

MINUTES

BOARD or COMMISSION: Capital Improvements	DATE:	01/13/09
MEETING: Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special	CALLED TO ORDER:	7:40 PM
QUORUM: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO:	ADJOURNED:	9:54 PM
MEMBER ATTENDANCE:	PRESENT: Chairman Piszczek; Commissioners Brugh, Lindquist, Pryde and Ryne.	
	OTHERS: Trustee Liaison Michelle Thorsell, Professional Engineer Bob Minix	
	ABSENT: Commissioners Colliander, O'Carroll, Popp, and Thelen; Public Works Director Joe Caracci	
	AUDIENCE: See attached list	

CALL TO ORDER:

The January 2009 meeting of the Capital Improvements Commission was called to order by Chairman Piszczek at 7:40 p.m. A quorum was present.

The evening began with a discussion of the proposed reconstruction work on the Sunset/ Turner project. Professional Engineer Bob Minix provided background information on the project which involves proposed reconstruction of Sunset Avenue between Fairview and Turner. He provided a recap of comments from discussions at the December CIC Meeting at which Commissioners received input from the residents. At that time, discussion was continued to the January meeting to afford other residents an opportunity to be heard. Sunset corridor residents were advised of the January meeting by letter and also provided with a summary of the proceedings from the December meeting.

Two sketches, one depicting a reconfiguration of the intersection of Sunset & Turner and another showing a revision in the sidewalk design at Sunset and Arlington were provided by the engineering consultant and reviewed at the meeting. The audience and Commissioners had several comments on the sketches, with the consensus being that the changes were an improvement over the current condition. There was some discussion about the field of vision at the intersection. P. E. Minix mentioned that the stop sign would be moved up nearer to the sidewalk crosswalk area under the revised plan.

Ron Repking, 191 Sunset, said he preferred a 23' street mainly because the cars of a neighbor's visitors who have parked in the street create a hazard. There were two incidents when cars backing out of Mr. Repking's driveway hit a parked car. He does not see speed being an issue because there are two stop signs there.

Jim Nelson, 156 Sunset, is also in favor of a 23' road mainly for parking reasons. He is closer to the pool and reported that people using the pool drive over the driveway apron to park. He says some people in the area put rocks in front of their home to prevent cars from parking.

P. E. Minix explained the current configuration of the streets. Face of curb to face of curb would be 22' on a 23' street.

Tony Vopenka, 251 Sunset, said he has lived in the neighborhood for 48 years. He is in favor of a 21' road. He does not see any advantage for a 23' or 25' street and believes that drivers would increase speed on a wider street. He says people do not drive over his grass. He does not want to have 'no parking' restrictions on one side of the street. He pointed out that the 'norm' for the village is 21' streets.

Nancy Geske, 212 Sunset, is in favor of a 25' wide street. She believes that 21' is an 'antiquated' width, citing many reasons for preferring a wider street. She feels that narrowing the street causes problems such as restricted access for fire trucks or 'long' vehicles. She said that the street width should not be what enforces the speed of traffic. She also brought up the \$30,000 cost difference between a 21' vs. 25' street which she did not consider to be a large amount of money. She also mentioned that Sunset, which is classified as a local street, is heavily traveled by people other than residents and people drive in the middle of the street. (Ms. Geske provided a copy of her notes after the meeting.)

Sal Badolato, 186 Sunset, asked if a study had been done measuring the speed of autos going down Sunset. P. E. Minix responded that to his knowledge speed studies had not been conducted.

Mark Halla, 261 Sunset, presented a petition from 12 homeowners (out of 14) in favor of a 21' street between Turner and Arlington. He says emergency responders have not had a problem getting down the street. He personally has no problem navigating driveway exits with 21' but suggests, as an option, that homeowners could widen their aprons at the same time the street is being reconstructed. The pool parking situation is a seasonal issue and he considers it a temporary condition. He reported that some of the individuals signing the petition were concerned with the cost of a wider street.

Hope Haberer, 220 Sunset, prefers a 25' street (which is the current street width in her area) saying that it provides a feeling of safety. She suggested that landscape trucks parked in the neighborhood during the summer need the extra space. She feels other neighbors near Roosevelt don't want a narrow street.

Audience participation ended at approximately 8:15. Commissioners discussed the street widths in other sections of the Village and compared them with the Sunset project. Commissioner Brugh said he was in favor of a 21' street and felt it forced people to slow down out of necessity.

Commissioner Pryde agreed that on a 21' street drivers seem to have the tendency to drive in the middle of the road. He lives on a 21' street and said he did widen the approach to his driveway. P. E. Minix said that the traditional apron configuration will generally have a 4' flare. Other issues such as trees or utility poles could have an impact on the driveway approach.

Commissioners had questions about the construction cost on various street widths. P. E. Minix estimated that changing width from 21' to 25' would cost approximately \$30,000. Changing from 21' to 23' would cost approximately \$15,000. Some of the cost would be associated with

driveway approaches. Commissioner Pryde asked if the street reconstruction would mean replacement of all driveway approaches, and P. E. Minix said that would be the case. Tree impact is not a major issue but there will be some stress to the trees. There will be an impact on two power poles but that cost is paid by the utility company.

Commissioner Pryde moved to recommend that Sunset Avenue be configured 21' wide from Turner to Arlington and 23' wide from Arlington to Fairview with the intersection of Sunset and Turner and the sidewalk reconfiguration in conformance with the sketches as presented at tonight's meeting. (Specifically, between Fairview and Greenfield the width from back-of-curb to back-of-curb will be 23'; between Greenfield and Arlington the width from back-of-curb to back-of-curb will be 23'; and between Arlington and Turner the width from back-of-curb to back-of-curb will be 21'.)

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brugh. Further discussion ensued. Commissioner Ryne and Chairman Piszczek both made a point of emphasizing that they were in favor of the wider road.

Audience member Ray Whalen, 177 Sunset, asked if there was any possibility of doing a T Intersection to add more green space at the intersection of Arlington and Turner. Commissioner Pryde responded that such a configuration might interfere with the right turn from Sunset to Arlington because of the turning radius. P. E. Minix said they would look at the sketches and consider the request.

A roll call vote was taken and each Commissioner present voted YES. The motion was passed unanimously.

P. E. Minix stated that the recommendation would be presented to the Village Board at their next meeting. He explained the procedure for the presentation to the Board and advised the audience that they were welcome to attend the Board meeting. The Board will make the final decision.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Ryne moved to approve the December meeting minutes as amended. P. E. Minix will correct the spelling of the name of one member of the audience at the December meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brugh. Motion carried unanimously.

TRUSTEE REPORT:

Trustee Liaison Michelle Thorsell reported that the Board has approved a contract with RJN for the sanitary sewer system study. They will review the northern section of the Village which was completed during the last study in 2003, and then continue on to the other sections. P. E. Minix explained that this project would continue the work that was started on the north side of the village several years ago. The contractor will look at the system as a whole then do some computer modeling to determine which areas to perform more detailed investigations such as manhole inspections and smoke testing. The goal is to eliminate basement back-ups.

The Board has given approval for the Public Works Department to order more salt. There have been complaints about residents blowing snow into the plowed streets. There was some discussion about issuing tickets for this behavior.

Trustee Thorsell reported on the DuPage Environmental Summit and efforts for 'greening' the system such as the use of a 'GTR' mix (recycled tires) in pavement construction. Some communities have been adding bio-swales to hold water and collect pollutants before they enter the sewer system. Many studies have been done on the use of pervious pavement surfaces.

Trustee Thorsell said that the final meeting for the Downtown Plan, which was developed from comments received from residents and business owners, is scheduled for this Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Trustee Thorsell said that at this point there are many options, but no final decisions have been made. The Board will take the information which has been gathered and set priorities for work to be done. One of the main issues will be to develop more parking in the downtown area.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commission Protocols – A draft "Procedures Manual" is being developed by the Village Administrative. As part of the manual, a protocols section was developed by Public Works for review by the CIC. Comments were offered on items in the proposed CIC protocols and some changes in terminology were suggested. Additional suggestions were offered by the Commissioners in regard to reviewing expenditures, reviewing design exceptions requests and making recommendations to the Board. Chairman Piszczek provided written comments to P.E. Minix for consideration and incorporation in the next draft of the protocols.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

In the absence of Director Caracci, P. E. Minix reported on Public Works activities. He said the Public Works budget has been submitted to the Administration. Discussions will be ongoing during January. The Capital budget is not in good shape because some of the revenues are not what was anticipated. Less money is available from motor fuel taxes (MFT) due to the increase in the cost of salt this season. Overall, funding sources are down about \$900,000 from what was forecast last summer during the public meetings. This could mean further delays in some of the projects on the schedule, such as Essex Court, unless stimulus money is received. Bids will go out likely requesting base and alternate bids for the 2009 Street Improvements Projects.

The Water/Sewer budget seems to be in better shape. More information will be available next month.

PROJECT STATUS REPORT:

Bids should go out in February for the Braeside project. There will be block grant money for that project. The first project to begin this year is likely to be the Park/GE Place Improvements. Regarding the Riford Road project, negotiations are continuing for the purchase of needed right-of-way. The Park District has some concerns about work being done in the wetland buffer area. The next step will be to meet with the Village Board on the sidewalk issue in the coming months.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Brugh moved to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Chairman Piszczek. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Submitted by Lori Lach, Recording Secretary
Reviewed by R. Minix, VGE Public Works Department