

COMMISSION WORKSHOP



Mayor Woods called the workshop to order regarding the Florida Department of Transportation Railroad Overpass location Customer Utility Deposits; present were Commissioner Carolyn Spooner, Commissioner Tommy Chastain, Commissioner Danny Nugent, Commissioner Wilbur Waters, City Clerk Ricky Thompson, City Attorney Dan Sikes.

The recording picked up with Mr. Steve Futch reporting a meeting was held May 11, 2015 with about 18 people; City Manager Tom Ernharth attended and brought the maps for use.

After a couple of hours discussion the group decided they would like to see the overpass be located at the 144th Street option. There would be no residential impact except the impact to RJ Coreman, commercial property.

It was also decided to take this issue on to the higher level with DOT, Mr. Parks in Lake City and it was suggested to also have our legislatures here.

Richard Torode, 303 S. Cherry Street, Starke; our property is one of the properties that may be affected by the realignment of the downtown, if the State Road 100 is chosen.

That route is the only route that would do all of the things the overpass needs to do. If Market Road or the 144th Street options are used, depending which directions you are coming from the county you may still not be able to get to the hospital.

Dale Woodruff, 22055 NW 70th Avenue; he and his wife are working on \$100,000 of property redo's in Starke. They support the alternate route but remove some of those rental properties they have put considerable amount of money into.

It is the most logical location to accomplish the goals that needs to be done to cut the time of the travel to the hospital, which is the sole purpose of the overpass.

He didn't want the citizen to get the scare tactic from these Eminent Domain Attorneys. Property owners that will be affected will be paid more than fair market value, loss of time, moving expenses.

Ms. Markleyann Johns Cash, 412 E South Street; She doesn't agree with the option D. There are neighbors sitting here that homes will be taken and my home has been at this location since 1889. It isn't fair to disrupt the neighborhood and it isn't the end all be all for Starke; this will kill Starke.

If they use the 144th Street option there would be no impact and accomplish the same thing.

Jenny Harper, 2213 SE 150th Street; her property is not affected and she agrees that 144th Street is the best option for the overpass.

Lex Sanders, 305 N Walnut Street; he is full support of the 144th Street route, which should be the least costly of all the options to state, with the least impact to the downtown and the residence.

James Eison, 712 S. Cherry Street; he just purchased the home two months ago and he understand the necessity of the overpass and it is something that is needed. He feels the decision that is made should have the least impact on homes and families which is the 144th Street option.

Mayor Woods asked if there were any additional comments from the audience. Hearing none he asked for commissioner comments.

Mayor Woods commented this item was on the regular meeting agenda for a motion. He ask if the commission would like to table the action to the next meeting?

Commissioner Waters would like some additional time to review all the comments and options so he can make the best possible decision.

Commissioner Nugent agreed to table the item.

Commissioner Spooner has no problem tabling the item but would like additional discussion.

Commissioner Chastain agreed to table. He also gave a comment that to put the overpass on State Route 100 would destroy Starke's traffic pattern.

Mayor Woods stated they will discuss in the regular meeting if they need to hold another workshop and thanked everyone for attending the workshop and giving their input.

Commissioner Spooner commented the purpose of asking for the overpass was to be expeditious to get to the emergency facilities, getting to the hospital. State Route 100 is the expedite route to the hospital and 3 to 4 minutes can make a difference to life and death.

Some of the businesses were concerned of access but there will be service road.

This will not stop people from coming downtown but it will make it safer.

Mayor Woods asked if anything additional needed to come before the workshop.
Hearing none he closed the workshop.

Travis V. Woods, Mayor
Commissioner Tommy Chastain
Commissioner Daniel Nugent
Commissioner Carolyn B. Spooner
Commissioner Wilbur L. Waters

Attest: _____
Ricky Thompson, City Clerk