

**VILLAGE OF CHAGRIN FALLS  
STREETS AND SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE  
May 10, 2021**

Members present: Evans, Newell, Wyville  
Also present: Grube, Rogoff, Rockey, Lannon, Jamieson

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Janis Evans.

**SIDEWALK AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS**

The committee discussed guidelines for the installation of new sidewalks:

1. Request from homeowners to review their request for sidewalks on their street.
2. Review, by the Chief Administrative Officer and the village's engineer, of a street to determine if sidewalks are possible on that street. Considerations include topography, trees, hills, fences, and drainage. We would also consider whether any utility work is recommended in advance, or time of sidewalks, since that could impact the schedule.

There are certain things on certain streets that might make it difficult to put sidewalks in.

3. Survey by the village, of all homeowners/land owners, to determine a clear majority of homeowners/land owners who desire sidewalks and are willing to pay for their share.

There was discussion about determining an average assessment cost-per-foot, new sidewalks must be complete between blocks (no piece-meal), and whether sidewalks should be on one side of the street, both sides of the street, or none at all.

There was discussion regarding efforts to install sidewalks on West Summit Street, Carriage Stone, and Monticello.

4. If a clear majority desires the sidewalk, and the village is in agreement, we will then move forward with planning and determining the cost of the project and an assessment to the homeowner will be determined.
5. Schedule for improvements is subject to the village's ability to fund any public share and ranking project among village priorities.

There has to be a disclaimer in an agreement with a property owner that the village will do this if these conditions fall in line.

Comments were heard from residents regarding children in the street, speed of motorists, speed limit enforcement, and time frame for projects.

Mrs. Evans said anyone with further questions or comments can email her.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

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Janis Evans, Chairman  
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## **Sidewalk Improvement Program**

Currently there is not a "formal" sidewalk improvement program for the Village. Each year the Village budgets between \$30,000 to 40,000 for sidewalks. The decrease in funding from the state level dropped over the past 10 years and budgeted funds for sidewalks was used in major capital improvement projects like Walter Road, Bradley Street and others.

What I am suggesting is this committee develop guidelines for using available funding in an annual sidewalk improvement program. The program is a cooperative arrangement between the property owner and the Village. The Program allows residents to directly participate in and have the Village pay a portion of the cost of installing/repairing the sidewalks.

Thinking in general terms here are my thoughts and suggestions such a program:

All property owners are required to install a sidewalk in the frontage of the residential property. Many older neighborhoods do not have sidewalks, or they need repair. The Village is offering financial and project management assistance to those who would like a sidewalk on their property.

If a resident request a sidewalk on their property, it is up to that resident to gather a survey of the residents on the block that support/ do not support sidewalk on their side of the street.

If the majority want a sidewalk, and there are sufficient funds available, the Village will create a costs per foot estimate for each property owner. If there are significant property owners agreeing to the project the Village will manage the project the same as any other capital improvement project, covering all engineering, design and project management costs. The resident would only have to pay for the unit cost per foot of sidewalk installation on flat surface. If the sidewalk installation involves higher costs due to gradient issues, barriers to go around or any other reasons, the Village would cover these additional costs.

A portion of the sidewalk fund will also go towards sidewalk leveling. The village purchased a leveling machine that picks up slabs so the ground can be leveled. The cost of this should come out of sidewalk fund.