curb and gutter on both sides, sidewalk on one side (north), and a turn lane at the intersection with North Buckmarsh Street.

That development effort failed and no such proffer agreement was reached.

Prior to submission of the current Fellowship Square development plan, the Commonwealth made significant changes to the laws governing proffers that, for all intents and purposes, eliminated them as a tool that could be used in a situation such as this.

In September staff reviewed the following with the Committee:

- Fairfax Street between North Church Street and Prices Lane is under construction.

- Schematic design and cost estimates (\$41,500) for construction of a sidewalk along the south side of East Fairfax from Price's Lane and Page Street.
- The status of review for improvements to West Fairfax and the cost of a needed survey/base mapping.

#### Current Activity

Staff is working with the Town's engineer to:

- Determine costs of a schematic design and cost estimate for improvements to West Fairfax Street.
- Determine the costs of schematic design and cost estimates for pedestrian improvements along the east side of North Buckmarsh Street from Fairfax Street to Mosby Boulevard.

#### Attachments

- none

#### Recommendation

Review this matter with staff to determine what should be the next steps in this regard.

## Town Council Streets and Utilities Committee Agenda Item Report Summary

October 27, 2020

### Item Title

Street Light Pilot Program Follow-up

### Prepared By

Christy Dunkle

---

### Background/History/General Information

Town Council has discussed this matter earlier in the year. A downtown lighting pilot program, conducted by Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) in January of 2020, modified three lights on East Main Street and Hogan's Alley with varying wattage and arm length. A survey was posted on the Town's web site requesting input from residents with the results presented to Town Council in March of this year. Based on survey input, the 10' arm with 70-watt light emitting diode (LED) was deemed the most suitable in this location. Staff identified an additional 19 existing street lights on Main Street, Buckmarsh Street, and Crow Street that should be considered for this modification.

### Findings/Current Activity

The original cost estimate, made in June of this year, was \$5,875.00. Staff contacted Jeff Hinson, REC Director of Member Services & Community Relations in the Blue Ridge District, who updated the cost to \$6,161.00.

### Financial Considerations

Mr. Hinson has estimated that the cost to modify the lighting identified in downtown Berryville to a 10' arm with a 70W LED as identified by staff and approved by Town Council at the May meeting will be \$6,161.00.

### Schedule/Deadlines

In order to implement the proposed modifications, staff is recommending approving the amount identified below from Rappahannock Electric Cooperative staff.

### Other Considerations

N/A

**Recommendation**

Discuss at the Committee meeting and request funding for future lighting modifications in the amount of \$6,161.00 be considered for the next budget cycle.

Background

The Chair of the Streets and Utilities Committee wants to review options available to the Town to address trees on private property that have been determined to be a danger to neighbors or the public in general. Currently, the Town advises property owners of the concern and encourages them to abate the problem, but has no enforcement authority in this regard.

Discussion

Chair Harrison want to examine:

- Does the enabling legislation exist for the Town to enact an ordinance in this regard?
- If the Town has authority to enact such an ordinance, then what would be included in such an ordinance to protect the public and respect private property rights?
- If the Town does not have the authority to enact such an ordinance, then does the Town want to discuss this matter with members of the Virginia General Assembly to determine whether enabling legislation can be adopted?

Background

The Chair of the Streets and Utilities Committee has observed several instances in which the train signal crossing arms on Main and Josephine Streets are deployed for extended periods of time. She is concerned about the frequency of these instances and how these extended street closures could hinder police, fire, and EMS response time.

The Town has contacted Norfolk and Southern about what it believes is an increase in these lengthy signal arm deployments. A copy of the most recent correspondence in this regard is attached. Also attached is a record of extended crossing blockages over the past two years.

Discussion

Chair Harrison wants to examine:

- what can be done to limit these lengthy signal arm deployments.
- strategies/procedures to provide first responders with the information that they need to avoid undue delay during lengthy signal arm deployments.

Chief White will be in attendance to provide input as needed.

Attachments

- Letter from Chief White to N&S dated September 3, 2019
- List of RR Crossing blockages from 1/19 to 10/23/20



## Berryville Police Department

101 Chalmers Ct., Suite A, Berryville, Virginia 22611

[policeadmin@berryvilleva.gov](mailto:policeadmin@berryvilleva.gov)

(540) 955-3863 (540) 955-0207 (Fax)

W. Neal White – Chief of Police

September 3, 2019

Norfolk & Southern Railroad  
1200 Peachtree St. NE  
Atlanta, GA 30309

Via E-mail

RE: Service Interruption

Safety and Compliance Division,

On August 28, 2019 the Town of Berryville located in Clarke County Virginia experienced a substantial service interruption at the grade crossing located on East Main Street. A train blocking the intersection was reported close to 10:00 am and the crossing remained blocked until 12:30 pm. The two and a half hour interruption was apparently caused when a train heading north was diverted to a siding in order to allow a southbound train to pass. Unfortunately, the southbound train experienced some malfunction which required the northbound train to remain on the siding for an extended period of time. The other issue dealt with the length of the northbound train as it was far too long for the siding and extended beyond the grade crossing.

This interruption caused serious traffic issues and delays on the principle east/west roadway within our town. The Town of Berryville was required to deploy a majority of our limited law enforcement resources to detour traffic, and due to the extended length of the interruption the Public Works Department along with the Virginia Department of Transportation were called upon to establish a wider range of detour routes. On the periphery, the police department and emergency dispatch center also had to field numerous calls about the interruption as well as concerns that there had been a derailment and hazardous materials spill.

I would request that this incident be reviewed with the hope that future interruptions similar to this can be avoided. Hopefully there are available solutions that can be explored that balance the transportation needs of both Norfolk & Southern Corporation as well as the Town of Berryville. I would also appreciate to be contacted concerning your findings and possible future solutions.

Respectfully,

W. Neal White  
Chief of Police

Railroad Crossing Blockages  
January 2019 - October 2020

Date	Start	End	Total	# Officers	Crossing
1/4/2019	7:23	8:24	61	1	Josephine
1/18/2019	14:56	15:41	45	2	Josephine & Main
1/31/2019	1:25	1:59	34	1	Main
1/31/2019	9:31	9:41	10	1	Main
4/27/2019	21:33	21:45	12	1	Josephine
6/28/2019	10:08	10:47	39	2	Main
7/19/2019	19:33	20:23	50	2	Main
8/12/2019	15:12	15:37	25	1	Main
8/28/2019	10:29	12:33	124	2	Main
9/10/2019	17:05	17:32	27	1	Main
10/7/2019	16:08	16:17	9	1	Main
10/9/2019	19:10	19:14	4	1	Main
10/24/2019	12:06	12:31	25	1	Main
11/7/2019	14:49	15:23	34	1	Main
12/14/2019	18:06	19:00	54	2	Main
1/10/2020	17:36	18:31	57	2	Main
2/29/2020	23:02	2:03	181	2	Main
3/7/2020	9:11	11:06	115	2	Main
3/7/2020	16:50	17:51	61	1	Main
3/11/2020	14:00	14:08	8	1	Main
3/23/2020	15:12	15:58	46	2	Main
4/5/2020	10:55	12:38	103	1	Josephine & Main
4/13/2020	14:57	16:00	63	1	Main
4/22/2020	16:14	17:25	71	1	Main
4/23/2020	13:26	14:46	80	1	Main
5/16/2020	8:18	9:48	90	1	Josephine
5/20/2020	17:12	17:41	29	1	Main
6/1/2020	13:02	13:27	25	1	Main
6/8/2020	7:16	7:22	6	1	Main
7/7/2020	18:49	19:22	33	1	Main
7/9/2020	18:11	18:14	3	1	Main
7/12/2020	11:11	11:16	5	1	Main
7/27/2020	7:15	8:19	64	1	Josephine
8/10/2020	14:54	15:34	40	1	Main
8/13/2020	10:06	10:30	24	1	Main
9/19/2020	15:25	15:52	27	1	Main
10/12/2020	14:02	14:55	53	1	Main

Total Incidents 37      Total Mln      1737  
(28h 57m)

Background

The Chair of the Streets and Utilities Committee wants to examine what options are available to the Town for web-based parking meter payments.

Discussion

Chair Harrison wants to examine:

- what options are available for web-based parking meter payment?
- which of those options will work well in Berryville?
- what would be the costs associated (for Town and customers) with a workable web-based parking meter payment application?

Chief White will be in attendance to provide input as needed.