

**PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES (PWUC) COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 6:00 p.m., Park View Room**

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**1. Roll call.**

Meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by Mr. Kressin

Present: Mr. Domaszek in Person (via Zoom Mr.Haas, Mr. Coons, Mr. Harley, Mr. Kressin, Mr., Casperson, & Mr. McNamara)

Absent: None

Also Present: Mr. Paul in person and Zach Lieven (David J. Frank Landscaping) and Ann Stark, resident at 15200 Westover Rd.

**2. Review and act on minutes for October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Meeting.**

Mr. Harley moved and Mr. Coons seconded to approve the October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

**3. Review and possible action on resident request at 15200 Westover Rd to install landscaping in Ditch/ROW**

Mr. Paul reviewed with the committee the resident requested ROW Indemnification to install plantings and stone in their ditch line due to their concern about safety with mowing the grass. Mr. Zach Lieven provided survey data points that provided slope percentages at 5 foot intervals along the ditch. Mr. Lieven provided an explanation of the data and opened up to any questions from the committee.

Mr. Casperson felt that installation of stones and plantings anywhere near the flow line of the ditch would provide a larger maintenance headache long term than the short term solution they were after. Mr. Haas, Mr. McNamara, Mr. Domaszek and Mr., Coons also agreed. Additionally Mr. Coons restated his suggestion of developing criteria that needs to be met before any resident could request an indemnification. Mr. Kressin explained that the industry standard of being able to maintain a ditch with a lawnmower would be greater than 33% which this property does not meet. Mr. Kressin and Mr. Harley who have experience with engineering and design felt that although this plan may work in other instances, the decision must be carefully considered based upon engineering principles and no arbitrary decision should be decided that would set precedent, acknowledging the flurry of possible requests that could arise if this is granted without careful thought. Within the discussion, the committee discussed the placement of stone and fabric in the ditch line and a majority agreed that it was not a good precedent to set as far as a stormwater solution and the fact of having it 100% clear in turf was likely the best practice.

Ms. Stark reminded the committee that this is the third meeting that they have been required to attend to achieve a hopeful approval, though Mr. Domaszek did remind her that this is very important to follow through with a well informed decision whether approved or denied and if the committee does not continue down this path it would be simpler to deny the request and move on. However, this committee is doing their best in considering the impacts and precedents for any future committee members and residents alike.

Mr. Kressin asked Mr. Paul to consult with Ruckert-Mielke and other communities with rural cross section ditches as to what policies or standards they have in place when they are face with requests of such that would assist the committee in finding a solution and help set some standards to move forward with.

**4. Update on Public Works Projects**

Mr. Paul explained that the DPW is working on finishing up a few construction projects and are ready to transition into the next season with tree removals and pruning, snow plowing, etc. Mr. Kressin inquired about the current salt supply. Mr. Paul informed the committee that we are in good shape and prepared for the upcoming winter season.

**5. Other Business**

None.

**6. Adjourn.**

Mr. Domaszek moved and Mr. Coons seconded to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Paul, Jr., Public Works Director

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