

Fairfield Town Council
Public Hearing to Obtain Public Comments on TAP Grant Applications for Phase 2 Sidewalk Project
Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Members present: Mayor Loren Tacke; Council Members: Ron Dauwalder, Carmen Staigmiller, Scott Hoyt and Chuck Brown; Public Works, Chuck Dale; and Clerk/Treasurer, Tammy Comer.

Others present: Jeremiah Theys, Great West Engineering; and Vonnie Jacobsen and Austin Shaw, Choteau Acantha.

Community Members present: Tasha Johnson, Jennifer Gruber, Opie Idland, Mike Johnson, Mitchell Peters, Cheryl Woods, April Palmer, Jennifer Barnett, Kyle Woods, and Bob Loss.

Public hearing opened with the pledge of allegiance at 6:15 pm by Mayor Tacke.

Jeremiah Theys stated that phase one of the sidewalk project was complete and explained the details of phase two of the sidewalk project. Council had approved phase two which included replacement of bad sidewalk on 7th Street North between 1st and 2nd Avenue North, new sidewalk, curb and gutter on 7th Street North from 3rd Avenue North to 4th Avenue North, new sidewalk, curb and gutter to complete sidewalk around the park and on 5th Street North at 7 Electric, and new sidewalk, curb and gutter on Central Avenue between 5th and 6th Streets. ADA ramps will be installed as shown in the map.

Mr. Theys stated that Fairfield was unsuccessful in obtaining grant funding during the last round of TA grant applications, missing the cut off by one place. Although unsuccessful in receiving grant funding, the town continued moving forward and installed sidewalk, curb and gutter at the northwest corner of the school and replaced some bad sidewalk on central in front of Casino Jacks, and took out some old sidewalk at the park with general funds. He complimented the Council on moving forward with the sidewalks even without grant funding. It showed the Council's dedication to improving sidewalks throughout town.

Mr. Theys said phase two of the sidewalk project was estimated at approximately \$475,000. Of that, the town would need to match 13.42 % which would be approximately \$63,800. He added that applications are due by April 12th and community support is much needed for these projects.

Mike Johnson, who lives east of the school and just outside the town limits but does own property in town said phase one of the sidewalk project was awesome! He and his wife walk around town quite a bit and would love to see phase two of the sidewalk project move forward. Mr. Johnson added that safety and ADA compliance are extremely important for those people who walk around town. He thanked council for their efforts to keep moving forward to improve the sidewalks in town. Mr. Johnson left the public hearing at 6:30 pm.

Mr. Theys said he was available for any questions and/or concerns.

With no further discussion, Mayor Tacke closed the sidewalk improvements phase 2 public hearing at 6:32 pm.

Loren B. Tacke, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tammy L. Comer, Clerk/Treasurer