TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MINUTES JULY 19, 2006 FINAL

A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, July 19, 2006 in the Lower Level Conference Room at Troy City Hall. Pete Ziegenfelder called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: Sara Binkowski
Jan Hubbell
Richard Kilmer
Pete Ziegenfelder
Prithvi Murthy, Student Rep.

ABSENT: John Diefenbaker
Ted Halsey
Gordon Schepke

Also present: Doris Fenner, 405 E. Lovell
Brian Dickerson, 416 E. Lovell
Beth Duncan, 6730 Westaway
Cheryl Shuwayhat, 392 E. Lovell
Toby Buechner, 2411 Hampton
Ron Trendler, 313 E. Lovell
Rob, Annabelle, & Gabriella Tyrrell, 6775 Montclair
and: John Abraham, Traffic Engineer
Sgt. Dan Daniel, Traffic Safety Division, Troy Police Dept.

Resolution to Excuse Absent Members

RESOLUTION #2006-07-55
Moved by Hubbell
Seconded by Kilmer

To excuse the absent members.

YES: All-4
NO: None
ABSENT: 3
MOTION CARRIED

2. Minutes – June 21, 2006

RESOLUTION #2006-07-56
Moved by Hubbell
Seconded by Binkowski

To approve the June 21, 2006 minutes as printed.

YES: All-4
NO: None
ABSENT: 3
MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 1600 West Maple

Troy Gymnastics requests a waiver for the sidewalk at 1600 West Maple. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with a change of ownership and occupancy. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an "Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks."

Petitioner states that his property backs on Blaney and there are no other sidewalks on either side of his property. There are trees, a metal fence, brush, and a drainage ditch along Blaney, and a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing. The entrance to the business is in the front of the building on Maple.

RESOLUTION #2006-07-57
Moved by Hubbell
Seconded by Binkowski

1. WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8(D) allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

   WHEREAS, Troy Gymnastics has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalk on the property because there are no other sidewalks in the area; and

   WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

   a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and

   b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and

   c. The construction of a new sidewalk on the property line at the back of the property would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

   NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a two-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 1600 West Maple, which is owned by Toby Buechner.

YES: All-4
NO: None
ABSENT: 3
MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR BUSINESS

4. Request Installation of 3-way STOP signs at East Lovell and Westaway

Sheryl Shuwayhat, 392 East Lovell, requests 3-way STOP signs at East Lovell and Westaway. Ms. Shuwayhat reports high speeds on Lovell and is concerned for her kids and other kids on the street. She feels another STOP sign will break up the speed of the motorists between Donaldson and Montclair.

At present there is a STOP sign on Westaway at Lovell, assigning right of way to Lovell traffic at the 3-way intersection. For converting this intersection to an all-way STOP controlled intersection, one of the following conditions should be satisfied as per the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

- *Where traffic signals are warranted and urgently needed, the multi-way STOP is an interim measure that can be installed quickly to control traffic while arrangements are being made for traffic signal installation.*

- *An accident problem as indicated by five or more reported accidents of the type susceptible to correction by a multi-way STOP during a 12-month period. Such accidents include right and left turn collisions.*

- *Minimum Traffic Volume - The total vehicular volume entering the intersection from all approaches must average at least 500 vehicles per hour for any eight hours of an average day.*

None of the warrants for an ALL-WAY STOP controlled intersection have been met for this intersection. It has been documented by different agencies that unwarranted STOP signs normally result in high violation rates and also promote general loss of credibility of all traffic control signs.

Traffic volumes on both streets are relatively low. Traffic volume studies show that E. Lovell carries around 511 vehicles in a day at Westaway, and Westaway carries around 140 vehicles a day. Traffic volumes on Troy residential streets range between 300 and 5000 vehicles per day.

Traffic crash analysis also shows no reported crashes at the intersection in the past three years. Field observations show that there are no major sight obstructions at the intersection and no observed conflicts in who has the right of way, due to the STOP sign on Westaway.

Ms. Shuwayhat reported that there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood, and kids can't safely bike or skateboard in the street because of speeding cars. She appreciates the police presence and the radar trailer in the area, but reports that drivers start speeding again as soon as the officers leave. She also reported that due to lack of sidewalks, kids have no safe place to walk and play.

Ms. Hubbell commented that if the neighbors are truly concerned about safety of the children, they should consider petitioning for sidewalks on E. Lovell.

Beth Duncan, 6703 Westaway, reports seeing a lot of speeding cars and close calls with her kids. She has also seen cars passing stopped school buses.

Rob Trendler lives at 313 Lovell, about 300 feet from the intersection. He said he also appreciates police in the neighborhood, but when the officers leave the drivers start speeding again. He reports that many other roads in Troy with shorter spans between intersections have STOP signs, and Lovell needs STOP signs for pedestrian safety.

Rob Tyrrell, 6775 Montclair, reiterated that there is too much speeding and the street is dangerous for kids. He also reports that there was a recent crash at the intersection.

Jan Hubbell pointed out that STOP signs have been shown to be ineffective in decreasing speeds, and that past studies in Troy have shown that the speeders are often residents of the areas in question. Stop signs can also give children and pedestrians a false sense of security, as many motorists will not stop, but will roll through the intersection.

Doris Fenner lives at 405 E. Lovell, and her driveway is on Westaway. She stated that there are YIELD signs on Lovell one block east of Westaway and ALL-WAY STOPS at Donaldson, one block west. She is opposed to installation of more traffic control signs. She feels drivers will ignore the STOP signs, particularly since there are signs one block west and one block east of Westaway. She is aware of a particular driver at a nearby house who squeals his tires and speeds on a regular basis.

Brian Dickerson, 446 E. Lovell, also spoke in favor of additional STOP signs.

Sgt. Daniel said the radar trailer was at Lovell and Westaway from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and only 417 cars went through the intersection in that 12-hour period. The average speed was 23.9, the maximum was 38, and the minimum was 10 mph. The 85th percentile speed was 28 mph. The largest volume was during the 4-6 pm rush hour. The police have worked in the area with laser radar guns and found the speeds were not excessive.

Ms. Binkowski suggested some traffic calming measures could be tried, such as speed humps. Dr. Abraham mentioned the Neighborhood Traffic Harmonization

program and volunteered to sit with residents and check speeds with the radar gun. Volunteers could record license plate numbers of speeders so the Chief of Police can send out warning letters, as the first phase of the NTH program.

RESOLUTION #2006-07-58
Moved by Hubbell
Seconded by Binkowski

Recommend no changes on East Lovell at Westaway.

YES: All-4
NO: None
ABSENT: 3
MOTION CARRIED

5. **Request for a STOP Sign on Songbird at Meadowlark**

Paul Jabra requests installation of a STOP sign on Songbird at Meadowlark. He reports that drivers speed on Songbird and whip around the corner. He is concerned that many young drivers in the neighborhood do not know that Songbird traffic has to yield to Meadowlark traffic.

This is a closed subdivision with very low traffic volume, and only 12 residences total. Normally, low volume intersections are not signed, particularly T intersections where it is basic driver knowledge that the leg of the T (Songbird) has to yield to Meadowlark. Traffic volume studies show that Songbird carries around 140 vehicles a day and Meadowlark carries around 120 vehicles in a day. Meadowlark is a dead end on both the north and south sides.

There were no reported crashes at this intersection since the subdivision was built a few years ago.

For a STOP sign to be installed, one of the following conditions should be satisfied as per the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

- *Intersection of a less important road with a main road, where application of a normal right of way rule is disruptive to capacity on the main road.*
- *Street entering a through highway or street.*
- *Unsignalized intersection in a signalized area.*
- *Other intersections with a combination of high speed, restricted view, and serious accident record.*

None of the warrants for a STOP sign have been met for this intersection. It has been documented by different agencies that unwarranted STOP signs normally

result in high violation rates and also promote general loss of credibility of all traffic control signs.

No one attended the meeting to address the committee, and the members saw no need for a STOP sign at this location.

RESOLUTION #2006-07-59
Moved by Hubbell
Seconded by Binkowski

Recommend no changes on Songbird at Meadowlark.

YES: All-4
NO: None
ABSENT: 3
MOTION CARRIED

6. Visitors' Time

No one wished to address the committee.

7. Other Business

Mr. Ziegenfelder said he would be absent from the September meeting.

Mr. Kilmer requested "NO OUTLET" signs on Tacoma and Olympia. Dr. Abraham will request same from the Department of Public Works.

RESOLUTION #2006-07-60
Moved by Hubbell
Seconded by Kilmer

To cancel the August Traffic Committee meeting.

YES: All-4
NO: None
ABSENT: 3
MOTION CARRIED

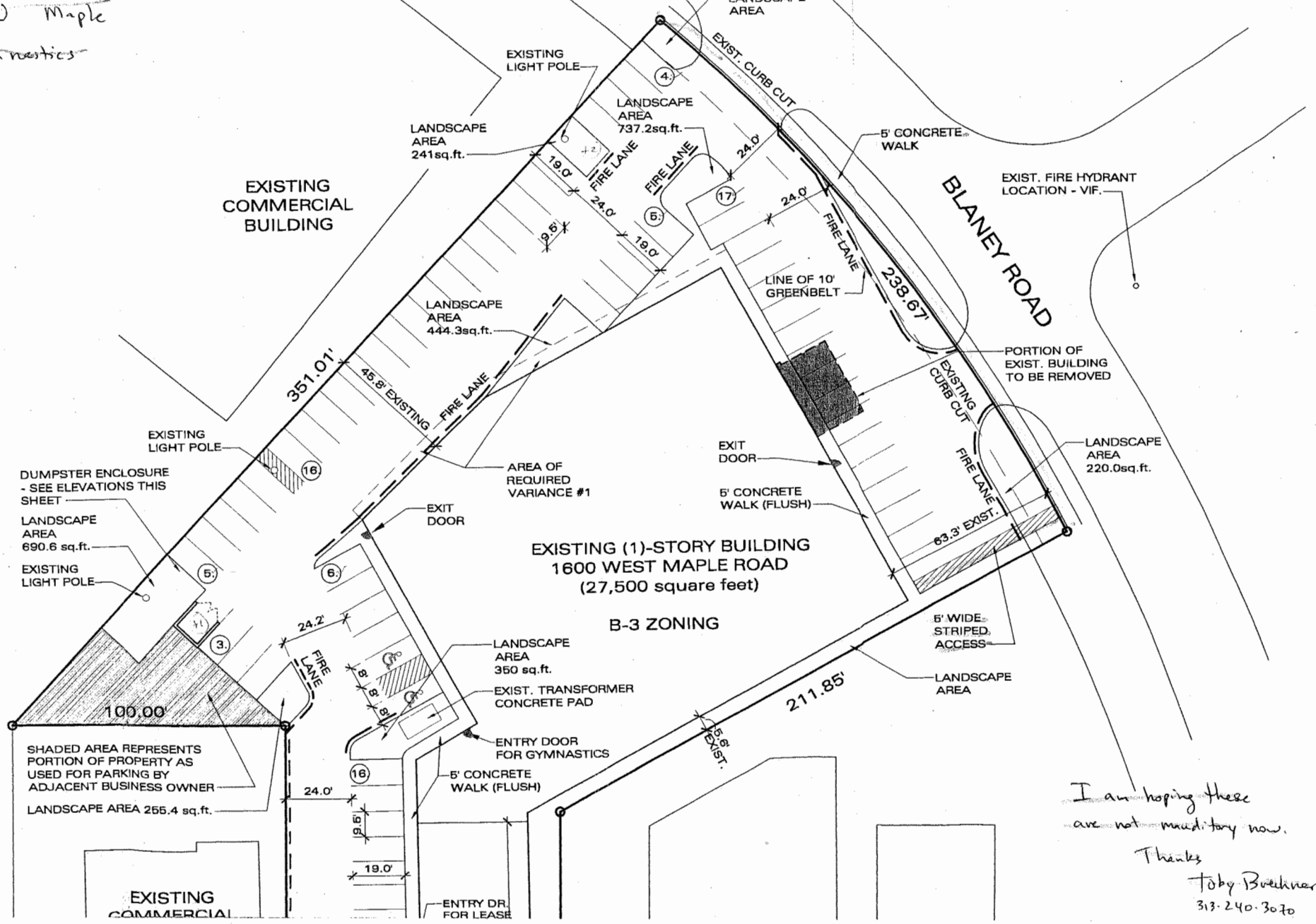
8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2006.

Pete Ziegenfelder, Chairperson

Laurel Nottage, Recording Secretary

1600 W Maple
Troy Gymnastics



I am hoping these are not mandatory now.
Thanks
Toby Buckner
313-240-3070

ITEM 3

Geographical Information Systems Online

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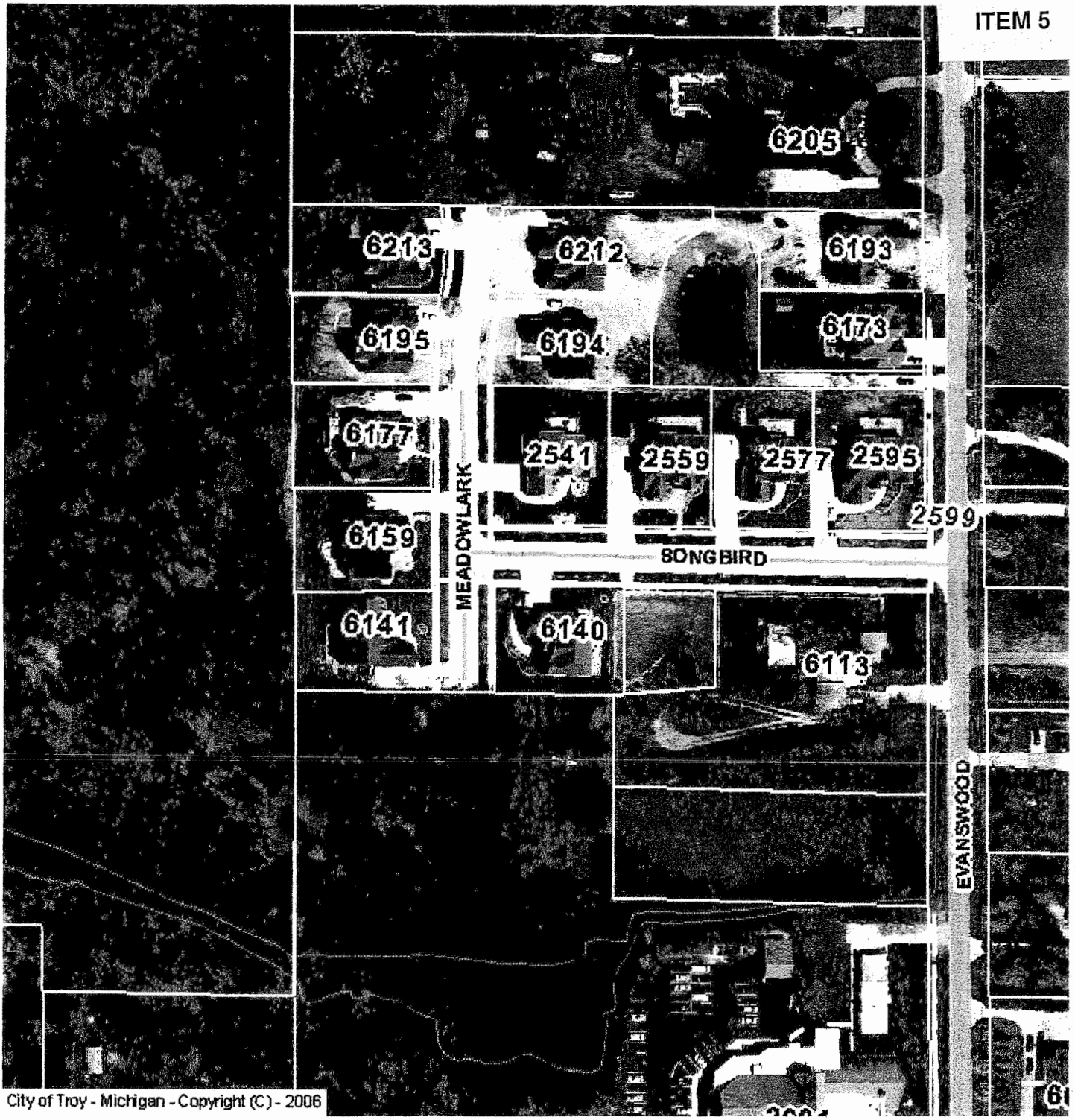
Note: The information provided by this application has been compiled from recorded deeds, plats, tax maps, surveys, and other public records and data. It is not a legally recorded map survey. Users of this data are hereby notified that the source information represented should be consulted for verification.

ITEM 5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EVANSWOOD
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