

**CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013**

ROLL CALL: Chairman Craig Czarnecki called the City of Port Washington Board of Public Works meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. in the Common Council Conference Room at the City Hall. Members present: Alderman Mike Ehrlich, Alderman Paul Neumyer, Jason Wittek and Alderman Kevin Rudser. Also present were: City Administrator Mark Grams, City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven, Water Supt. /Commissioner Dave Ewig and Wastewater Supt. Dan Buehler. Absent and excused: Eric Ryer.

Chairman's Business: Chairman Czarnecki discussed going paperless with the Board Members. The members agreed to have their Board of Public Works' packets email to them.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION BY ALDERMAN PAUL NEYMYER AND SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MIKE EHRLICH to approve the minutes of September 10, 2013 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments/Appearances: There was none.

Old Business:

A. Consider Request For Water-Sewer Bill Reduction at 605 W Grand Avenue: Wastewater Supt. Dan Buehler reviewed this item with the Board Members. He stated that 60,000 gallons of water drained out of the ice machine and on to the floor of Gopher One's basement. The basement floor is solid concrete, there is no gravel. There is a drain several feet away from the ice machine. Most of that water went down the drain. Several of the Board Members discussed this item and agreed that she is responsible for the water. If the water had gone outside, she could have had a credit of some kind, but this just stayed in the basement. It is her responsibility. **MOTION BY KEVIN RUDSER AND SECONDED BY MIKE EHRLICH to deny the request for credit on Gopher One's water/sewer bill. Motion carried unanimously.**

New Business

A. Consider 2013 Sidewalk Improvement Program: City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven reviewed this item with the Board Members. He stated that between 1994 and 2006, the City of Port Washington instituted a yearly program of sidewalk maintenance that eliminated trip hazards systematically over that 13 year period. The program not only eliminated hazards for pedestrians, but served to shield the City from lawsuits generated by those injuring themselves by falling on the sidewalk. Since 2006, sidewalk repairs have been made in conjunction with all street improvement projects, but a dedicated sidewalk repair program has not been conducted since then. In the meantime, residents who contact City Hall requesting sidewalk repairs in front of their home have been put on a list, while the DPW has been using asphalt patch material to "ramp" any trip hazards reported in the sidewalk. At the March 19, 2012 BPW meeting, it was recommended that a minimum of \$25,000/year be annually dedicated to sidewalk repair. The 2013-2014 budget included \$40,000 to be spent over the biennium on a dedicated sidewalk program. A contract for sidewalk repair is currently advertised for bidding, estimated at \$40,000. Because the requests for sidewalk repair are scattered all over the City, we chose to address the neighborhoods that were last covered by the sidewalk program in 1994-1997 (which coincided with the greatest concentration of requests received). The City has budgeted \$40,000 for 2013-2014 for this project. Staff recommends approval of the current sidewalk improvement plan, and recommends the

program be continued in 2015 and beyond with a minimum of \$25,000/year for sidewalk improvements in the budget. Requests for sidewalk improvements will continue to be addressed immediately with temporary patching to eliminate the reported trip hazard, and will be permanently addressed only in the year in which that location is contained within the project area. Board Members discussed this item. No action was taken.

Project Updates:

City Engineer Rob Vanden stated that the soil boring project will take place tomorrow, Wednesday, September 11th in Upper Lake Park.

The Coal Dock Park Project has a few punch list items left. One of those projects is for the electrical. Some trees need to be planted and there is some grading and seeding needing to be done. The Grand Opening will be September 28 and 29, 2013 with a 4K walk and run.

The 2013 Street Improvement Project has had its final surface put down last Friday. Parknoll, Parkway, Westport and the cul du sacs with their new islands are looking really nice. This project turned out really well. We will be planting trees in the cul du sacs next year.

The alley between the Boerner Building and Harbor Temptations has been turn into a pedestrian alley and brick pavers have been laid in the alley. These are the same pavers on North Franklin Street. This project should be completed at the end of the month.

Street Commissioner Dave Ewig reviewed the alley patching with the Board Members. He stated that the alley off of Lincoln between S Spring and S Garfield has been graded and asphalted. This alley was very rutted and vehicles were going to be damaged by this alley. The alley between N Wisconsin and N Harrison, the entrance on Harrison was rebuilt. It is a very steep alley and the DPW dug it out and replaced the entrance area with concrete. The alley by W Larrabee Street that was discussed last month had some patching done on it. The Board Members stated that Dave's crew does a great job and interacts with the public very well.

Street Commissioner Dave Ewig reviewed the EAB with the Board Members. He stated that between May and June, 300 trees were given trunk injections and 300 trees were given root injections to fight the EAB. Arborist Jon Crain stated that EAB will spike in 1 to 2 years in the City. There will be a loss of trees in Upper Lake Park and over by the swimming pool area. The dead trees will be taken down and new trees will be planted to replace them. This year, we planted over 500 trees in the City and over 200 trees on the new Coal Dock Park.

9. Forthcoming Events: Coal Dock Park will have its Grand Opening on September 28th and 29th with a 4K walk and run.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION BY PAUL NEUMYER AND SECONDED BY MIKE EHRLICH to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.