

MINUTES

BOARD OR COMMISSION: Capital Improvements DATE: 9/13/11

MEETING: Regular X Special _____ CALLED TO ORDER: 7:38 PM

QUORUM: Yes X No _____ ADJOURNED: 10:53 PM

MEMBER ATTENDANCE: PRESENT: Commissioners Brugh, Lindquist, O'Carroll (at 8:55 PM), Popp, Pryde, Ryne and Thelen

OTHERS: Trustee Liaison Hartweg, Professional Engineer Bob Minix,

ABSENT: Chairman Piszczek, Commissioner Colliander

AUDIENCE: Residents John Huston and Jim King from the east end of the Hawthorne corridor

CALL TO ORDER:

The September 13, 2011 meeting of the Capital Improvements Commission was called to order by Acting Chairman Ryne at 7:35 PM. A quorum was present.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Residents John Huston and Jim King complimented the Commission on its work on the Hawthorne Blvd. width issue. They are concerned about the possibility of a sidewalk being installed on the south side of Hawthorne, east of Park. There are six residents directly affected. The most important consideration is safety of pedestrians. They asked the Commission to consider how pedestrians would cross Ellyn to get to the high school.

In response to questions, P.E. Minix said that the engineers have a more detailed plan than presented in June for possible sidewalks, and will be happy to share it. The CIC may discuss the sidewalk matter in October, but it may be in December when a recommendation will be developed. The Board of Trustees will take it up the month after the CIC. The staff recommendation will be available usually about 5 days before the CIC meeting. P.E. Minix is looking for input from the school. If the school is for or against, most likely the staff report will mirror that sentiment. If the school is lukewarm, it will be more problematic for the staff. The intersection of Hawthorne and Ellyn is not a good place to cross pedestrians.

Commissioner Pryde asked when would be the latest that a decision could be made. P.E. Minix responded that it could be as late as July, 2012. Commissioner Pryde noted a desire to have the police chief involved, as vehicle traffic is also part of the equation. Some traffic control measures also need to be considered. There was general discussion concerning pedestrian and

vehicle traffic with the parking lot across from the school. There are multiple issues. It was suggested that the police try different traffic control measures for a couple of weeks to determine what may work, and what will not work. P.E. Minix reiterated that school input is crucial. Commissioner Pryde will work with P.E. Minix to gain access to the school officials.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Lindquist moved to approve the July 12, 2011 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pryde. The Motion carried unanimously.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT:

Trustee Hartweg noted that it is not just students that use sidewalks, and people walking in the street is a safety issue. Regarding the Hawthorne Blvd. width issue, he was the only vote in favor of the CIC's recommendation. He was thinking like an engineer, and suggested that the CIC include more emotion into its future recommendations. He noted that in Europe, there are bike lanes, walking paths and sidewalks along with street cars, and it all works out. There, the wide streets are hospitable.

The Board of Trustees is in the process of considering the TIF in the Central Business District. P.E. Minix noted that the traffic study is underway in the CBD, with a recommendation for streets on the north side of the railroad tracks that are currently one way – Main, Crescent, Pennsylvania and Forest between Crescent and Pennsylvania – be converted to two-way travel. There will be some short term loss of parking, but ultimately the plan is for a parking garage. There will be an open-house style public meeting to present and discuss the traffic study recommendations. It will probably be early 2012 before it goes to the Board of Trustees. There was general discussion concerning CBD traffic patterns. Commissioner Popp asked if accommodating bicyclists into and within the CBD was being considered. P.E. Minix replied that he is not aware of specific measures at this time. Trustee Hartweg noted that commuters must be considered, and that many bike although they may not be great riders. He also noted that studies show that two-way streets in commercial districts are better than one-way streets. The recommendation will be that Forest and Hillside remain one-way on the south side of the CBD.

Trustee Hartweg discussed briefly the tree preservation ordinance. There did not seem to be much sentiment in favor of the clear-cutting restrictions. There were not many representatives from the conservationist groups at the Board discussion.

The Commissioners thanked Trustee Hartweg for his vote on Hawthorne Blvd.

Commissioner Popp noted that there has been discussion about bike paths for a long time. If there are enough connections, it can become self-sustaining as there would be more and more bikes. There was general discussion concerning bike paths. P.E. Minix said that he would like to

get it back on the agenda, and noted that for a reasonable investment, he would like to get help in formulating a plan. It would have a big payoff. The Village President has stated that he would like to see both a bike and a pedestrian plan.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Hawthorne Improvements Project Update and Look-Ahead: P.E. Minix noted that he was happy with the process and how it was conducted. There was plenty of opportunity for resident input. There was general discussion concerning the Board of Trustee's action on Hawthorne width. The CIC Commissioners felt their recommendation was the correct one.

There was general discussion concerning using the original resolution establishing design criteria as a guide going forward. Commissioner Pryde noted that it makes sense to start with a standard, and deviate from it when necessary rather than have nothing from which to start. It was noted that there have been four Trustee Boards since the original resolution was passed. Each case has its individual merits.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ CIC Meeting Plan for Balance of 2011

P.E. Minix said that November's meeting will definitely be the annual open forum. December may be when to discuss a bike plan, or not meet in December.

P.E. Minix noted that there is time in which to take up the sidewalks matter, and it does not have to be done in December. It can be revisited at any time, although it makes sense to do it with the Hawthorne reconstruction. There was general discussion about how to engage the school in the sidewalk matter. At minimum, the Commission will be looking for answers to "what are your business times, or give us some data" on the matter.

Commissioner Thelen asked if there will be paving in December this year. P.E. Minix said it should not be an issue; the Sunset project should be done in about two weeks. The Essex Court storm sewer work is big and deep – almost tunneling. The schedule is in good shape for the remainder of the year.

➤ Pavement Management Strategies

P.E. Minix thanked Commissioner Ryne for forwarding the customer presentations. The highlights are (1) that the Village is already doing some of the recommendations: crack and joint sealing, patching, rejuvenating treatments and overlays; (2) some of the other techniques such as micro surfacing, have been used by other communities, although Glen Ellyn has not. P.E. Minix would like to redo the master plan, which would involve a more holistic approach to

pavement management strategy in keeping with the theme of the information provided by Commissioner Ryne. Commissioner Pryde suggested a pilot program to identify streets on which to use micro surfacing, and will have results that will recommend how to invest in the future. P.E. Minix wants to do more research on micro surfacing, and that addressing streets while they are still in good shape is a cost effective plan.

The Commissioners reviewed the Bensenville cost summary. Glen Ellyn's unit costs are not too different. P.E. Minix noted that crack sealing is part of the capital improvement budget to continue to invest in a road throughout its life. Commissioner Thelen would like to see Glen Ellyn's cost experience. Commissioner Pryde would like to view a micro-sealed street to confirm that it is something appropriate for the Village. P.E. Minix will continue to look into maintenance alternatives, and the cost and effectiveness experiences of other communities.

Commissioner Pryde asked about salt purchases for this winter. The Village is stepping back from what it orders from the State, and is filling the gap with an alternate supplier. The Village has not used beet juice, but is using more calcium chloride. Seldom is salt used by itself.

OTHER BUSINESS:

P.E. Minix announced that Chairman Jim Piszczek has resigned, and his last meeting will probably be in October. His resignation requires Board approval. Therefore, the Commission will need a new Chair.

PUBLIC WORKS / PROJECT STATUS REPORT:

The Lake Ellyn hydrology study is ready to start. It will be looking at stormwater development and flow patterns and what can be done at Lake Ellyn. It fills up very quickly. There are 3-4 homes that are islanded when Lake Ellyn overflows its banks. There also may be need for more storage upstream. The Park District is an equal financial partner in the project.

Longer term, after Hawthorne and Lenox are complete in 2013 or 2014, there will be a break from work in that immediate area. Commissioner Pryde noted that parking around Lake Ellyn Park will need to be addressed when Lenox is reconstructed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Brugh moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindquist, and was carried unanimously. The September 13, 2011 meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

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