

# MINUTES

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BOARD OR COMMISSION: Capital Improvements DATE: 4/12/11

MEETING: Regular X Special \_\_\_\_\_ CALLED TO ORDER: 7:37 PM

QUORUM: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ ADJOURNED: 10:15 PM

**MEMBER ATTENDANCE:**

PRESENT: Chairman Piszczek,  
Commissioners Brugh, Colliander  
(8:00), Lindquist, Popp, Pryde and  
Thelen (7:45)

OTHERS: Trustee Liaison Hartweg,  
Professional Engineer Bob Minix,

ABSENT: Commissioners Ryne and  
O'Carroll

AUDIENCE: Approximately 50  
residents from the Hawthorne  
Boulevard corridor

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The April 12, 2011 meeting of the Capital Improvements Commission was called to order by Chairman Piszczek at 7:37 PM. A quorum was present.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Approximately 50 residents from the Hawthorne Boulevard corridor were in attendance, and several addressed the Commission regarding the Hawthorne Boulevard reconstruction project. P. E. Minix gave an update on the project status. The Village Board has approved the contract with Engineering Resource Associates, Inc. of Warrenton to design the Hawthorne project. The engineering will be done in two phases: Phase I preliminary engineering will examine two alternative roadway width designs developing cost estimates for both and garnering input from the affected schools, churches, police and fire agencies. The preliminary engineering should take approximately two months, with a public meeting called near the end of the two month process. The public meeting will be conducted by the engineer and Village staff, and will probably take place in mid-June. It is anticipated that the Commission will consider the alternatives in July. The Village Board will consider the plan in August and/or September. At the end of the Board's consideration, the parameters of the project will be in place to permit final engineering over the winter with construction commencing in spring, 2012. The construction schedule will account for school schedules and July 4 activities. The goal is to have

a significant amount of paving done by the end of August, 2012. There will be many opportunities in this process for interaction with residents.

PE Minix answered several questions from Commissioners.

- There would be some cost for paving machine mobilization more than one time on the project, and keeping machines on the site would help alleviate it; however it is likely there will need to be two mobilizations.
- By the June residents meeting there will be two sets of plans that will show the differences and impacts in a 21 foot and a 25 foot roadway.
- Full reconstruction of the street allows for opportunities to address storm water issues and improve water quality. All in all, there are fairly significant repairs and improvements to be made in the underground systems, but not overwhelming. The cost of water and sewer work is estimated to be approximately \$1.2 million. B-boxes will be replaced, and pipes will be upgraded as needed. The water main feeding water to Hadley School will be significantly larger.
- A full reconstruction includes all curbs and roadways, driveway aprons (to be replaced with concrete or replacement in kind for brick pavers); sidewalks at intersections to be redone with ADA required slopes and tactile warnings, and replacing approximately 30%-40% of existing sidewalk.

Audience participation took place as follows:

Brenda Knapp at 475 Hawthorne: noted that PE Minix's residents' letter was very helpful. She wanted to offer a big picture of conversations with neighbors. There is understanding of the need for reconstruction, but concerns for safety, trees, aesthetics and cost. Then neighbors want to be sure the Commission knows what they are thinking as the Board of Trustees listens to the Commission.

P.E. Minix responded that Hawthorne is a minor collector street and the 25 foot width was felt to be the proper width when the reconstruction process was started 10 years ago. There is also an exception process that was adopted 10 years ago. At this time, there is no assurance as to what will be the recommendation.

Carrie Dinneen at 602 Prairie: asked if equal consideration is begin given to both widths, or is there a pre-existing preference.

P.E. Minix replied that the field survey is from sidewalk to sidewalk, and the engineer has no predisposition. The Engineer will probably not make a recommendation, but

point out advantages and disadvantages of each plan. The Village Forester will also have input.

Joe Baldwin at 434 Hawthorne: asked if Engineering Resource Associates has a forester.

P.E. Minix said that the Engineer does not have a forester on staff, but has staff that performs environmental assessments.

In response to follow up questions, P.E. Minix stated that traffic count locations will probably be west of Kenilworth, between Western and Kenilworth and between Western and Main. Also, it is possible that a consensus will not be reached at the public meeting in June. It will be formally conducted, and will probably have a court reporter to produce a transcript.

Mike Friego at 373 Hawthorne: asked if traffic flow is the only real benefit of widening.

P.E. Minix responded that primarily, yes, traffic flow is the benefit. Follow up audience comments involved Western. P.E. Minix noted that comments he has received since Western was reconstructed are that it is "narrow".

Resident at 609 Hawthorne: noted that widening the curve and street at the bottom of Hawthorne will encourage more speeding down the hill. It will become more dangerous.

Mark Halligorn at 262 Hawthorne: noted that the curve slows down drivers at the other end of Hawthorne. A wider street will encourage speeders. Buses can get into the school now as it is current configured.

Kristin at 585 Hawthorne: stated that she is a student at Hadley, and that cars fly by now. Widening it will make it a speedway and that it is not going in a green direction.

Pam Ridinger at 577 Prairie: expressed concern for children walking to school. Widening the street will make everyone move faster. Where will the snow go if the parkway is narrower? With kids walking 10 abreast now, it will be dangerous for them. Since the comprehensive plan was adopted, things have changed and kids are everywhere, and all are concerned with speed. Hawthorne will become another Pennsylvania.

Mike McDonald at 589 Forest: suggested putting stop signs at Forest or Park to slow drivers down.

P.E. Minix noted that stop signs do not slow down drivers.

Stephen Pordes at 501 Hawthorne: noted that P.E. Minix was doing a good job. Traffic flow should not be the only criterion and that there needs to be respect for green. He asked what information will be available at the June meeting.

P.E. Minix responded that there would be a web-based mechanism set up by the engineering consultant for access by the public or on the Village web site. Commissioner Pryde noted that there will be a block-by-block scheme for both widths showing individual utility poles and trees.

Commissioner Colliander recommended going through a schedule whereby the residents would know when would be their last opportunity for comment. P.E. Minix said that the Village Board meeting would be in August, with the residents meeting in June. Commissioner Piszczek stated that the Commission will meet as necessary. He also noted that most people have lived through street constructions. Not everyone can be happy, but hopefully not feel cheated. Everyone gets a fair shake.

Resident Brenda Knapp suggested pushing the boundaries further south for those residents getting information.

P.E. Minix noted that the schools have been requested to get information to all parents. There is a practical limit to the notices. Commissioners encouraged members of the audience to spread the word. It was pointed out that all information is on the Village web site. In response to a follow up question, P.E. Minix noted that the plans will be posted around the meeting room a couple of hours before the June residents meeting. There will be time to look at the plans, like an open house, before the presentation and subsequent dialog with the residents.

John Huston at 588 Ellyn: noted that the 4 or 5 residents on the south side of Hawthorne without sidewalks are solidly against sidewalks, and he encouraged an evaluation of the real purpose of putting them in. If it is to deposit walkers to the corner of Hawthorne and Ellyn, there is a safety issue.

The audience participation portion of the meeting concluded with thanks from the residents, and assurances from the Commissioners that they will continue to consider these issues as the process goes forward.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Colliander moved to approve the February 8, 2011 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pryde. The Motion carried unanimously.

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**TRUSTEE'S REPORT:**

Trustee Liaison Phil Hartweg reported that the Village Board approved increases in water and sewer rates at its April 11, 2011 meeting. There will be a meeting with the Village of Lombard officials concerning the Glenbard Wastewater Authority. Advance Auto will be having a large party on April 29.

There was discussion concerning the block house next to the History Center. The task force suggested knocking down the block house. When the Marathon station and the house west of Stacy's Tavern are demolished, there should be increased interest in the area.

Approximately 61 resumes have been received for Village Manager. There will be preliminary interviews with six candidates. Commissioner Colliander noted that the interim manager is well engaged and positive. Trustee Hartweg stated that economic development, including TIFs, will be a key part of the new manager's role.

In response to a question concerning College of DuPage's new sign, Trustee Hartweg noted that the new sign is expected to be erected before the end of the month. The final plan has not been viewed.

**CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

1. ETHICS ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

Commissioner Pryde disclosed that his firm has been engaged to come up with ideas for the 5 Corners area.

The ethics forms have been sent out, and some have been returned. Trustee Hartweg said that the Ethics Officer will be introduced at the final monthly Board meeting, and that this would start out as a volunteer position. Commissioners expressed concern that members of the Capital Improvements Commission are considered employees for ethics purposes.

2. ILLINOIS OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Chairman Piszczek and Engineer Minix feel that the Commission is already in compliance. The Commission will need to continue approving minutes at the next subsequent meeting.

3. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR BOARD & COMMISSION MEMBERS

The Village President has some leeway in this matter.

4. PRIVATE PROPERTY DRAINAGE ISSUES & CONSIDERATIONS

The Commission agreed that the consultants need to be given additional months to come back after the discussion at the February meeting. The anticipated Hawthorne

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project work in 2012 will include addressing some private drainage issues. Commissioner Thelen circulated information on rain gardens. In selected locations, they may make sense. It was concluded that the Commission wants more information from the consultants before holding a public meeting on these issues.

5. BICYCLE PLAN DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

P.E. Minix reported that, although CMAP liked our application idea, there will be no opportunity for funds. He felt there may be \$25,000 available from another source. Commissioner Colliander mentioned that there may be grant funds from METRA for a bike crossing. P.E. Minix will investigate.

6. HAWTHORNE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT UPDATE

There was general discussion resulting from the earlier audience participation comments. Commissioner Pryde suggested asking the police to do tests to compare speeds on Western and Main. It was also noted that trees have been removed due to storms and ash disease, and just approximately a dozen have been lost due to road work. It was suggested that representatives from the schools, police and churches be invited to the May Commission meeting to give them a sense of the questions and issues that will be raised at the June residents meeting when the preliminary engineering is reviewed.

7. FY 12 CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET OVERVIEW/SUMMARY

P.E. Minix presented the Fiscal Year 2012 Capital Projects Budget to the Commission. He noted that property taxes are more important than in past years and that utility tax income is fairly flat. The real estate transfer tax funds are starting to recover. The 2011 primary project will be Sunset and Turner. If there are savings in 2011, they can be used on the 2012 projects.

Deferred projects will be addressed as funds are available. In the longer term, the bottom line has improved, and the goal is to spread out expenses so as not be in a deficit position in 2017. Revenues on this track remain healthy and costs are being kept in line. Park, north of Roosevelt, qualified for federal Surface Transportation Funds and may be done in 3-4 years, depending on how quickly older STP projects are completed. The engineering for the Park project may get underway this year.

It was noted that Lombard and Glen Ellyn are still struggling at the GWA and that Glen Ellyn's share of expenses is increasing. Sewer and water expenses associated with GWA and the DuPage Water Commission are rising. The DuPage property tax source for the Water Commission has a 2016 sunset clause. In response to Commissioner Pryde's inquiry, it was determined that Glen Ellyn does not have a direct representative on the Water Commission at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business was identified.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

No discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Pryde moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lindquist seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The April 12, 2011 meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Submitted by Karen Blake, Recording Secretary  
Reviewed by R. Minix, Village of Glen Ellyn Public Works