

MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING OF THE STREETS, DRAINAGE & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE OF THE VILLAGE OF KENILWORTH HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, 419 RICHMOND ROAD AT 6:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY AUGUST 28, 2007

Chairperson Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was as follows:

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| Present: | James Hughes Cristy Laier Jackie Bossu | Chairperson Member Member |
| Other Village Officials Present: | Bradly Burke Ignazio Fiorentino Tom Terrill | Village Manager Public Works Superintendent Village Trustee |
| Others Present: | Grace Terrill Elizabeth Bannon | 122 Woodstock Avenue 328 Raleigh Road |

There were no minutes for approval.

Public Works Superintendent Fiorentino reported on the August 23, 2007 storm event. He reported current estimates are that the Village lost 34 large parkway trees, mainly on the east side of the Village. Superintendent Fiorentino noted Warwick Road saw a lot of damage and stated a tall ash tree was lost on Raleigh Road, as well as two very large catalpa trees at Woodstock and Sheridan Road. Superintendent Fiorentino reported a large ash tree, nearly 3 feet in diameter, located at Melrose Avenue near Sheridan Road was blown down. Superintendent Fiorentino said there were a lot of trees with top canopy damage, and stated at the moment all potential safety hazards had been cleared up.

Superintendent Fiorentino said he would go back to do any needed trimming or removal of damaged limbs as soon as the major cleanup is completed. Superintendent Fiorentino noted Kenilworth's crews are currently working with Sunrise, Davey, and Middleton Tree Services on tree removal and noted plans are to keep these companies in town until the end of next week.

A discussion of communication to residents followed.

Member Bossu asked about the leaning tree on Kenilworth Avenue.

Elizabeth Bannon said a tree at the corner of Raleigh Road and Kenilworth Avenue is splitting at the base.

Chairperson Hughes expressed his opinion there should be an updated communication piece provided to residents explaining the homeowner's responsibility in removal of trees taken down on private property.

Member Bossu suggested the Village needs to explain to residents the Village's equipment and chipper can only accommodate smaller trees and branches. Member Bossu suggested any updated communication on storm response include information on the need for the Village to hire private tree services.

Chairperson Hughes asked if there was any feedback from residents regarding storm responses. Manager Burke said the response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive and noted most residents have been grateful for the response provided by the Village's Police and Public Works Departments.

Member Bossu discussed the impact on the Village's budget. Member Laier said she understood the Village of Wilmette had recently obtained a state grant to assist in replacing oak trees. She asked if there was any chance of Kenilworth getting financial help.

Manager Burke discussed the damage and related costs and noted it was still too early for the Village to know if there would be any state or federal assistance coming.

A discussion regarding the Village's tree planting program followed.

Member Laier said she would like to learn more about the Dutch Elm Disease.

Elizabeth Bannon said she called Village President Chisum about a presentation she made to the Village Board about trees in the Village a few years ago. Ms. Bannon stated she intended to update the information in this presentation for the Village. Ms. Bannon expressed her opinion residents who participate in the Village's tree planting program and support planting trees on public property are making a tax deductible donation to the Village.

Member Laier suggested the Village should open donations up to any amount for tree planting.

Elizabeth Bannon cited a program she had researched in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where a federal tax deduction letter is provided to individuals who donate money to plant trees on public property. Ms. Bannon noted the Ann Arbor program allows residents to work with a pre-approved list of trees and nurseries, and expressed her opinion the Ann Arbor program is a phenomenal road map of how to set up donations.

Trustee Tom Terrill said the Village should remember the Boy Scout tree fund and nursery.

Chairperson Hughes said the Village needs a right-of-way control ordinance due to recent changes in state law. Chairperson Hughes asked how many permits were issued annually by the Village for work in the public right-of-way. Superintendent Fiorentino responded that the Village issued about 10 to 20 permits for work completed by each utility every year.

Manager Burke discussed A T & T's Project Lightspeed.

Chairperson Hughes confirmed that a State law was passed that allows cable television companies to be franchised by the State rather than at the local level by municipalities. A discussion followed about proposed legislation and the State cable franchising authority.

Member Bossu was concerned about the impact of work in the right-of-way on parkway trees.

Chairperson Hughes expressed his opinion it makes sense to have a right-of-way control ordinance.

Trustee Terrill asked if there would be an impact on residents. Manager Burke noted there is not anticipated impact to Village residents as a result of this ordinance.

Member Laier had questions and comments about the draft ordinance. She said she would like to see the removal requirements similar to Winnetka's ordinance included in Kenilworth's ordinance.

Member Bossu asked if the fee is established by resolution. She also asked if the Village can require all utility structures to be underground. Manager Burke will check with Attorney Adams about this. Member Bossu asked if the appearance standards were enough.

Member Laier said Winnetka has a lot more on appearance review.

Member Bossu said she was not sure what is right for Kenilworth. With regard to vegetation control, she feels nervous about allowing any company to come in. She felt it should be a tree trimming company approved by the Village.

A discussion followed about overhead lines around the Village.

Member Bossu suggested looking at page 29 of Winnetka's ordinance about trimming being done only by the Village or its designee. She felt cost recovery could come from the use of consultants costs. She was also concerned about Section 17.C regarding chemical use. She felt it should be excluded. Member Bossu referred to Winnetka's ordinance again and the right-of-way usage fee on page 32 of their ordinance.

Member Laier asked how Comcast provides service.

Member Bossu referred to page 60 of the Winnetka ordinance and the franchise fee which is 5%.

There was general discussion about the next step.

Member Laier asked about a moratorium. Member Bossu discussed a moratorium while the Committee waits for a revised model ordinance.

Chairperson Hughes said it is the consensus of the Committee to have a 90 day moratorium.

Member Laier had questions about the street lighting system. A discussion about the liability of performing work in the right-of-way and other utility work followed.

Member Bossu referred to the street lights at Kenilworth Avenue and Sheridan Road and noted the utility boxes at this location are not attractive. Superintendent Fiorentino said the utility boxes at this location are for the operation of the street lights at this intersection.

Chairperson Hughes said the conclusion was to wait for the new revised ordinance and have a 90 day moratorium.

Member Bossu said she would like research on ways to do this with the least amount of tree damage. She felt the Village needs a greater tree protection requirement for utility work in public ways.

Manager Burke discussed the curb issue. He reviewed the current staff proposal.

Member Laier said Village Engineering Consultant, Doug Paulus, of Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick Engineers, does not recommend residents install curbs in a piecemeal fashion. He said there is a need to engineer the whole street. She asked about grasscrete, and why this option is not successful. Superintendent Fiorentino said a similar product was tried previously on Park Drive and the test was not successful.

Trustee Terrill said if we have a permit process to allow residents to install curbs in front of their homes as proposed by staff, there is a potential plan at least. It offers a solution that is workable.

Member Laier said water will only be pushed to the end of where the curb is, and it looks bad.

Chairperson Hughes asked how it may look on a street if every other home has a curb.

Manager Burke suggested the Village could consider requiring a whole block to participate.

Member Laier said she prefers to see a curb project done in a coordinated Village-wide manner with a bond or special service area. She is concerned about engineering. Superintendent Fiorentino said the Village does not really need to have it engineered.

Chairperson Hughes said if the Village wants to put curbs in for a whole street, could they have a 50/50 program similar to the sidewalk program. Trustee Terrill agreed with this possible approach.

Member Bossu said she is not sold on the 50/50 program.

Member Laier reviewed the areas without curbs.

Manager Burke mentioned Lake Forest's approach to right-of-way installations.

Superintendent Fiorentino explained the approach for design of curb installation and working with residents on driveways.

Chairperson Hughes said the Village has a current policy which prohibits residents from installing curbs in any location. He asked if the Committee wanted to recommend a new policy.

Member Laier said if it can be guaranteed that the street will drain correctly and a whole block does it. She also said the Village should be in charge of overseeing the work to ensure the installation is completed properly.

Member Hughes asked if the Village wanted curbs in the middle of blocks. He said neighbors needed to come together. There was a consensus of the Committee that a full block had to participate if curbs were to be permitted.

Superintendent Fiorentino said it could be done manhole to manhole. Member Laier said that could be done.

Manager Burke said the Committee could write a policy similar to the request for parking regulations. It should include full block participation or at least one side of an entire block. The Village could require a certain curb profile.

Manager Burke reviewed Peter Dyson's request for vegetation in the public right-of-way. Member Bossu expressed her opinion it is a slippery slope to allow plantings in the parkway.

There was a discussion of right-of-way installations elsewhere.

Member Laier said she did not think flowers were an issue, but expressed she felt differently about shrubs and noted such plant materials are prohibited in the Village code.

Chairperson Hughes said there was a consensus to recommend no shrubs on the parkways, though flowers are not a problem.

Member Laier made a motion to adjourn. Member Bossu seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brad Burke
Village Manager