

**Town of Tewksbury
Sidewalk Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: May 12, 2003

Meeting Time: 7:30PM

Meeting Place: Community Room, Police Station

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

Guest: Dan Coughlin from Tutela Engineering.

Meeting Commenced at 7:35 pm. Secretary, Sandra Campo arrived at 7:40 pm. At arrival members were reviewing with quest the design drafts for the first half of the remaining portion of Shawsheen St. that has yet to be designed. Ted inquired to Mr. Coughlin what types of obstacles they encountered while designing this portion. Mr. Coughlin stated that he estimates approximately 100ft. of retaining walls will need to be built in this stretch of Rd. He discussed the different options and cost factors for this as follows:

Timber retaining wall: Approx. \$50.00/linear foot
Mortar retaining wall: Approx. \$160.00/linear foot
Gravity retaining wall: Approx. \$100.00/linear foot

Mr. Coughlin also stated that there are railroad tracks that will also be an added cost factor as they have been placed on notice by Boston & Maine Corporation requesting that a permit be obtained in order to construct on their property at a cost of \$1500.00. Franco suggested that he feels the railroad tracks are a safety issue at present and should be brought to the attention of the safety officer despite how we proceed with construction.

Members also discussed the future sewerage plans for Shawsheen St. Mr. Coughlin estimates according to the outlined sewerage schedule that Shawsheen St. will be completed in year 2005. His feeling was that sidewalks would be able to be constructed in around the spring of year 2006.

Franco advised members that he spoke with Mr. Cressman at length regarding the different options for proceeding with sidewalks in accordance with the sewerage plan. He stated that Mr. Cressman feels strongly that it would be in everybody's best interest to start sidewalk construction on a street that already has existing sewerage lines. Mr. Cressman suggested to Franco that he would recommend the stretch of road on North St. starting from the existing sidewalk at the North St. School to the railroad tracks. Franco discussed the option of replacing the existing sidewalk on North St. Mr. Cressman is in favor of just extending the sidewalk and not replacing the existing sidewalk. Franco stated that he has some issues with the integrity of the existing sidewalk as some portions of it are below grade.

Members discussed our options which we agreed are to either wait until 2006 to begin to implement our plan and start on Shawsheen St. when the sewerage plan is complete or to begin to implement our plan on North St. as funding becomes available. Members agreed that it would not make sense to begin construction on Shawsheen St. until after the sewerage project is complete in order to minimize damage to brand new sidewalks. Members voted unanimously to begin design and construction for above stated portion of North St. as funds become available. Franco stated that he confirmed that there is approximately 41K in the Planning Boards Sidewalk fund and it may actually be less now. He stated it is unclear when there will be funding available to proceed with our plan. Members discussed the idea of having a larger section of North St. designed prior to starting any construction. The majority of members felt it would be better to design just the portion from North St. School to R.R. tracks and begin construction as soon as funding is available.

Ted Dooling left meeting at 8:30.

Franco stated that there was a vote at the Special Town Meeting which allowed the remaining 18K in existing sidewalk funds to be re-allocated for construction instead of strictly engineering.

Sandra inquired about drafting another article for the fall town warrant. Franco and Eric suggested it might not be good timing due to the economic forecast and the current fiscal hardship that the town is facing.

Sam suggested that we attempt to allocate money from chapter 90 funds. Franco advised that Chapter 90 funds are already allocated for the next few years. Mr. Coughlin suggested that in his experience he has seen many towns seek funding for sidewalk construction through betterments.

Members agreed on next two meeting dates being June 9th, and July 14th. Minutes for the April 7th and Feb. 11th meetings were voted on and unanimously accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.