

**THE VILLAGE OF SHOREWOOD HILLS
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 6:32pm

Location: Virtual via Zoom

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Imes at 6:32 pm.
 - a. Roll Call -- Members present included Mr. Imes, Cara Coburn Faris, Katie Petykowski, Rick Chappell, Bob Corbett and Austin Tierney. Mary Sweeney was excused. Others present included Village Engineer Brian Berquist, Village Administrator Sharon Eveland, and Administrative Services Coordinator David Sykes.
2. Eveland confirmed compliance with the open meeting law.
3. Public Comments, Appearances and Communications – None.
4. Approval of the minutes – January 11, 2023: Ms. Faris moved, Ms. Petykowski seconded to approve the January 11, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.
Vote: 6-0 (approved).
5. Update from Public Works Superintendent – Ms. Eveland reported on Mike Meier’s behalf. The ice rink has suffered due to the weather this year. The future status of the ice rink is unclear but the Public Works Crew will do their best to maintain the ice for as long as possible.
Ms. Eveland and Mr. Meier met with Madison Gas & Electric (MGE) regarding a major upgrade project in the Village during the next couple of years. MGE plans to upgrade the primary power lines and bury as much as possible to improve service and consistency. Ms. Eveland reported the Village received an additional \$120K in funding for the Lake Mendota Drive bridge project. The project schedule is on hold pending DOT getting the construction contracts signed.
Mr. Chappell asked if the Crew’s salting practices have changed, as he has seen salt being distributed on flat streets, where no salt was put down in the past. Ms. Eveland will check with Mr. Meier and report back to the Committee.
6. Discussion regarding Stormwater Utility rate analysis and possible rate increase – Ms. Eveland provided background on the utility and reviewed the spreadsheet projections provided. The Stormwater Utility is not covering all of its costs and projections indicate a need to increase rates. The Board has provided guidance that the General Fund should not subsidize costs of large items (i.e. street sweeper, leaf picker) that are dedicated items for stormwater purposes.
The Committee discussed historic rates, utility fund balance, capital needs and possible implementation dates. They also discussed possibilities of a rate structure that would be more equitable for smaller lots/houses (compared to larger lots/houses). It was questioned whether the Village had the staff and technology to manage a more complex rate structure at a sustainable cost.

Village Engineer Brian Berquist reported on the City of Madison rate structure, which to his knowledge, is the only municipality that does not have a standard rate for all residential properties. A similar model would have larger lots/houses paying a higher stormwater fee, but it is unclear if the costs to manage the utility would negate the revenue received.

The consensus of the Committee was to move forward with a uniform rate increase and investigate options for a tiered system to establish rates for varying sized lots/houses. This item will be discussed more at the Committee's March 8 meeting with a possible recommendation to the Board.

7. Next meeting date: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 6:30 pm.
8. Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Sykes
Administrative Services Coordinator