

PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF CROSSLAKE
WHITEFISH AVE, HILLTOP DRIVE, WOODLAND DRIVE, AND COOL HAVEN LANE
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
PRELIMINARY IMPROVEMENT HEARING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021
6:00 P.M. - CITY HALL

The Council for the City of Crosslake met in a Special Session on Thursday, February 4, 2021 at City Hall. The following Council Members were present: Mayor Dave Nevin, John Andrews, Aaron Herzog, and Marcia Seibert-Volz. Dave Schrupp was present via Zoom. Also present were City Administrator Mike Lyonais, City Clerk Char Nelson, Public Works Director Ted Strand, Park Director TJ Graumann, and City Engineer Dave Reese. There were 13 people in the audience and on Zoom.

Mayor Nevin called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. The meeting was then turned over to Dave Reese, who presented the scope of the project, project cost summary, timing of project, and proposed assessments. The project will include a 1.5" asphalt overlay. Cool Haven was paved in 2001 and is starting to show some stress. The County overlaid Whitefish Ave in 2002 and there is now some cracking. The surface has oxidized. Curb and gutter may be added in some areas to improve drainage. Whitefish Ave will be restriped. Mailbox supports will be replaced. The estimated cost for the entire project area is \$506,900. There are 160 lots that would be assessed. The recommended assessment, based on a licensed appraiser's opinion, is \$1,000 per lot. Mr. Reese explained the payment options.

Aaron Herzog asked if the overlay would be chip sealed the following year. Mr. Reese stated that it would be and that the chip seal could extend the life of the road by 5-6 years.

Marion Trees of 12482 Whitefish Ave stated that his driveway is lower than the road and storm water runs down his driveway. Dave Reese stated that drainage issues are limited with an overlay and material could be added to the edge of the driveway. Property owners could get a good price from the paving company while they are out there to correct driveway drainage issues.

Joe Ruttger of 11411 Whitefish Ave stated that he has lived here year-round since 2012 and he thinks the City could patch the bad areas of the road without having to overlay. Mr. Ruttger questioned whether the project was necessary and why the hearing was being held in February when many residents are gone for the winter. Mr. Ruttger wants to keep his mailbox post.

Dave Wigren of 11393 Whitefish Ave state that Mr. Ruttger took the words out of his mouth and added that the corner near Hilltop Drive was very dangerous.

Cindy Levey of 12533 Whitefish Ave stated that she thinks the project is unnecessary and asked why property owners on Manhattan Point Blvd did not pay an assessment when that road was reconstructed. Ms. Levey stated that her boyfriend owns property behind her and that he received a notice of the hearing even though his property does not abut the road. Mr. Reese explained that property owners that use the road to access their property may be charged half an assessment.

Dave Wigren suggested that the City develop a questionnaire to see how many people on the road are in favor of the project. Mr. Nevin agreed that that would be a good idea. Dave Reese stated that the City updates the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) annually and that Whitefish Ave is on the schedule to be improved this year. The City changed its policy recently to assess for road overlays so help defray the cost.

John Andrews asked why the hearings are held now. Dave Reese replied that staff reviews road conditions after the snow melts and determines if there needs to be changes to the CIP due to changes in road conditions. In order to bid the projects early, the hearings need to be held in the spring. Dave Nevin stated that it is a bad time of year to hold hearings. Ted Strand stated that the City has held hearings in the summer and that they have not been well attended if the weather is nice outside.

Reed Price of 12081 Whitefish Ave stated that he is in agreement with the City's goal of staying ahead of the damage on roads. Although it is \$1,000 now, it could be much higher later if the road deteriorates.

Steve Roe of 11663 Whitefish Ave stated that he is not in favor of curb and gutter because the water is run into the lake. Mr. Roe added that drainage issues are critical and suggested that the City chip seal the road which is no cost to residents rather than overlay the road. Mr. Roe agreed that the corner is dangerous at Hilltop and Whitefish.

John Forney of 11797 Whitefish Ave stated that he did not see a benefit to having the road overlaid and that the City has a poor policy.

Marcia Seibert-Volz asked why the City replaces the mailbox supports. Dave Reese replied that the City adopted the policy that is consistent with County policy. The swing away supports are not usually damaged by the snowplows.

Elaine Bailey of 11491 Whitefish Ave stated that she has seen no cracks or potholes on Whitefish Ave and she walks it almost every day. Because some people are struggling financially due to Covid, Ms. Bailey suggested waiting a few years to overlay the road. Ms. Bailey suggested that larger lots be assessed more than smaller lots.

Mary Nienbar of 12515 Whitefish Trail asked if it was necessary to do the project this year and stated she was concerned about drainage.

Lynn Fitzthun of Whispering Pines Resort asked how many assessments would be charged to the resort. Dave Reese replied that each parcel would receive one assessment.

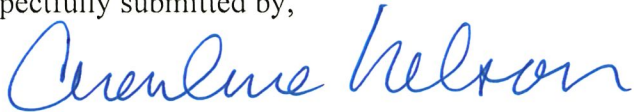
John Forney of 11797 Whitefish Ave stated that he and his neighbor corrected some drainage issues on the easement between their properties and was concerned that the overlay could increase the runoff.

Joe Ruttger of 11411 asked if the project was a done deal. Mr. Reese explained that this was a hearing to take public comment so that the Council could decide whether to move forward with the project.

Marcia Seibert-Volz stated that she thinks the public hearings should be held in the fall during budget time and when more residents are available to attend meetings.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,



Charlene Nelson
City Clerk

SIGN-IN SHEET

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TOP DRIVE, WOODLAND DRIVE
ROAD PROJECT
CITY OF CROSSLAKE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4,
6:00 P.M. – CITY HALL

SIGN-IN SHEET

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