

# MINUTES

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BOARD OR COMMISSION: Capital Improvements                      DATE:                      May 9, 2017

MEETING: Regular   X                        Special                             CALLED TO ORDER:    7:06 PM

QUORUM: Yes                        X                        No                                                  ADJOURNED:                      9:05 PM

## MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Colliander, Commissioners Biggam, Burton, Lane, Lindquist and Zucchero

OTHERS: Public Works Director Julius Hansen, Professional Engineer Rich Daubert, Part-Time Professional Engineer Bob Minix (also acting as recording secretary for this meeting)

ABSENT: Commissioners Kumar and Ryne; former Commissioner Pryde is now a Village Trustee

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## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The May 9, 2017 meeting of the Capital Improvements Commission, held at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center Room 301, was called to order at 7:06 PM by Chairman Colliander. A quorum was present.

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (non-agenda items):**

None – A group of residents was in attendance for the new sidewalk discussions (Agenda Item IV). Agendas and a sign-in list were distributed to the audience members.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Lindquist moved, and Commissioner Lane seconded, to approve the March 14, 2017 draft meeting minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **CONSIDERATION OF NEW SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION ON DAVIS TERRACE AND TURNER AVENUE ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2017 MEDST PROJECT:**

Staff Presentation – P. E. Daubert presented an overview of the Montclair-East-Davis-Smith-Turner Improvements Project. A public information meeting was held on April 19 where the overall scope of the project was provided and input received from the residents in attendance. New sidewalk installations on the west side of Davis Terrace and the north side of Turner were discussed in detail at the public meeting.

On **Davis Terrace**, the scope of the project has expanded to a full reconstruction in order to address various issues identified, including drainage and steep driveway issues. Village policy calls for the construction of sidewalk along project corridors where no sidewalk currently exists.

Currently there is no sidewalk on the west side of Davis Terrace, although there is evidence of sidewalk located about one foot off the right-of-way. The proposed new five-foot wide walk would be in about that same corridor; about 1,600 square feet of new sidewalk would be installed. The proposed alignment was painted out on the west side of Davis Terrace and photos were reviewed. The Village consulting arborist has reviewed the alignment and suggests at the north end where there is a legacy red oak tree that the sidewalk be placed against the curb (coachwalk).

**On Turner Avenue between Montclair and Taylor**, new sidewalk is proposed for the north side. This corridor is in proximity to Benjamin Franklin School at Turner and Bryant. The proposed alignment is variable, moving from nearer the property line to a coachwalk alignment in the attempt to best fit existing field conditions. Coachwalk sections would be six-feet wide, with a four-foot wide walk provided at some tree locations. A Colorado Spruce tree would need to be raised to provide vertical clearance for the sidewalk.

Prior to the meeting, resident input in opposition to the sidewalk was received from some Davis Terrace residents; P. E. Daubert did receive positive input from one Davis Terrace homeowner. At the April 19 public information meeting, Part-Time P. E. Minix spoke at length with Turner Avenue residents and each expressed concerns about the installation of new sidewalk on the north side of Turner, citing tree and drainage issues as well expressing doubts about the need.

P. E. Daubert wrapped up his presentation discussing the process for considering an exception to the policy of installing new sidewalk. Input was received at the public meeting conducted earlier; the CIC will take comments, deliberate and develop a recommendation (this evening's meeting purpose); and the Village Board consider the CIC recommendation and make a final determination at a future Board meeting.

#### Audience Comments

Amy Storm of 342 Turner expressed concern about children using the north side sidewalk after school and darting across Turner to get to a car parked across the street awaiting them.

Jeff Button of 331 Montclair cited negative impacts of new sidewalk: currently only a narrow setback from Turner; restricted use of the driveway if a sidewalk is built; drainage problems; yard cross-slope is significant; negative tree impacts. The property line along Turner is about at the fence.

Linda and Steve Schmidt of 694 Turner are long-term residents and feel Turner is not a major through street ("dead-end to dead-end"). Feel the dollars would be put to better use to improve the existing sidewalk on the south side of Turner. Likely only limited use if installed. Many trees along the corridor on the north side. New sidewalk would reduce appeal of neighborhood. Strongly against new sidewalk. Speaking for 700 Turner, also very opposed. Thought that residents will not shovel snow.

Ken Neal of 625 Davis Terrace noted that many streets in the Village do not have sidewalk on both sides. Doesn't feel sidewalk is necessary. The old sidewalk was removed and there was little reaction to that. New sidewalk is a waste of time and money and not a positive thing for the neighborhood.

John Wasilchuk of 369 Linden feels the sidewalk is not needed since Davis Terrace is a short, dead-end street. Limited benefit because only a few homes and people use the street anyway. There is a high likelihood of adverse tree impacts (legacy Red Oak on his Davis parkway). New sidewalk on Davis would double the sidewalk he is responsible for.

Rita Sierens of 706 Turner prefers sidewalk on only one side, agreeing with Amy Storm's comments about dangerous crossings of Turner, including at Merton. Does not believe the alignment shifts with the proposed sidewalk are aesthetically pleasing and would be damaging to trees.

Janet Alonso of 624 Davis Terrace cited that Davis is a dead-end street with little traffic. Additional sidewalk would be intrusive and provide little or no value. Against new sidewalk on Davis Terrace.

Jerry Anderson of 616 Davis Terrace said that because the sidewalk will not cross his property, he does not have the same personal involvement other neighbors do in the decision. Children play in the street and he doubts the sidewalk would be used. Hence it is of little value.

Dave Keating of 628 Davis Terrace expressed neutrality on the new sidewalk issue. He was concerned about possible negative impacts to drainage of the new sidewalk. P. E. Daubert related various strategies to improve drainage. Sump pump drainage connections will be made available as part of the improvements.

Various non-sidewalk questions were asked and addressed by P. E. Daubert.

Ken Neal of 625 Davis suggested 4-foot wide sidewalk, constructed as coach-walk, be installed on the southwest corner of Davis Terrace and Linden, if sidewalk is mandated.

Chairman Colliander again reviewed the process for design exceptions. The CIC will formulate a recommendation for consideration by the Village Board. The corridor residents will be informed of the CIC recommendation and invited to the meeting when the Village Board deliberates on the sidewalk issue.

Most residents left the room at about 8:15.

### Commission Deliberations

Davis Terrace – The Commission members readily reached consensus that new sidewalk on the west side of Davis Terrace was not needed and would serve no real useful purpose.

The following motion was made by Commissioner Lane and seconded by Commissioner Biggam:

**Whereas new sidewalk on the west side of Davis Terrace is not warranted or needed, the Capital Improvements Commission recommends no such sidewalk be constructed as part of the Montclair-East-Davis-Smith-Turner Improvements Project.**

The motion was unanimously approved by the attending commissioners.

Turner Avenue – Commissioner Zucchero is familiar with the Turner – Taylor neighborhood and is not in favor of new sidewalk on the north side of Turner. He would like some feedback from the Police Department on existing operations because he sees them out there on a regular basis. The surrounding neighborhood and sidewalk connectivity and network were reviewed. Some discussion ensued about the need to raise the Colorado Spruce and the consensus was this procedure is acceptable. Crossing of the street by children for pickup is a concern.

Chairman Colliander asked about project schedule and timing for a recommendation for Turner. P. E. Daubert stated that a decision for Turner could wait until June as the contract documents will reserve the right for the Village to not construct new sidewalk. Commissioner Lane would like feedback from the school and police. A cost estimate for the Turner sidewalk would be helpful – the actual construction expense can be developed once the bids are received.

The Commission agreed to defer further discussion on the Turner sidewalk to their next meeting.

**TRUSTEE REPORT:**

No report. Trustee Kenwood will be appointed as Trustee Liaison to the Capital Improvements Commission.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:**

Director Hansen reported the Main Street between Anthony and Hillside has new LED lights, installed as part of the CBD street lighting project. Twenty-eight LED lights were changed out in the Maryknoll Subdivision (in-house work); costs of this work will be partially paid for by a DCEO grant. The Village is finalizing an agreement with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County for use of their old maintenance building for long-term salt storage. About 1,500 tons of salt can be stored.

**PROJECT REPORT:**

P. E. Daubert reported that the April 7 rain event was a good test for the improvements constructed in 2016 as part of the Elm-Oak-Geneva project, particularly the new overland flow route between two homes on private property. Feedback from residents was positive, reporting things worked quite well. Some homes experienced sanitary sewer overflows.

Chairman Colliander expressed a desire to have in our files before and after photographs to demonstrate the effectiveness of the drainage design.

Part-Time P. E. Minix reported that the new outlet control structure at Lake Ellyn is very effective in lowering the lake. Some problems were noted during the April 7 storm with flooding on Lake Road and Grand Avenue, near Oak Street. A study to improve intersection safety at Taft and Lambert is ongoing with a consultant and Police Department making up the team, leading to an application for funding through the IDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program.

P. E. Daubert gave a quick overview of 2017 projects: the Kenilworth-Alley project is underway; the 2017 Street Resurfacing Project is now bidding; and the MEDST Improvements Project will be out for a bid letting around June 1.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Lindquist moved, and Commissioner Burton seconded, adjourning the meeting. With unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Submitted by R. Minix, Village of Glen Ellyn Public Works