

Village of Hiram
Sidewalks Committee Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2016

Call to Order: Tom Wadkins called the meeting to order at 9:03 pm.

Committee Members Present: Tom Wadkins, Councilman
Paul Spencer, Councilman
Lou Bertrand, Mayor

Hiram Officials Present: James McGee, Village Administrator
Susan Skrovan, Fiscal Officer
Rob Dempsey, Councilman
Frank Hemphill, Councilman
Dave Smith, Councilman
Tom Reitz, Village Solicitor

Others: Mr. Zuver and Mrs. Hemphill

Nominate Chairman: A motion to nominate Tom Wadkins as Chairman was made by Mr. Spencer with a second from Mr. Dempsey. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda: A motion to accept the agenda as presented was made by Mr. Dempsey with a second from Mr. Spencer. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: None – initial meeting

Guests/Public: Mr. Hemphill felt our new sidewalks are beautiful! Our old sidewalks; some are scary.

Old Business: None – initial meeting

New Business: The question that was raised was on our current sidewalk legislation and whether it is enforceable. Property owners are responsible for their own sidewalk repair. Solicitor Tom Reitz discussed 3 ways the Village can get them repaired and paid and felt the failure to maintain your sidewalks is a true liability!


- 1) Contract with a company; notify your residents and perform an inspection.
- 2) Put a levy on the ballot; either permanent or one that would expire to fix all sidewalks.
- 3) Do an assessment, which includes Hiram College. In order to do this, you would have to pass a resolution of necessity, establish an equalization board and then pass an ordinance to move forward.

Solicitor Tom Reitz will look into which mechanism would be all inclusive to include Hiram College; perhaps a special income tax. He felt at the very least, Council should repeal legislation on the books now.


The next Sidewalks Committee meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2017 following Finance/Safety.

Adjournment: A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Bertrand with a second by Mr. Spencer. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm

Respectfully Submitted by:


Susan J. Skrovan, Fiscal Officer

Attest:


Tom Wadkins, Chairman