

VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
CAPITAL PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2016 AT 6:00 PM
LINCOLN HALL MEETING ROOM, 2 LINCOLN STREET
AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Agenda changes/additions
3. Agenda approval
4. Public comments
5. Rank EEE – 17 Greenwood Avenue
6. Review and approve minutes of previous meeting 11/3/15

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
CAPITAL PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 5, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andrew Brown (Chairman); Kevin Collins, Rick Hamlin, Amber Thibeault. (David Nistico was absent.)
ADMINISTRATION: Rick Jones, Public Works Superintendent.
OTHERS PRESENT: Gary and Pam Jurkiewicz.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Andrew Brown called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

2. AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MOTION by Amber Thibeault, SECOND by Rick Hamlin, to approve the agenda as presented. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. RANK EEE - 17 GREENWOOD AVENUE

Public Works Superintendent, Rick Jones, briefed the committee on the persistent drainage problem on Greenwood Avenue and the work by the village to try to mitigate flooding in the houses on the street. The village has spent nearly \$15,000 to try to fix the problem and as yet has not had success. The sidewalk has been raised up, grate covers changed to better collect run off, and a storm water pipe installed under the driveway at 17 Greenwood Ave., but flooding is still occurring. The current proposal is to lower the driveway at 17 Greenwood Avenue so runoff is directed then to the pipe underneath the driveway. The entire neighborhood should benefit from what the Village Engineer calls a 'safety valve' for the drainage. The owner of 17 Greenwood Avenue, Jim Benjamin, agrees with the proposal. Public Works will redo the driveway with the drainage improvements.

Andrew Brown summarized the benefit to the community is for the village to work with the homeowner on a cost effective long term solution for drainage versus having to repave Greenwood Avenue which is much more expensive and will make the road surface higher and shift the drainage problem to a different portion of the street. Rick Hamlin added the homeowner is willing to have the work done and allow water to drain onto his property (driveway). A new property owner may not allow this to be done. Also, if nothing was done to resolve the drainage issue and the homeowner decides to redo his driveway, raising the surface even slightly will make the existing problem worse.

Kevin Collins asked if there is a health/safety issue. Rick Hamlin said uncontrolled runoff on the road onto the sidewalk and into houses is a health/safety issue.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gary Jurkiewicz, 19 Greenwood Avenue, said he has had four floods in his finished basement over the past 20 years for out-of-pocket expense of \$25,000. Insurance does not cover flood damage. The large storms seem to be happening more frequently than 25 year storms. During big storms the rainwater at times has been a foot deep covering the entire roadway like a pond. The runoff comes from two directions collecting at the low point on the street which is 17 & 19 Greenwood so having runoff go to the driveway at 17 Greenwood will take half the load. The neighborhood is grateful for any improvements.

Pam Jurkiewicz, 19 Greenwood Avenue, asked about adding another drain in their driveway. Rick Hamlin advised against this because once the pipes are changed the water would actually come up and out of the drain. The pipes were installed when Greenwood Avenue was built and in order to add larger pipe the entire length of street would have to be torn up to the high point in the drainage system.

Andrew Brown read an email from Jim Benjamin, 17 Greenwood Ave., dated 1/4/16, about the flooding that has occurred since 1967 and willingness to work with the village to fix the problem. Rick Jones noted the practice of the village when complaints are received about water from the street going onto private property is to move the water out to the public right-of-way.

RANKING

The committee ranking of EEE – Greenwood Avenue drainage is 56.

Andrew Brown noted the project falls before Briar Lane and after Railroad Avenue on the project list. Mr. Brown will inform Lauren Morrisseau and the Board of Trustees of the Greenwood Avenue project ranking, and also that West Street to the ANR path (Pearl Street) is reassigned as “FFF”.

5. APPROVE MINUTES

November 3, 2015

MOTION by Rick Hamlin, SECOND by Kevin Collins, to approve the minutes of 11/3/15 as written. VOTING: 3 ayes, one abstention (Amber Thibeault); motion carried.

6. NEXT MEETING/AGENDA

Next meeting: March 1, 2016 at 6 PM.

Agenda: Discuss long term planning

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Rick Hamlin, SECOND by Kevin Collins, to adjourn the meeting. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.