

Public Works Committee
February 8, 2012

Trustee Griswold called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Caledonia Village Hall, 6922 Nicholson Road, Caledonia, Wisconsin. Present were Trustee Gerald Griswold, Trustee Jim Dobbs, Highway Superintendent Blaine Pfeffer, Village Engineer Mike Hayek, and Village Administrator Tom Lebak.

1. Approval of minutes

Trustee Dobbs moved, seconded by Trustee Griswold to approve the minutes from the 01/11/12 Public Works meeting as printed. **Motion carried.**

The committee took the agenda items out of order.

3. Variance request for concrete driveway/7140 Aspen Ct./Steven & Dawn Jacobson

Mr. Jacobson was present with Scott Urban, his contractor. He showed a picture of the driveway and discussed possible solutions. Trustee Griswold feels we do not have an ordinance that defines the slope of a driveway. He feels there is no way for a plow to hook the edge of the driveway. Pfeffer said they will gouge the driveway. Discussion followed. Trustee Griswold feels if the homeowner paves the shoulder and tapers it, he feels the plows will not catch it. Trustee Dobbs stated that the attorney will have to draw up an agreement to be presented to the Village Board. It would be similar to the last agreement drawn up. Discussion followed on the fees that will be required.

Trustee Griswold moved to recommend approval of the variance request for the concrete driveway at 7140 Aspen Ct. for Steven & Dawn Jacobson with an agreement to be drafted by the village attorney and that this item be forward to the Village Board. Trustee Dobbs seconded. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. Proposed Weed Ordinance Revision

Discussion was held on what the village paid the weed commissioner last year. Brian Dey was present and said the village attorney has revised the language in the ordinance, including a new fee schedule. Trustee Griswold feels it should be a 10 day notice not 5 day. Trustee Griswold wants to see one fee for subdivisions not a separate fee for each lot. Dey agreed. Recommended revisions should go to the Legislative & Licensing Committee with a recommendation to change the wording on the fees and time of notification. Discussion again followed on the five day notice.

Trustee Griswold recommends approval of the revised proposed weed ordinance with the following conditions - increasing notice from 5 days to 10 days; for subdivisions all lots will be grouped on one invoice; no \$75 fee be charged unless invoice is over 30 days old and the administrative fee be limited to \$95 fees per invoice.

Discussion followed on the \$75 fee. The fee is only charged when it goes on the tax bills. Trustee Dobbs feels it should be \$75 per lot not per subdivision. This is meant to be punitive.

Trustee Griswold felt the way we do things was extortion. We do not give enough notice and the fees were too high.

Trustee Dobbs moved to move this item to the Legislative & Licensing Committee with the recommendation that the notice goes from 5 days to 10 days, a \$190 maximum administrative fee be charged and \$75 per parcel be the fee with the invoices being sent out 30 days prior to the deadline for special charges on the tax bill notification. Trustee Griswold seconded. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Dey will agree with changing the date to October 15th.

2. 2012 Village resurfacing

Hayek reported that when 95% of homes are completed in a subdivision, the village will put on a final top coat on the roads. There is a problem with some older subdivisions. Hayek spoke with the developer of Maple Park. Hayek has tried to talk to the developers of the older subdivisions. They say that due to the economy, they can not sell their lots and can not afford to finish the roads. Hayek recommends the village attorney write a letter of demand for 4 subdivisions this year and put a lien on the lots and get the roads done. Pfeffer feels the second coat should be put down sooner. Right now the village will finish the top coat on roads after 95% of the lots are sold or after 5 years. Trustee Griswold feels this should be 2 years. Hayek feels the sooner the better. The roads in the older subdivisions are in very bad shape and need the final coat. Trustee Griswold would like copies of the information that Hayek has regarding each subdivision such as what money is available and how much it will cost to finish the roads. Trustee Dobbs wants this forwarded to the attorney to begin billing developers. Trustee Griswold wants to see all the information Hayek has. Pfeffer wants to know if he should set aside money for the paving of some of the subdivisions this year. He would like to do this when the weather is good.

Hayek gave an example of the Maple Park subdivision. He handed out information. About \$95,000 total is needed. The development agreement says the developer will also pay for streetlights and they haven't. There should be an additional late fee charged for this.

Hayek has talked to the developers and they say they can't finish the roads at this time. Trustee Griswold feels the attorney will need to go after them. Discussion was held on what subdivisions to do this year. It was decided that Woodland Pines, Maple Park, and Quarry Springs will be done this year. Hayek and Pfeffer will do some measuring and see which ones they can do and figure out the costs. Extra money needed will come from the paving budget. The village attorney will go after the developers for the money spent. Hayek has spoken to the four major developers and they say they can't do the work at this time. Staff will work on this item.

5. Update on 4 Mile Road Bridge Project

Hayek said Trustee Wishau wanted documentation on the approval of the track plan by the railroad. Hayek said that UP gave its approval in 2009. He referred to and read the email. Hayek gave the history of the track plan and the 4 Mile Road project. He went through emails between the village and the railroad. He discussed revisions needed to the original plans and the work done with the railroad on revisions. The railroad is now saying they have not received the plans. He explained the railroad takes a lot of time to respond. Discussion continued. Hayek said the current plan is to shift the tracks 30 feet to the east to avoid the culvert problem. The UP railroad, in concept, approved the 30 feet track shift. Hayek explained what work is currently being done.

6. Update on Caledonia Yard Waste Site Lease Extension

Trustee Griswold has spoken to Roger Gast and hopes a deal can be reach for the next meeting.

7. Public Works construction managed by municipal public utility

Representatives from Earth X were present. Hayek said Earth X has done 8 projects for utility district. He explained projects they have completed in the village. Hayek said they have done good work and they give us a good price. He said they work well with staff, and solve problems. Hayek said they are a good contactor and recommends them. Hayek will continue to let Earth X bid work in the village. Bob Lui, Utility Manager, has changed the language in his contract documents to not allow Earth X to do work for the utility. Hayek feels they do good work and will allow them to bid for village work. Public Works does not oversee utility district projects per charter ordinance. Hayek disagrees with this. The charter ordinance should be reviewed. Pfeffer said he has never had a problem with Earth X. Hayek said there is no communication with the utility district on projects. He does not have a good working relationship with the utility district and would like to see changes. Trustee Griswold would like to see a PE as director of the utility district. He would like to see the engineer overseeing a Public Works department. Right now the board feels the engineer is too busy to deal with Public Works. Trustee Dobbs asked what should be done with Hayek's memo. Lebak feels this memo should go to the village board in closed session for discussion. Lebak feels there is a bidders pre-qualifications requirement and he feels you can't just say no to a bidder. Lebak will talk to Lui. The owner of Earth X said he had problems with Bob Lui during the Indian Trail project and found it difficult to communication with him. He feels the problems could have been avoided. He stated that they have no problems with other municipalities they work with. He feels Bob Lui was the sole problem on the last project. The owner explained the problems they had on the Indian Trails project.

Trustee Dobbs made a motion, seconded by Trustee Griswold that there being no further business the meeting was adjourned. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Chmielinski
Deputy Village Clerk