

**Town of Tewksbury
Sidewalk Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: February 11, 2003

Meeting Time: 7:30 PM

Meeting Place: Community Room, Tewksbury Police Station

Attendee's: Franco Luccesi, Ted Dooling, Sam Krikorian, Mike Mucci, Elaine Quinlan and Sandra Campo.

Meeting Commenced at 7:35 pm. Meeting minutes voted on and approved unanimously for meeting dates January 7th and January 14th. Committee voted unanimously to appoint Ted Dooling as Vice Chairperson for the Sidewalk Committee.

Franco updated the members regarding a meeting he and Ted attended with Bill Burris, David Cressmen, and Charlie Caldwell. He stated that Mr. Cressman feels that there are very few options for funding sidewalk construction. Mr. Cressman also stated that he is apposed to any line items being allocated to sidewalk construction due to lack of funds available in the town budget. Franco also stated that Mr. Caldwell feels that a proposition 2 ½ override should be used as a last resort and he also feels that the only option would be to use Chapter 90 funds. Franco also informed us that Mr. Cressman stated that all chapter 90 funds for the next few years would need to be used on various culverts around town. Franco went on to state that Mr. Burris is planning to meet with the planning board regarding updating their formula for developers to contribute to sidewalk fund. Mike brought up the possibility of being eligible for applying for funds through a TEA-21 federal grant as a viable option. He stated he would look into it. The topic of merging the Sidewalk plan with the sewerage plan in order to be cost efficient. Franco advised us that Mr. Burris is apposed to that idea in fear that the sewerage funds may be depleted before the sewerage project is complete. Franco confirmed that there was going to be sidewalks constructed in front of McDonalds on Main St. near Livingston St. Ted stated that he was curious how they arrived at their cost figures for that project, as it seems there is a discrepancy in the figures the Sidewalk Committee researched and the figures for this project. Franco stated that Mr. Cressman did commit to any incoming funds from developers would be allocated to the Sidewalk Committee's five year plan.

Ted recommended the Sidewalk Committee meet with the DPW and Planning Board to discuss the possible viable options for increasing funds for sidewalk construction. Franco also advised members of discussion at their meeting about the cell tower at the South St. Fire Station. He advised that Mr. Cressman is not certain that the project is going to go forward. If it does go forward, Mr. Cressman did state that there is a possibility that the 25K could be allocated to sidewalks. Franco was not sure if this would be a lump sum thing or if it would be 25K per year. Elaine inquired about having the town save money by hiring an engineer. Franco stated that our

research on surrounding towns sidewalk funding was reviewed at their meeting. He advised that Mr. Cressman stated that Tewksbury would not be in a position to attempt any of these procedures that some of the other towns use due to lack of industry in town, therefore, lack of funds.

Franco advised members that it was brought to his attention by a lay person that sidewalks may be going in at Market Basket at Shawsheen and East. Sandra will try to get a copy of the plans. Ted suggested we try to suggest we solicit some donations from some larger businesses and industry in town. Sandra agreed.

Sandra inquired to members our options regarding going for another Proposition 2 ½ override or presenting another article in the upcoming fall warrant. Franco stated it is not out of the question but probably not high on the priority list.

Members discussed the option of participating in the Children's Opportunity Fair. Members discussed seeking some bicycle donations from Wal-Mart and raffling them off. Franco stated he would get in touch with Laura Caplan to see if she would be able to contact Wal-Mart.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 pm.