

Village of Shorewood Hills
Public Works Committee Minutes - APPROVED
Tuesday, November 14, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Erin Clune at 5:32 pm.
 - a. **Roll Call** – Members present included Ms. Clune, Rick Chappell, Katie Petykowski, Austin Tierney, Bob Corbett and Tom Popkewitz. Mary Sweeney was excused. Others present included Village Engineer Brian Berquist, Interim Public Works Superintendent Tary Handschke and Administrative Services Coordinator David Sykes.
2. **Note Compliance with open meetings law** – Mr. Sykes confirmed compliance with the open meeting law.
3. **Public Comments, Appearances and Communications** – None.
4. **Approval of Minutes** – Mr. Tierney moved and Ms. Clune seconded a motion to approve the September 13, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Safe crossing at University Avenue** – The Committee discussed the crossing at Maple Terrace/University Ave (near Target). A number of ideas were proposed to make the area safer for pedestrians. The discussion resulted in a motion by Mr. Chappel, seconded by Ms. Clune to recommend painting a striped walkway along the east side of the entrance to the Walnut Grove shops from University Avenue to the water cutout at the end of Maple Terrace and install soldier pylons to delineate the walkway, when the weather permits. The motion carried.
6. **Highbury traffic study results/Topping resident feedback** – The Committee discussed possible options to increase safety at the intersection of Highbury Road at Topping Road and speeding in general on Topping Road including reducing speed to 15 mph, not allowing trucks on Highbury (except DPW), speed humps/rumble strips, digital speed signs, and reinstalling posts on Topping to discourage illegal right turns onto Highbury. Following the discussion, Ms. Clune moved and Ms. Petykowski seconded a motion to recommend the Board approve installing a “No Trucks” sign on Highbury Rd at Locust Drive, removing the Blackhawk Country Club directional sign on Tally Ho Lane at Highbury Rd and installing soldier pylons on Topping Rd, just west of Highbury Rd to discourage illegal right hand turns onto Highbury Rd. The motion carried unanimously.
7. **Lake Mendota Drive Speeds** – Mr. Popkewitz feels there needs to be efforts to reduce speed and volume of traffic on Lake Mendota Drive. It is a multi-use road with numerous cars, bikes and pedestrians present throughout the day. He expects it to become worse with the west campus and UW Hospital development. The Committee discussed his suggestions of speed reduction by traffic calming measures, consider “no thru traffic” restrictions during rush hours, closing the Lake Mendota Drive bridge. The Committee Chair will invite the Police Chief to attend a future meeting to join in the conversation. Ms. Clune moved and Ms. Petykowski seconded a motion to invite the Police Chief to attend a meeting to join in the

conversation and for Town & Country to gather information on traffic calming options for the Committee to consider. The motion carried unanimously.

8. **Public Works Superintendent Report** – Mr. Handschke reported on some of the projects that the Public Works Crew has completed recently: Replace a curb for stormwater control, installed new storm inlet near Sweetbriar/Oxford intersection, winterized the Pool, installed blacktop patches, replaced aging water meters, managed the recent water/sewer main breaks, locating underground utilities, and getting trucks ready for snow. They discussed how being short-staffed has caused them to be behind on their usual leaf collection. They discussed the skating rink preparations and options for volunteers to help, if the weather cooperates. Mr. Handschke also suggested that the Committee consider making the summer one-way traffic changes in the Pool area (Columbia Rd and Swarthmore Ct) year-round. Over the winter, the Crew will work on fixing up the Pool/Community Center building in preparation for the All-City Swim Meet.

9. **Budgeting of future PW projects** – Mr. Berquist noted that the Village has not done road crack filling maintenance since the last major road project in 2015-16. He suggested the Village invest in crack filling and/or chip seal to extend the life of the existing roads. Ms. Clune moved and Mr. Tierney seconded a motion to recommend the Board approve up to \$100K in the tax levy (if it is available) for street maintenance. The motion carried unanimously.

10. **Future Agenda Items**

- Circulate committee rules and informal bylaws.
- Jersey barriers at corridor, construction barrier, crash barrier.
- Update on bridge project completion expected at end of October.
- Circulating community support.

11. **Next meeting date:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 5:30 pm.

12. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Sykes
Administrative Services Coordinator