

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF WARWICK
MAY 15, 2023, 6:00 P.M.
WORK SESSION**

9644

A Work Session of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick was held on Monday, May 15, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. in Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Warwick, NY. Present was: Mayor, Michael J. Newhard, Trustees: Barry Cheney, Carly Foster, Mary Collura, and Tom McKnight. Also, present was Village Clerk Raina Abramson and Village Attorney Stephen Gaba. Others present: Camilla Mamani.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
The Village Clerk held the roll call.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to enter into Executive Session to seek the confidential advice of counsel.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

In Executive Session

In Executive Session: Michael Newhard, Mayor, and Trustees Barry Cheney, Carly Foster, Mary Collura and Tom McKnight. Also present, Village Attorney Stephen Gaba and Village Clerk Raina Abramson.

Exit Executive Session

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to exit executive session and resume the work session.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

1. Village of Warwick sidewalks.

Trustee Foster detailed the outline of the meeting agenda which was to explain the actions already taken by the Village to address sidewalk related needs, acknowledge that there is an ongoing condition and accessibility issues as well as areas that have gaps in sidewalks, to recap the Village Code and the responsibilities around sidewalk maintenance as outlined by the Code, and to discuss the challenge in addressing these concerns and the range of possible solutions and path forward.

The actions planned by the Village are two funded CDBG grant projects planned for 2023 for sidewalk repair on South Street and sidewalk installation on South Street. Mayor Newhard said that the repair on South Street is from Second Street to Third Street and the installation is from Galloway/17A to Lawrence.

Trustee Foster added that the Village also submitted the RAISE grant application earlier this year and expects to hear back in June. This application included the full final design for sidewalks on West Street to High School and sidewalk design on Galloway and planning for South Street Extension and multiuse trail from State Route 94 to ShopRite. The application also included a full sidewalk audit policy analysis and implementation plan.

In progress is the Safe Streets for all application to be submitted in July. The current proposed scope is to bring all the sidewalks up to ADA compliance and state of good repair and to do some demonstrations for traffic calming as well as to update the transportation plan.

Trustee McKnight stated that if the Village has an action plan, then the Village can go after some of the implementation funds.

Trustee Foster stated that the Village has had some coordination with NYS DOT on their State-owned roads and repairing the sidewalks there. Also planned are the improvements that will benefit the crosswalk at Main Street at Village Hall with the new metered parking that will improve safety.

Trustee Foster stated that the Village has one speed detector and will be adding another one this year. The Village is also coordinating with the police department on speeding. Trustee Foster detailed other coordinated efforts for speed reduction. Discussion ensued about speeding.

Further discussion ensued about sidewalks and crosswalks.

Trustee Foster stated that the Village should be thinking about what solutions could be before the Village in terms of how they deal with Code Enforcement, other revenue options and how the Village engages and communicates about the options. Trustee Foster said that the three big options are to reinforce the code, cost sharing, and move in public direction and if there is any

cost sharing the Village either has to chip away over a multiyear process or the Village has to have a new revenue source.

Discussion ensued about the different types of revenue sources and project funding.

Trustee Foster explained that the next steps could be to flush out the options more thoroughly and then have public engagement.

Discussion ensued about cost sharing for sidewalk improvement.

Trustee Collura inquired if residents are made aware that their sidewalks are their responsibility.

Trustee McKnight said that if the Village would request that certain areas get fixed the Village would have to do a full inventory and condition of each sidewalk in the first place so that it's given letter grades and suggest communication to the resident over two years, including examples, so no one is surprised. Trustee McKnight said it would educate the residents on the code and alert them that it is their responsibility. Trustee McKnight added that there should be an education campaign before anything happened. Mayor Newhard agreed especially with a lot of new homeowners that may not be fully aware.

Trustee Collura stated that the other side is that if residents decide to tear up their sidewalks and redo them, they have to be compliant and inspected by the Village.

Trustee McKnight said that a page in the newsletter could be dedicated to sidewalks just so everyone is aware. Trustee McKnight said that the idea is to apply for grants, with examples that have already been done, but sidewalks are expensive done on a grand scale, the Village is doing the best that they can with the budget, and to the residents, there may come a time that sidewalks will have to be addressed.

Discussion ensued about the approximate cost to homeowners for sidewalk replacement, funding options, and condition assessment.

Trustee Foster detailed the next steps such as whether the Village needs to do an ADA accessible ramp if they paint a crosswalk, potentially doing an education campaign around this issue, and exploring the various possible revenue options.

The Village Board opened the meeting up to the floor.

Camilla Mamani: Ms. Mamani stated that she lives on South Street towards Galloway and asked the Village Board to please do something about South Street because she has a child with a disability and really want ADA sidewalks because walking on the sidewalks is very hard all the way from Galloway to Third Street, even if there is a sidewalk it's a

disaster. When it rains there are potholes in them, so you have to go into the street. Ms. Mamani said that sometimes it gets really dangerous. She said that she sees more families with strollers. Many walk in the street. Ms. Mamani said that there are many accidents and people are speeding even though they know it's 25 mph in that section, they still speed. Ms. Mamani asked the Board to please consider South Street.

Mayor Newhard stated that it is a prime consideration through the Community Development money through the County. Mayor Newhard said that this year the Village is doing two projects, one from Second Street to Third Street and then from Galloway to Lawrence and then the area in between is the next piece, then it will all be completed. Mayor Newhard said that it's going to take another year.

Ms. Mamani said she really appreciates that. She stated that the Village has the park which is beautiful because it was done to include people with disabilities but all the kids with wheelchairs might not be able to go because they have to go on the street making it very dangerous.

Adjournment

A **MOTION** was by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to adjourn the work session at approximately 7:30 p.m.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Raina M. Abramson, Village Clerk