



Village of Downs

Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks Committee

211 S. Seminary PO Box 18
Downs, IL 61736-0018
309-378-3221

Mike James
Chairperson /
Indian Hills

Lori Aldridge
Clerk

Paul Myszka
Mallard Point

Randall Stine
Village Eastside

Wes Tate
Village Westside

March 2011 Committee Meeting

When: Thursday, March 31st, 2011
Where: Village Hall
Time: 7:08 pm CST

Agenda:

- 1) Call to order and pledge
- 2) Roll call – Absent – Lori, Wes
- 3) Recognition of visitors – Betty Schenkel, Dixie Curtis
 - a. Dixie wanted to get some additional information about Sewer. Specifically if there was going to be a park entrance on Price. Mike stated that the streets committee does not have plans to put in an entrance to the park from N Price. Paul also said that he thought that in the last Board meeting this was posed and that feedback from residents didn't want there to be a parking lot or entrance.
 - b. Dixie also brought safety concerns up related to using this area as a park (children's safety, etc.). Betty also brought up flooding issues and potential for dirt washing away. There was also concern brought up related to non-residents coming in to use the park.
 - c. Dixie asked if we were going to widen Price Street or put in a sidewalk. Mike said that we can look at this as an option in future planning and the street will appear wider once the road is fixed from the sewer.
 - d. Dixie brought up issues related to visual dilapidated houses with trash and why doesn't the village force these individuals to clean up their yards, trash, broken down cars.
 - e. Betty asked if sidewalks would be fixed down Washington. She said that the sidewalk was damaged when the sewer trucks were going in and out of the park. Mike said he was going to have Shawn come and look at it.
 - f. There was also a discussion about dogs in the area that are dangerous and bite people.
- 4) Approval of previous minutes – approved February
- 5) Activity since last meeting
 - a. Spring cold patch work
- 6) Financial Report for MFT and SAS Funds
 - a. MFT – doing well, 33% of budget. We will be spending street sign budget (will probably go over). In addition we plan on spending money on culverts and are waiting on snow removal bills. Mike reviewed the MFT budget and all items held within. He said that he will look closer to reduce where possible because we are ~\$2k over.
 - b. SAS – 41% of budget. Holding steady on salary. Wes has taken a full time position so we will look at backfill resources.
- 7) Discussion Items
 - a. Sewer Road Repair – Unhappy with state of roads. We need to address all items that have been fixed so far again. The streets need to be put back into pre-work condition.



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- b. Sidewalks – We will not do much with sidewalks this year due to sewer construction. We plan on putting a higher priority on this next year.
 - c. Lincoln Street extension – We have not heard anything back from the Railroad. Mike is working with Mayor to draft letter to Railroad for an easement agreement.
 - d. Street signs – We are working to on options for signs. We are not satisfied with some of the sample we have as it doesn't meet the MUTCD codes.
 - e. Mowing – Only mowing will be park, along tracks, village hall, marketplace area, and small parks up town. We will lose retention areas out in Mallard unless we take over ownership of them.
 - f. SAS Plan – No Activity.
 - g. Street Ordinance Review (Chapter 8) – Reviewed remainder of Article I section 14-22.
 - h. Citizen complaint(s) – See above issues posed by Dixie/Betty
- 8) Action Items
- a. Approve the purchase of a Truck, Lift bed and plow – Approved
 - b. Approve the purchase of a trash pump for use on ditch and tile work – Tabled
 - c. Approve a letter be sent from Mayor to Norfolk Southern Railroad in regard to the easement – Approved as Amended
 - d. Approve the hiring of Part-Time Summer help - Approved
 - e. Approve the continued posting of Part-Time job openings for summer and Seasonal Workers. Approved as Amended
 - f. Approve the Village Clean-up Day – Tabled - Morris Tick will provide us with a free dumpster and village would get a percentage of any recyclables. Discussion on when to do this and how so that we can monitor what items are brought in so that we can ensure that recyclables are brought in versus trash.
 - g. Approve the selling of gravel to Village residents. Not Approved.
- 9) New Business and planned work for next month
- a. Gravel and patch work – Mike/Other volunteers/Rodney will work on it until PT is hired
 - b. Cleveland Street Ditches – Will start in the next couple of weeks once Township resources are available.
 - c. Budget Planning – This will begin in April
- 10) Meeting adjourned – 9:24 pm by Randall

Mike James
Village of Downs Trustee
Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks Committee Chair