

# MINUTES

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BOARD OR COMMISSION: Capital Improvements                      DATE: April 9, 2013  
MEETING: Regular   X        Special \_\_\_\_\_                      CALLED TO ORDER: 7:35 PM  
QUORUM: Yes        X        No      \_\_\_\_\_                      ADJOURNED: 9:28 PM

## MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Colliander, Commissioners Brugh, Burton, Lane, Lindquist, O'Carroll, Ryne and Thelen

OTHERS: Trustee Liaison Hartweg, Public Works Director Julius Hansen, Professional Engineer Bob Minix, Dave Harris and Dan Hopkins from the Glen Ellyn Park District

ABSENT: Commissioner Pryde

AUDIENCE: Several residents concerning the Lenox-Linden Improvements Project.

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The April 9, 2013 meeting of the Capital Improvements Commission was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman Colliander. A quorum was present.

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Prior to the audience participation, P.E. Minix summarized the purpose of the meeting, starting with the Lenox-Linden project. The meeting focus will be on sidewalks. The hope is to have a recommendation to bundle with others already agreed upon to be considered by the Board of Trustees, probably in June. He reminded everyone that the project is not going to construction in 2013.

Carolyn Oesterle of 645 Lake Road provided a presentation on various approaches to reducing vehicle speeds. Ms. Oesterle offered the opinion that widening Lenox will increase speeds and will need traffic calming measures. There is a difference in the number of cars that park between Hawthorne and Linden and Linden and Essex, suggesting that between Linden and Essex, Lenox does not need to be widened.

Eleanor Saliamonas of 626 Newton said that she would prefer to not have curbs, and that the sidewalks are unnecessary. She hopes that climate change considerations will be taken into account when the Commission makes its recommendation.

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Donna Jennings of 725 Lenox expressed concern about bump outs along Lenox between Linden and Essex designed to accommodate trees in Lake Ellyn Park. It is confusing for teenagers to not have a straight road, and they eliminate some parking spaces.

In response to a resident question about the cost of the sidewalks, P.E. Minix said that the total construction cost would be about \$50,000. It was also noted that there has not been a study done of the number of people who walk in the street, nor on the age of the trees. P.E. Minix said that the condition of the trees in the corridor has been assessed, and will have further evaluation once they leaf-out. Any work on Linden will impact trees regardless of whether a sidewalk is installed.

There was general discussion concerning the corridor trees. Noting that the project is scheduled for 2014, the 2012 drought should not be a concern. The residents expressed concern for trees, sidewalks and property values, noting that although they need sewers and streets, sidewalks are not needed on both sides of the street.

**CONSIDERATION OF NEW SIDEWALK ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE REHABILITATION OF LENOX ROAD BETWEEN HAWTHORNE AND ESSEX, AND LINDEN STREET BETWEEN MAIN AND ESSEX**

**REVIEW OF REVISED PLAN LAYOUTS:**

P.E. Minix reviewed the revised sidewalk alignments. On the east side of Lenox between Hawthorne and Linden, the alignment reflects the goal to keep the sidewalk against the curb to maximize the usefulness to those parking there. Only until just before Linden does the sidewalk slightly curve into the park. North of Linden, the sidewalk is moved into the park to avoid a clump of trees. The plan assumes the roadway is widened all the way to Essex. If it is not, then the sidewalk could go against the curb.

As for the new sidewalk on the south side of Linden between Main and Lenox, P.E. Minix reviewed the various places new sidewalk would be installed lot-by-lot. The sidewalk generally follows an alignment closer to the curb. Special focus was on the transition from the 645 N. Park home to the most easterly house at 621 Linden.

Commissioner comments were positive about the park entrance, and the response from the Park District has been positive. It was noted that follow-up protocols for tree protection will be important to keep park trees safe.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Kirsten Schiff of 645 N. Park said that putting a sidewalk on the curb could be dangerous to pedestrians when someone exits a car on the passenger side. She also expressed concern for property values and money spent where not needed.

David Rennard of 621 Linden expressed support for the transition as shown between his home and 645 Park as a discouragement to skateboarders.

CIC DELIBERATIONS:

Chairman Colliander noted that the Commission's thinking is to allow all Village residents to use Village assets and to move people around the Village. Every time a street is reconstructed, the Commission considers whether a new sidewalk segment will serve and better the Village. In addition, many groups have input: Park District, schools, Fire and Police Departments.

New Sidewalk on the East Side of Lenox between Hawthorne and Essex: Commissioner Thelen said that the Lenox sidewalk meets the objectives laid out in past meetings. Commissioner Burton expressed support for the revised configuration. While the curve around the trees seems contrived, he understands its purpose. Commissioners Ryne, Lindquist, Lane and Brugh liked the revised configuration. Chairman Colliander said he would prefer to soften the curve on the north end to make it more symmetrical.

Chairman Colliander made the following motion

**“The Commission recommends that the revised configuration of the sidewalk on the east side of Lenox between Hawthorne and Essex as discussed at the April 9, 2013 meeting proceed to the next step of engineering for a 2014 project.”**

Commissioner Brugh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Sidewalk on the South Side of Linden between Main and Lenox: Commissioner Thelen said that the extra sidewalks will be a benefit during events. The revised configuration keeps it as close to the curb and far away from homes as possible. Commissioner Lindquist observed a resident walking in the street when the sidewalk ended rather than crossing the street. Chairman Colliander said that additional sidewalk will move people in a safer manner than without sidewalk. Commissioner Lane expressed reservations about the effectiveness of the additional sidewalk and said that the current walk layout seems forced. Commissioner Brugh expressed support, noting that new residents will want sidewalks to help get children into the park. Commissioner O'Carroll expressed support, looking at it from both safety and function perspectives as it is near the park and the high school.

Chairman Colliander made the following motion

**“The Commission recommends that the revised configuration of the sidewalk on the south side of Linden between Main and Lenox as discussed at the April 9, 2013 meeting proceed to the next step of engineering for a 2014 project.”**

Commissioner Burton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners asked staff to review the alignments as engineering proceeds.

P.E. Minix said that the Board of Trustees could take up the recommendations in June. Residents will be notified by mail of the meeting. If the Board discussion takes place in the summer, a construction deadline will not be missed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the March 12, 2013 regular meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lane and carried unanimously.

**TRUSTEE'S REPORT:**

Chairman Colliander recognized that this is Trustee Hartweg's last meeting as he is going off the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Hartweg said the April 8 meeting focused on the budget. There was also a lengthy discussion concerning the license agreement with the Historical Society.

P.E. Minix said that the Village President will appoint the new Trustee liaison for the Commission.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

P.E. Minix reported that Commissioners Burton, Lindquist and Thelen have been asked to serve an additional term on the Commission.

The May meeting will include discussion regarding new sidewalk in connection with the Oak-Euclid-Forest-Alley Improvements Project. The south side of Oak has virtually no sidewalk aside from two homes. The proposed alignment will attempt to be as straight as possible but to maneuver around trees. There are grade challenges between Highland and Main.

Additionally, P.E. Minix would like to include discussion at the May meeting of sidewalk on Brandon between Hill and Hillside associated with the 2013 Street Improvements Project. There will be a public meeting on that matter on April 23.

Chairman Colliander asked that exhibits showing existing sidewalks in those corridors be available for the May meeting.

In response to Commissioners' questions, P.E. Minix said that there will be new concrete pavement and storm sewer in the alley located in the block bounded by Western, Elm, Prairie and Oak. The residents there are pleased the situation is being addressed.

## **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Director Hansen said that the 5.5 mile bike path has been completed on the south end of the Village. Signage is in place. There will be a meeting on April 10 concerning the downtown streetscape and parking situation. Many comments have been received concerning the historic horse trough and the holiday tree placement.

In response to Commissioners' questions, Director Hansen said that salt usage over the winter ended up in the normal range. Public Works is looking for a site for a structure to store an entire year's worth of salt. The new fuel system is working well, and the old tank was removed without leakage.

Director Hansen mentioned that the Hawthorne project has received additional recognition by the American Public Works Association as a "Project of the Year" for transportation projects costing less than \$5 million.

P.E. Minix said that the Village has been selected to receive additional federal grant funds for street rehabilitation. Main Street between Roosevelt and Fairview will be resurfaced within the next four years with the cost being 70% funded by the federal government, amounting to a grant of about \$200,000. The Crescent roadway in front of Glenbard West continues in design with Phase I engineering nearing completion; the project will be constructed in the summer of 2015. Work on the sidewalk extension project on the east end of Crescent will be completed as soon as weather allows.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Burton moved to adjourn the meeting. There were several seconds, and the motion was carried unanimously. The April 9, 2013 meeting was adjourned at 9:28 PM.

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