

Village of Brooklyn

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PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 27, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 6:24 p.m. Members present were Mark Bruner, Todd Klahn, Helen McCord, and Public Works Director Bob Anderson.

Motion: Klahn/McCord to approve minutes from September 29, 2009. Motion carried.

Discussion was held concerning the Emerald Ash Borer. Options previously discussed were presented. Option #1 is to do nothing. The problem with this is that WHEN (not if) the borers arrive in Brooklyn, The Village will be looking at a HUGE shortfall in the budget to have the trees professionally removed, as well as the inability to hire a tree service that will have the time to remove our trees. Option #2 was to spray the trees annually. This will cost between \$85 and \$180 per tree per year, and is at most 70-85% effective at resisting the borers. This effectiveness figure presumes that all property owners that have ash trees also spray their trees. The 3rd option is to enact the plan that was agreed upon at the September meeting. This involves replacing the 8 ash trees on Church St. with new trees. Winterland Nursery had Japanese Lilac trees for sale at a cost of \$169 each. With the money left in our tree maintenance budget, we can replace 4 this year, and the other 4 next year. During slow periods over the winter, Public Works can remove 1-2 trees in Smithfield Park each year, which will be replaced in the spring. Trees will be replaced with a combination of fast growing trees and slower growing hard maples. The prior recommendation was reaffirmed that Option #3 be implemented. It was agreed that Mark would prepare a statement for the Board meeting, which will also be published in the Village newsletter.

Bob met with Jennifer Everhart from Focus on Energy on 9/30/2009. Jennifer informed Bob that there is grant money available which will reimburse up to 30% of the costs of improvements which will result in energy savings. Bob will talk to PDC to discuss electrical upgrades in the Community Building, the parks, and the well houses. The WWTP was designed and constructed with the most efficient devices available.

Leaks have been reported in the gutters on the Community Building. The seams have all been caulked, but the leaks remain. Bob has obtained estimates as follows:

Lou's Seamless-\$1400.00

AAA Seamless-\$800.00

There is also a section of gutter on the shop building that needs to be repaired. Estimates were:

Lou's-\$600

AAA-\$225

Motion: McCord/Klahn to have AAA Seamless replace the gutters at costs not to exceed \$1400 and \$225 respectively. Motion carried.

The software for the mass unit has crashed. An upgrade is needed, since the software we own is over 6 years old. The cost for the software upgrade will not exceed \$2350.00. Motion: Klahn/McCord to upgrade the software, with funds to be drawn from the meter account. Motion carried.

Sewer connection fees were reviewed. The fee has not been adjusted since 2007. The following recommendation came from Strand Engineering:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2009</u>
1 unit	\$3070	\$3215
2 unit	6140	6430
3 unit	9210	9645
4 unit	12,280	12,860
5 unit	15,350	16,075
6 unit	18,420	19,290

Motion: Klahn/McCord to recommend increases to the Village Board. Motion carried.

Bob gave an update on the alley behind the residences and business on the south side of Hotel St. Bob has talked to Phil Mortensen concerning the property behind his business, but Arlene Elmer is reluctant to talk about the situation. Bob and Josh will try to schedule a meeting with her at a later date.

New information was presented to the Committee by Village President Nadine Walsten concerning the transfer of jurisdiction after maintenance of highways by Dane County. She cited information from the Oregon Observer and from a conversation with Oregon Village Administrator Mike Gracz. Bob will schedule a conference call with Pam Dunphy and Topf Wells of Kathleen Falk's office to discuss the situation. Motion: Klahn/McCord to postpone decision on this to the Village Board meeting when further information will be presented. Motion carried.

Bob reported that punch list work is continuing on the WWTP. We are still waiting on a mixer valve that is on order from Germany to replace the defective unit installed. A pump near the back of the plant has had problems, but is in the process of being repaired. This item is under warranty and the repair is at no cost to the Village.

Bob and Mark met with Jeff Smith of Alliant Energy to discuss renewable energy. At this point, the payback on both solar panels and windmills makes this option unfeasible. Concerns about lifespan and maintenance make this cost prohibitive. This subject will be reviewed on a periodic basis as technology improves and costs decrease.. As of now, energy conservation will provide a higher return on investment.

\$15,000 has been budgeted in both sewer and street accounts to replace the 6" pump. Given the state of the sewer account, it was decided not to use that money. Bob will look into FEMA money that may still be available. If that is not an option, we will wait until 2011 and add the money into the budget.

Discussion was held concerning our 2010 budget goals. They will include the following:

Reconstruct Hotel St. from Teddy St. to North Kerch St., including the installation of a storm sewer which will run under Hotel St. and underground through Smithfield Park.

Maintaining roads, parks, buildings, and water and sewer infrastructure in a cost effective manner.

Discussion was held concerning the compost and old landfill site. Bob reported that several nonresidents, including contractors, have been dumping yard waste and garbage in the site behind the library. Option under discussion include posting signs with regulations and locking the gate. Bob will contact the Ordinance Committee to draft an ordinance governing this, including possible fines for violators.

Motion: Klahn/Bruner to adjourn at 8:14 p.m. Motion carried.