



CITY OF LE SUEUR
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Jasper Kruggel, City Administrator
SUBJECT: Kolden Funeral Home and United Methodist Church Request
DATE: For the City Council Meeting of Monday, January 24, 2022

PURPOSE

Consider a request from Kolden Funeral Home and the United Methodist Church for the City to maintain property adjacent to public right-of-way.

SUMMARY

Staff has been working with representatives from Kolden Funeral Home and the United Methodist Church in Le Sueur to discuss and find resolution for an area of pavement that the City has been providing snow removal on for quite some time.

Through an internal exercise that evaluated properties in City that were being maintained by city staff but are not designated as right-of-way or owned by the city, the pavement area north of Turril Street, directly between Kolden Funeral Home and the United Methodist Church as identified as one of these areas and maintenance was determined to cease. As a note, there are no other areas in the City that fall into this category.

Through conversations with representatives from Kolden Funeral Home and the United Methodist Church, statements were made that the City has been maintaining this area since the 1960's, or for "over 60 years". Staff has confirmed that this area has been provided snow removal services and periodic pothole repairs for at least 25 years.

Through discussions with Kolden Funeral Home and the United Methodist Church, it was also brought to the City's attention that during events at Jo Eagle Anderson Park, patrons of the park tend to park on United Methodist Church property, both north of the pine trees on the south end of Jo Eagle Anderson Park, and in the United Methodist Church parking lot during larger events.

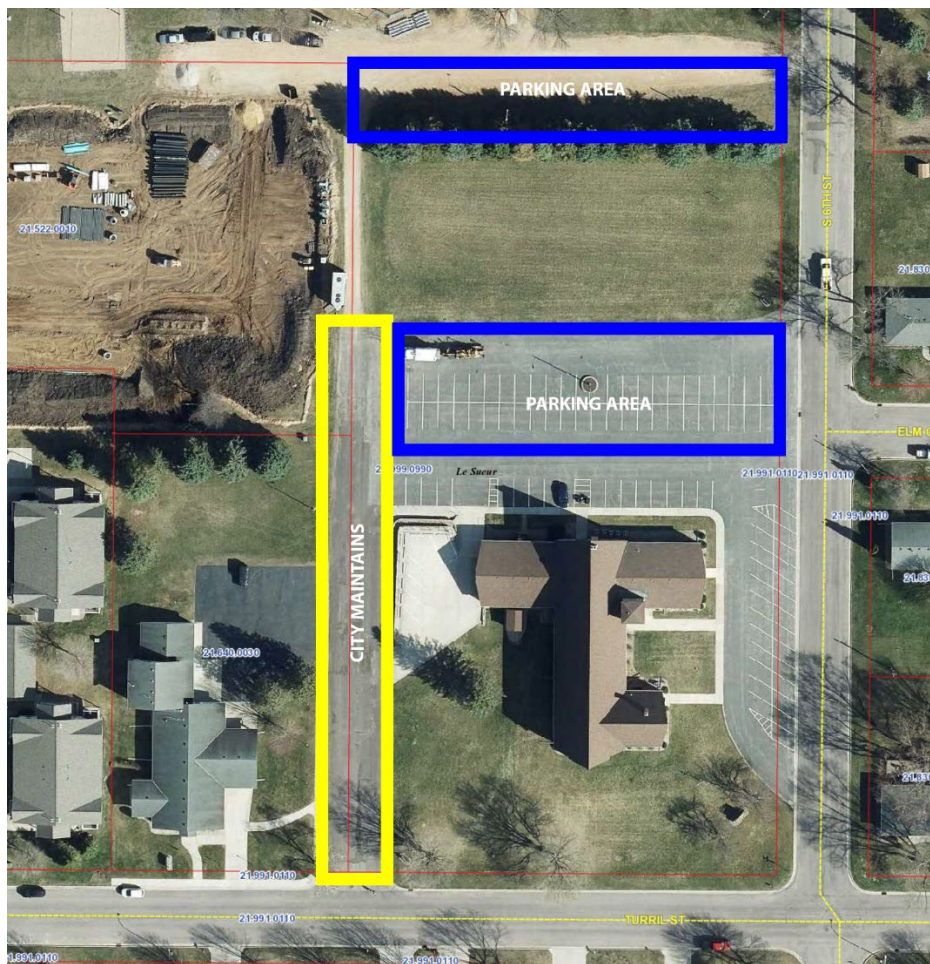
Staff is proposing the following terms to address the request to maintain the paved area in question:

- City staff will remove snow in the area outlined by a yellow box in the figure below
- City staff will periodically fill potholes in the areas outlined by a yellow box in the figure below
- The United Methodist Church will allow patrons of Jo Eagle Anderson Park to use historically used areas for parking, outlined by a blue box in the figure below.

- City staff will not provide any snow removal or periodic pothole maintenance in areas outside of the yellow box in the figure below.
- Any future maintenance beyond the filling of potholes or snow removal must be discussed with the property owners and City Council before any work is completed. This discussion could result in the dedication of right-of-way initiated by the property owners, a cost share agreement between the property owners and the City, or some other formal agreement that determines who is responsible for what costs in this area.

The request letter from representatives of Kolden Funeral Home and the United Methodist Church has been attached to this agenda item.

If the City Council is agreeable to these terms, staff will consult legal counsel to draft a formal agreement based on the basic terms described above and execute the agreement.



ACTION REQUESTED

Staff is requesting authorization to have legal counsel draft an agreement with the basic terms described in this staff memo and execute that agreement between Kolden Funeral Home, United Methodist Church, and the City of Le Sueur.



FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES

P.O. Box 81
LeSueur, MN 56058
(507) 665-2226

P.O. Box 314
Arlington, MN 55307
(507) 964-2201

219 North Willow Street
Belle Plaine, MN 56011
(952) 873-6227

koldenfuneralhome.com

January 17, 2021

TO: City Administrator Krugel, Mayor Kirby
and LeSueur City Council Members:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the ownership of the Kolden Funeral Home, the Leadership Council and Pastor of the United Methodist Church in LeSueur.

City Administrator Krugel recently informed us that the road between the funeral home and the church is not a plotted or a dedicated city street. The implication is the City of LeSueur does not have an obligation to maintain the street as in snow plowing and road repair.

I (Darrell Kolden) and old time members of the United Methodist Church were not aware of this situation. The road has been maintained by the City for over 60 years. The street is important for entering and egress to the funeral home and the church; as well as participants and guests of the City owned ball park/volleyball court in the Jo Eagle Anderson park. The church, funeral home and said street have been staging areas for the Giant Days Parade; as well as National Night out.

We would respectfully ask; if the city does not want to make this a city street, you would maintain the street as the 60 + year precedent has set.

Respectfully,

Darrell Kolden

Kolden Funeral Home

Rev. Terri Horn

Pastor LeSueur UMC

Greg Schwarz

Chairman of Leadership