

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

March 7, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ireland called the Public Works Committee Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Village Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were Trustees Ireland, Blohm, Schiestel and Colletti. Also present at roll call were Superintendent of Public Works Jon Huizinga, Baxter and Woodman representative Michael Plant, Village President Robert Nunamaker and Secretary Hammer.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 7, 2013 MINUTES

Trustee Schiestel made a motion to approve the February 7, 2013 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Colletti and approved by a roll call vote of four yes votes.

VISITOR/RESIDENTS COMMENTS

~ Carol Bruhn stated that she has been a resident for 44 years, is retired, lives on a fixed income and can not afford to pave her circular driveway. She asked that the board consider this when discussing the topic of requiring homeowners with a gravel driveway to pave their driveways.

~ Doug Landfear (112 Beachway) asked the committee to explain the reasoning behind considering having all gravel driveways be paved. He stated that he has 225 feet of gravel driveway.

~ Sandra Adams asked, "How many gravel driveways exist in Fox River Grove?", "What was the average age of the homeowner with a gravel driveway?", "What was the average length of residence of the homeowner with a gravel driveway?", "Will the village subsidize any of the cost to pave the gravel driveways?"

~ Andrew Gasser (112 Grove) stated that at least 24 foreclosures are in progress in Fox River Grove at the current time and that he was concerned that people on a fixed income would have difficulty affording to pave their gravel driveways.

~ Kurt Bierbaum (105 Grace) stated that his driveway is 95 feet long, his house was built in the 1930s and that paving his driveway would ruin the look of his property.

~ Tom Anderson (117 Harding) suggested that the committee consider having residents pave the apron of their gravel driveway as opposed to their entire driveway. He also asked that the committee consider looking into having the village subsidize a portion of the cost of paving the apron of the gravel driveways.

~ Baxter and Woodman representative Michael Plant stated that the apron of a driveway consisted of approximately 50-60 feet.

~ Trustee Ireland explained to the residents the current ordinance regarding the approved materials for a driveway and that the current ordinance is not being enforced. He then continued to explain the parking pad ordinance and the approved materials for a parking pad.

~ Trustee Blohm further explained how the parking pad ordinance evolved due to deterioration to the roadway and that gravel driveways were also a deterrent to the roadways. Due to new parking regulations, she also discussed the issue with residents parking on their lawn.

~ Trustee Colletti thanked the residents for taking interest in the Village and expressing their concerns. Their input is important to keeping the committee informed.

~ Trustee Ireland summarized the residents comments:

- Cost of paving gravel driveways is an issue
- Affordability is an issue
- Objective is not to make a decision but to discuss and make a recommendation to the Village Board.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Report

~ Trustee Colletti inquired on whether the Village had to buy salt. Supt. Huizinga stated that the Village borrowed 4 loads of salt from the Township and that the Village was within their contracted amount.

Water Meter Replacement Project, Status

Superintendent Huizinga stated that the contractor was done with scheduling appointments. The Public Works Dept. had to place 48-hour notice hang tags on some residences. The Public Works Department is making calls and knocking on doors attempting to complete the water meter replacement project. There were approximately 10 unscheduled meters and 11 B boxes that still required replacements.

Approved Materials - Driveways

~ Trustee Schiestel stated that the Committee need to continue to look into this issue and consider cost.

~ Trustee Blohm stated that the Committee needs to keep street maintenance and repair in mind, however, she is not prepared to tell residents that they have to pave their driveway.

~ Trustee Ireland stated that the Committee needs to address the wording of the current ordinance or ignore the ordinance. It doesn't make sense to enforce parking pads and then allow gravel driveways.

~ Trustee Colletti stated that gravel parking pads are more detrimental to streets than gravel driveways. She stated that there are very few gravel driveways and that they are generally well maintained. She suggested that the committee may want to address the current ordinance for those residents when making a home improvement.

~ Trustee Ireland suggested Superintendent Huizinga report how many gravel driveways currently exist.

VILLAGE ENGINEER'S REPORT

Review: Bid Tabulations for County Line Utility Improvement

Baxter and Woodman Representative Michael Plant stated bid opening was on Tuesday, March 5th, 2013 and that 5 bids had been received. Michael stated that the plan was to hopefully start construction in April for a period of 8 weeks. The construction would be completed by June 15, 2013. The Committee reviewed 3 options presented by Baxter and Woodman. ***Trustee Blohm made a motion to forward the approval of the full project, option 2 – Maneval Construction Co. in the amount of \$306,355.94, to Finance.*** The motion was seconded by Trustee Colletti and approved by a roll call vote of four yes votes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Parking on Approved Surfaces Ordinance

Trustee Ireland asked to pass on this agenda item.

Parking Pads/Winter Parking

~ Trustee Ireland suggested that the ordinance restricting residents from parking on the street between November and March be amended to allow residents with parking pads to park on the parking pads between November and March.

- ~ Superintendent Huizinga was concerned that if there is more than 2" of snow overnight, residents may not move their vehicles from their parking pads.
- ~ Trustees Blohm and Colletti stated that their preference was to allow parking on parking pads during the winter months.
- ~ Trustee Ireland will recommend to the Board to amend Code of Ordinance 17 ½ -63 to remove language regarding parking pads.
- ~ Trustee Blohm read aloud the letter that will be sent to residents regarding non-conforming parking pads in the Village right-of-way. Trustee Ireland asked if anyone had any changes to the letter. Trustee Blohm will contact Administrator Warwick with any modifications and send the letter to the Board.
- ~ Trustee Colletti recommended that the Village consider hiring Baxter & Woodman to develop a standard packet for contractors when building parking pads. Committee consensus was to have Building and Zoning Department draw up a packet and to add this fact to the letter going out to residents. Trustee Ireland will contact Building and Zoning Superintendent Peter Vernon.
- ~ Per Trustee Ireland, the Winter Parking Ordinance compliance has been outstanding.
- ~ Trustee Schiestel inquired into the road program priority list. Superintendent Huizinga stated that he did not have an updated list. Village President Nunamaker stated that a priority list exists in the budget packet. Trustee Schiestel will follow up with Superintendent Huizinga.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Blohm made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Trustee Schiestel seconded and the motion was approved by a roll call vote of four yes votes.

Michael Ireland, Chairperson

Denise Hammer, Secretary

Date Approved