

MILL CREEK SPECIAL SERVICE AREA ADVISORY BODY
Kane County/Mill Creek SSA Office
39W250 Herrington Boulevard, Suite R1, Geneva, IL 60134

The meeting of the Kane County Mill Creek SSA Advisory Body was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the Kane County Mill Creek SSA office at the Mill Creek Village Center, Suite R1, Geneva, IL.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Biggs called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Roll call was taken. Members present were: Michael Barth, Jeff Danklefsen, William Earle, Clare Fitzgerald, Carol Frey (arrived shortly after roll call was completed), Katherine Parr.

Absent: Mark Neville and Baron Stuedemann

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one was present for public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Earle commented on a typo on page 9 of 10 of the Nov 21st meeting minutes.
- The word should be “bridges” not “bridging”.
- Recording Secretary Kregg made note of the discrepancy and will make the change accordingly, prior to posting of the approved minutes.

The minutes listed below **were approved on motion by Danklefsen, seconded by Earle. Motion was carried unanimously by voice vote, by those present.**

- **Monday, October 17, 2016 (Special Meeting)**
- **Monday, November 21, 2016**
- **Wednesday, December 14, 2016 (Special Meeting)**

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- None of the Advisory Body had any comments concerning the reports.

Both the Budget Performance report and the Detailed General Ledger report **were approved on motion by Earle, seconded by Parr. Motion was carried unanimously by voice vote, by those present.**

SUBDIVISION REPORTS:

A. Sheriff's Detail:

- Officer Amy Johnson introduced herself to the Advisory Body.

- There have been shorter & lower priority calls for service at Mill Creek as of late. So calls have generally diminished for January.
- The last two – three weeks the department has been dealing with four- five motor vehicle burglaries.
- The suspects, they believe to be juveniles, are driving a white vehicle, perhaps a 2017 or relatively newer model Lincoln, like an MKZ.
- One person had surveillance footage which showed the suspects opening a garage but not taking anything. This was approximately two weeks ago.
- The license plate of the suspects' car was not clear.
- There were about four – five incidents in the Prairie Clover section of the subdivision.
- Today took a call off of Dobson for someone egging a resident's home (property damage).
- Otherwise just an intake of juvenile complaints and suspicious person soliciting.
- Parr added that a traffic patrol had been added to the Lakeside neighborhood, as she had previously requested.
- She elaborated that while that helped, the speeders are "starting to get bold again". Could this location be set-up on a semi-regular basis as a monitoring spot in order "to stay on top of things"?
- Officer Johnson indicated that she would put this information back on the Sheriff's AOC (Area of Concern) Page, which she is in charge of.
- Earle requested that since Sheldon was addressed if Armstrong could be added to that as well.
- Officer Johnson indicated that she would add Armstrong to the AOC Page and asked if that was just for speeding or for suspicious cars, etc.
- Earle elaborated that it was for speeding from North Mill Creek all the way up on Armstrong. He said he would appreciate it.
- Earle also asked if Officer Johnson had any connection with the Neighborhood Watch committee.
- She responded that it just depended on who she runs into. She doesn't specifically deal with them on a regular basis.
- Earle asked if this was part of the Sheriff's Department.
- Officer Johnson said that they used to do community oriented policing, however, the program was dismantled due to lack of funding available.
- Earle said the reason he was asking was that there was a Neighborhood Community Watch sign that was removed from a pole over on Sheldon. He wanted to know who could be contacted to obtain a replacement sign.
- Officer Johnson said that she would ask around and presumed that the Sheriff's office might have some still available. She asked if the SSA wanted any additional signs.
- Earle added that he had made an inquiry on the neighborhood watch form and asked where a sign could be found.
- Officer Johnson added that perhaps some signage might come from the township also.
- Earle said that Blackberry Township does not have these signs, but that Rod Feece was willing to put this up for the SSA once they had it.

B. Shodeen Property Transfers:

- Biggs started off by saying that Mark Armstrong, Kane County Tax Assessor has looked through all the properties and has given the County the okay to move forward with the transfers if the SSA wants to manage the property with the County holding the deed.

- Biggs added that the SSA would have to provide a letter of understanding which would basically be the same type of agreement that the SSA currently has with the Forest Preserve District (FPD). It will basically state that the SSA will be responsible for maintenance of these areas.
- Biggs said that he would start working with Attorney Britz on this document and that it would hopefully be processed within the next sixty days and take it to the County Board and see if they're willing to hold deed to the property.
- He doesn't know the answer to this as he has yet to bring it to the Administrative Committee. He just wanted to have all the "ducks in a row" prior to starting the process.
- Earle asked if the FPD is still accepting the land on the East side of Mill Creek. Biggs said this still had to be determined.
- Parr interjected, while she didn't know if it was the right time to bring the topic up but, there was some prior discussion about covenants on the Mill Creek list serve. As it reads now, covenants need to be enforced or at least they need to go through Shodeen to get approval for fences and other items.
- She wanted to know if the SSA was going to be in this position.
- Biggs said we could approach this with Attorney Britz as a discussion item. He could be asked to attend the next meeting and asked to be prepared to talk about this subject matter.
- In Biggs' past experiences with covenants, it's up to the developer, even after they have pulled out of an area. This is something that will need to be determined.
- Danklefsen inquired as to whether covenants could be transferred. Biggs said he wasn't sure how that works.
- Biggs said that as of right now everything covenant related goes through Shodeen.

C. Asphalt Road Repairs:

- Biggs stated that we had some core sample testing done which revealed that the reports were not in the SSA's favor.
- There is approximately only 3" of asphalt covering the road surfaces. 1.5" of binder course and 1.5" of surface.
- The recommendation by the testing company is not to grind down the surface, just to grind down the outside edges and re-cap it from the middle out to the curb edges.
- If an 1" to 1.5" is ground down, the sub-base underneath it would be "garbage" because the machinery would tear it all up.
- If everything is taken out, we don't know what we would find underneath.
- So the recommendation is what was asked of Blackberry Township to put on the bid specs when going out to bid.
- This should be a cost savings to the SSA since we are not grinding the whole road.
- We should find out the result of the bid within the next month or so.

D. Concrete/Sidewalk Repair/Replacement:

- Copenhaver does have a second year to their contract, however, the price of concrete has skyrocketed. It has gone up over \$30/yard.
- So Biggs is asking the SSA for a consensus. He does feel that Copenhaver did a decent job. He added that they were actually the best concrete vendor since he's been working for the County.
- Biggs is asking for permission to give Copenhaver the 3% increase, if everyone is in agreement.

- Earle said that he wanted to let the Advisory Body know that he worked with Copenhaver for the concrete replacement in 2016 and that he felt they were pretty well organized. The only minor problem was some sloppiness with the concrete, but this can easily be corrected. They had two teams most of the time they were working in Mill Creek. Therefore, he also recommends that the SSA continuing working with Copenhaver.
- Danklefsen inquired as to whether this increase had been verified to which Biggs responded yes.
- Biggs said that the increase is every bit of \$30/yard or more. Some of them are higher. He said prices are skyrocketing because the demand for concrete is back. So Copenhaver is asking for a 3% increase to their bid. If they are unable to receive it, they are willing to provide a 30-day notice to the SSA so that they can legally bow out of their contract.
- Biggs indicated that we could re-bid the contract this year but that he had no idea what kind of pricing this SSA would end up with.
- Barth inquired whether the quality of what was provided last year would remain intact to which Biggs responded in the affirmative. It would still continue to be a 6 bag mix.
- Fitzgerald asked if what was being addressed were just the aprons against the edges. Biggs clarified that Copenhaver did the curbs, all flatwork, replacement of mainly sidewalks, etc. and that every year we have a lot of concrete work done.
- Earle said that he thought the curbing outside of the village center was being done by Blackberry Township.
- Frey asked what the chances were that the price of concrete would continue to rise and that Copenhaver would ask for another increase while in the midst of the project.
- Biggs said that once the agreement would be signed for the increase now, a rider to the contract would be drafted and no further increases could be added.
- He said that Copenhaver actually initially requested a 5% increase and he told them that County rules dictated that there was a 3% limit to contract increases.
- So once again, Biggs asked for a consensus, which the Advisory Body gave him.

E. Blackberry Township Inter Governmental Agreements:

- The County Board approved both:
 - MC SSA Traffic Controls Maintenance, Repair & Replacement (**RES 17-02**)
 - MC SSA Maintenance Agreement for Street Identification, Pedestrian and Bike Signs (**RES 17-03**)
- Blackberry Township has had these agreement with the County for many years and they expired in 2012 and we are trying to put these back in place so that repairs and replacements can continue to be made.
- Frasz asked if Rod Feece had been scheduled to present anything to the Advisory Body this evening, to which Biggs replied no.
- He had inquired about this as two residents in attendance were under the impression that Feece was at our meeting. Frasz then instructed them that they were at the wrong meeting and helped them with directions to the meeting they wanted to be at.

F. Parkway Trees:

- Tree Watering:
 - Biggs stated that RB Enterprises had a contract with the SSA last year.
 - However, the contract was through OCT 18th, but the installs were done later than anticipated.

- At that late date, RB could not do the watering, which basically “broke” their 2016 contract.
- So this contract will be re-bid for 2017
- Tree Removals:
 - During the Spring, we will be removing more trees.
 - We plan on extending Pessina Tree Service contract as they have continued to provide excellent service.
 - There’s was a 2 year contract with optional (3) 1 year extensions.
 - So 2017 will be the first extension available.
- Tree Installs:
 - We will be installing again in the Fall.
 - Brancato Landscaping has the contract.
 - The original contract was signed in 2016 and was for 1 year with optional (3) 1 year extensions. So 2017 will be the first extension available.
 - We recommend renewal of Brancato’s contract.
 - Parr asked about the bags that were placed around the trees and whether or not these are eventually removed. She noticed her next door neighbors have had one for two years – she doesn’t know if they put it up themselves.
 - Biggs asked that she said us an e-mail with the address. He added that we removed most of the ones that we were responsible for last year.
 - Earle added that there are water bags out there which homeowners have placed. He said that he and Remiyac went by the planting list and had removed all of our bags. He said they may have missed one or two but there are a number of residents who have installed their own.
 - Parr did say that her neighbor was a biologist so perhaps this is the case.

G. Prairie Burn Maintenance:

- Biggs said that he had very good news on this project.
- The bid invite was sent out and the bids came back “all over the place”
- The lowest bid was submitted by Integrated Lakes Management (ILM) for roughly \$13,000.
- We had budgeted \$100,000.
- Lannert contacted them to make sure there were no errors. ILM had everything in order, according to the bid and that they would do the project for that fee.
- Biggs said we would ask for a 100% Performance Bond against ILM, so that they cannot back out of the project once they start.
- This performance bond will be an additional cost to the project but we feel that since we have such a great price, this is the best way to lock the contract in.
- Lannert interjected that he was quite surprised at the proposal amount. ILM was very low – they were half the price in terms of burning the open prairie areas on the South side. They were competitive on the area burnings on the North side.
- But Lannert said he had a conversation with them to make sure that ILM understood the contract because he has seen bids from them before on other projects he worked on – sometimes they’ve been high, sometimes they’ve been low. They did.
- He went on to say that last time when they bid the mowing and invasive plant material items, they ended being very high based on conversations.
- Furthermore, in his conversation with ILM, Lannert stipulated that a performance bond would be required of them.

- Lannert also checked their references and they more than qualify to be able to do this project. They are good contractors and he knows of other communities that have utilized their services.
- Earle asked whether or not they had done any work in Mill Creek in some previous years.
- Lannert said that he recalled that they had done work here before.
- The most unusual bid was from an Indian group out of Oklahoma. They were the second lowest bidders.
- Biggs stated that the average bid was between \$30,000-\$40,000.
- So we got a heck of a price considering that the SSA was budgeting approximately \$110,000.
- Lannert said that perhaps if some of the property transfers go through and the SSA obtains land that it currently does not control now, at this price should we plan on burning some additional acreage?
- Biggs said that we have that option available to us as we do have pricing based on a per acre basis. The SSA could, therefore, put a contingency amount in if the SSA would like to do so, but he would need a recommendation from the Advisory Body.
- What is on the table is a proposal from ILM for a base bid for the North & South sections of Mill Creek for a total of \$13,040.
- If the SSA would want to do an extended price for a contingency, it would be roughly \$977/acre on the North side and \$305/acre on the South side. So you're looking at roughly \$1,300/acre.
- So since the SSA originally budgeted a total of \$110,000, Biggs would recommend putting a \$10,000 contingency on top of the project which would bring it to a total cost of \$23,040.
- Frey asked if this was for the Spring season only or for a combination of Spring & Fall.
- Biggs confirmed that this was for Spring only.
- Frey then asked if we would be burning in the Fall as well at this price.
- Lannert said once we burn, we would be good for another 2 years.
- Barth asked if there were enough funds to cover all the acreage.
- Biggs said that you're only allowed 10% per project or he would have to do a change order.
- So he'll have to do a change order anyhow to get the additional \$10,000. So if the SSA would like to add more than \$10,000 he needs to know now.
- Lannert said he only asked this question in case the transfer of property clears. He doesn't know how much acreage is involved with the transfer.
- Biggs assured the Advisory Body that it could always ask for more than the \$10,000, but he would like to go ahead and have that contingency available to us if we can.
- Danklefsen asked if this would be a motion to have the money or to approve for ILM to do ahead and do the burns.
- Biggs said for both – to go ahead and award the project to ILM and to ask for a 10% contingency.
- It gives Biggs to ability to spend the \$10,000, if needed.
- Danklefsen wanted further clarification.
- Biggs said the County would hold the additional monies until the SSA makes the decision to do any extra work on the project.

Awarding the contract to Integrated Lakes Management (ILM) and to ask for a 10% contingency for the project **was approved on motion by Barth, seconded by Frey. Motion was carried unanimously by voice vote, by those present.**

H. Landscape Maintenance Plan:

- Roughly \$300,000 was budgeted, and Biggs turned over the segment to Lannert.

- Lannert distributed renderings of landscape schematics for all of the Mill Creek entrances and bridge areas.
- Still have a placeholder for fixing the water feature at Entrance #1.
- Also have left a \$20,000 contingency for the new entrance on main, which was planted but masonry work has yet to be budgeted.
- Each of the segments has plant materials incorporated and the summary of all the plant materials in all of the beds has been put into a table on the first page.
- By adding a number of perennials, the majority of the plantings would be reestablished.
- These diagrams do not account for any expenditures on annuals as of yet.
- This fills in the holes, most things are grouped in various “layers” and “drifts”.
- This is plenty of plant material and we don’t need any more plant material than what is shown, particularly when get into the under paths and rock outcroppings.
- Lannert replaced the sod with plant materials in the areas where the bridges were crossing and the areas that weren’t working.
- Part of the “plant materials” includes soil remediation and mulching.
- Removing ornamental grasses in areas with proposed plantings.
- Earle asked if there was any flagstone rock added into the planting areas.
- Lannert said he didn’t feel that any additional rock outcroppings were necessary. Replanting with plant materials filled in the voids.
- The good news is that when everything was priced out, according to these plans, we’re at \$195,000 for this plant materials. We still want to hold \$15,000 as a budget for Aquascapes fixing the water feature at the front of North Mill Creek and \$20,000 for the monument on South Side Main.
- Earle asked if the \$195,000 includes everything that is on the plans. Lannert said yes referring to the summary table of the plants on Page 1 of the diagram packet.
- Biggs asked for clarification on the plan “not including the flowers”. He said the object was to have something ready to go out for bid for Spring that included the Spring/Summer annuals and the Fall annuals.
- Lannert said he would look at this next. He added that since we are “ahead” on the budget in terms of having money left over from the burn bid and the entrances not costing as much as anticipated, we could possibly add gazebos and benches to this time frame of work. We had originally left these two segments out for now, not wanting to go over budget.
- Earle said that he felt we need to include the Spring planting (of annuals) in figures at the moment.
- Biggs said he anticipates that we’ll probably go over \$300K when the bids come back for the entrance beds project. So he wants the Spring/Summer annuals included in the bids for these planting beds.
- Biggs asked Lannert what kind of a time line we were looking for Lannert to have this completed because everything, from a County committee approval process, takes approximately 3 months to process.
- Lannert said that 10 days to 2 weeks should do it.
- So Biggs reiterated that by the end of January the landscaping plan, including a selection of Spring/Summer annuals, would be completed.
- Biggs said that what he would recommend to the Advisory Body, if they are okay with spending a \$300K budget, would be that Lannert go ahead and design the bid specs. That way the SSA can get out to bid as soon as everyone agrees on the design format.

- Parr asked how the regular budget for landscaping would fit into this budget. Is this in addition to the \$300K budget that the SSA is currently discussing?
- Biggs said that we had planned on using part of the regular budget to pay for annuals on top of any other landscape improvements that we wanted to do such as benches, gazebos, etc.
- Parr wanted to know what pricing might be on gazebos and benches.
- Biggs said he would get those figures. He didn't want to quote anything at the moment, because at this point he would be guessing.
- Kregg interjected that she had told Lannert that we've always contracted the planting of both the Spring/Summer and the Fall annuals separately from the regular landscaping maintenance contract.
- Lannert added that he thought that the annuals were in the maintenance budget and not the capital improvement budget.
- So the confusion as to where the annuals were included budget wise was chalked up to a miscommunication situation.
- So Biggs wrapped up by telling Lannert to just go ahead with a design plan and then we would evaluate costs.
- Frey brought up a concern about the use of Black-Eyed Susans in the design plan. She said that while she loves these plants, Mill Creek has had horrible luck with them. She didn't know if it was the weather. They have been planted twice throughout the years as perennials and they didn't last more than two seasons.
- Biggs asked what kind of warranty the SSA will receive in terms of the plants.
- Lannert said there is a full one year warranty on everything that is planted. Biggs asked if we could get a two year warranty on everything. Lannert countered that he could provide a two year warranty on the Black-Eyed Susans.
- Frey added that she wasn't sure if it was the soil. Her personal plantings also didn't do well.
- Biggs then commented that he would like an alternate in the contract for a 2 year warranty on everything since the SSA is committing to a \$300K investment.
- Going back to the Black-Eyed Susan topic, Danklefsen said he thought that the soil content might be an issue. He recalled that Peck Farm used to have a couple acre field of these plants which was gorgeous.
- Lannert said he thought that between the selection of the purple cone flowers and Black-Eyed Susans that will be a nice punch of colors in addition to the annuals. In addition, the selection of day lilies will be changing – there is nothing wrong with the current choice, it's just that there are too many of one kind (Stella D'oro).
- Biggs interjected that the reason he is not holding Lannert to a specific budget is that he would like him to use his imagination for the planning process and not lock him into a set figure – costs can always be adjusted.
- Danklefsen asked for Lannert's opinion on the soil situation, to which Lannert responded that all the soils will be amended and added to – at least 4"-6" when redoing the planting beds. The specs that have been drafted call for that process. He does feel that the soil is an issue in bed quality.
- Biggs said that tonight was just a discussion session – no hard and fast decisions are required. He asked that if board members had any questions, they should mail them to him or Kregg and they would send them on to Lannert for answers.
- Fitzgerald questioned whether there were any plans for landscaping at the Village Center circle.
- Earle said that at one time Shodeen proposed to spend \$500K, but that would have been SSA money.

- Frey added that Shodeen was going to put in a fountain with park benches and all sorts of things.
- So the answer for now is that nothing is planned, although Biggs informed Fitzgerald that this can always be revisited at a later date.
- Frey then commented that it was thought that the church would have used it more than the residents. So if the church wanted to do something that was fine, but the Advisory Body didn't want to spend funding just for the church usage. An even bigger concern was from a safety perspective if a lot of children were going to be playing and running around there with all the traffic in the hub.
- Lannert mentioned that he also had the preliminary maintenance manuals drafted: one for Landscape Maintenance, one for Natural Areas. These manuals are currently Word documents with specifications and he would like input from the Advisory Body before finalizing the documents.
- The final documents will be user friendly and will be in booklet format.
- Biggs will see to it that all Advisory Body members will receive copies of these.
- Another document that Gregg has been working on is a spreadsheet summarizing the expenditures that are being considered over the course of the next five years, right now many of the figures being concentrated in the FY2017 estimated budget. This will also be provided to all board members.
- Gregg indicated that the spreadsheet was all based on, and coordinated with, all the informational materials that had been handed out at the December meeting.

I. FY2017:

- Biggs has been doing some investigation as to how to replenish SSA funds if the Advisory Body is going to continue to undertake large projects.
- He prefaced that his suggestion did not have to take effect, but he did want to let the board know that there is the ability to do a tax levy on the Mill Creek SSA. Right now it's roughly right around \$.23-\$.25 per \$100.
- The agreement would allow up to a limit of \$.50 per \$100.
- Biggs had spoken with the State's Attorney last week. The levy would not be able to take effect until NOV 2018. That means that before this coming November of 2017, the SSA would have to petition for the levy. This would include the necessity of a public hearing if it went over a 5% increase.
- Biggs said he wanted to bring this to the table knowing that the current thought is to spend down existing reserves. This might be a choice when seeking to replenish the spent reserves.
- If this is something the Advisory Body would like to explore, we can bring this topic back for discussion during the next two meetings and decide if it is an option worthy of looking into. If so, Biggs will gather all the necessary paperwork.
- Earle clarified that this would be a 5% increase over the current amount.
- Neville asked when the last increase was.
- Biggs said he thought there had not been an increase in many years, although he couldn't quite be sure.
- Frey said that a few years ago they tried to propose a levy but the deadline was missed. She thought the amount was for \$.05.
- Biggs said that if you go over \$.05 there needs to be a public hearing within 30 days of the November meeting.

- There aren't many opportunities to bring money into the SSA, so this would be something that would help if the SSA was going to start spending down some of the reserve due to large projects such as asphalt repairs, bridges, etc.
- It's believed that the proposed levy attempt that Frey mentioned dated back to 2013.
- Earle commented that in 2007, it was \$.42, then it dropped to the \$.20 range.
- Frey asked how low Biggs thought the reserves would drop to. He responded that he wanted to hold them at \$700K, keeping one year's worth of budget.
- Earle said that the \$118K+ (noted on the Budget Performance Report) is actually money coming out of the SSA reserves, if the SSA uses it. So we're only assessing \$679K out of an \$800K budget.
- Biggs said that if the SSA surpasses the \$679K budget, they will be spending their reserves.
- The SSA can go back down to \$0 next year and drop the budget back down to \$672K. He developed the current budget based on what has been done the past several years.
- This is something that can be discussed in July when the topic of the FY2018 budget is brought to the table.
- One last item that Biggs shared with the Advisory Body was that Mary Remiyac is no longer with Kane County. For now Earle and Kregg are managing any Mill Creek related issues.
- The Mill Creek position will be posted soon.

ADVISORY BOARD COMMENTS:

A. Landscape Maintenance:

- Parr had a question concerning the pending Aquascape quote. Is that the "leaky pond"?
- Lannert responded yes. They have not provided a quote as of yet because they want to be able to see the problem before providing as accurate a quote as possible.
- Lannert does want them to fix it as opposed to anyone else. The reason being that he believes that with their new liner system, we can probably cap the leak and solve the leaking problem as opposed to having to investigate where the leak stems from or why. It can be relined and then water pumped back in and save the pond that way at a fraction of the cost.

B. Advisory Board Meeting in the Spring:

- Parr requested that when the Advisory Body meets in the Spring, that we invite golf course management to the meeting. She would like to discuss land maintenance as it relates to Sheldon.

C. Jurisdictional Responsibilities:

- Frasz inquired as to if the development of role assessments was still in the works.
- Lannert responded that this has been started, but not completed. Part of it was due to the property transference subject and determining who owned what pieces of property.
- Biggs indicated that this was temporarily set aside as we have to push to get bids out in order to be prepared for grounds maintenance with the Spring season quickly approaching. But he assured Frasz that the role assessment will soon become the priority.

D. Stonework:

- Earle asked Lannert if there would be any issues with scheduling to have the flagstone areas cleaned up with removing all of the broken up pieces.
- Lannert explained that this is a problem. If you try and do anything with this type of flaky limestone it ruins it. Don't spray it, clean it, power wash it. You should only just pick off the broken pieces.
- Biggs said that we have been power washing it with non-corrosive cleaner through a contractor (Countywide).
- Lannert cautioned that power washing forces water into the shale layers and breaks it off making it worse the next year. He said that at some point in time all the stone will be gone – it is the nature of this type of material. However, he did indicate, that will eventually happen years from now.
- Earle reconfirmed that the loose materials could be carefully taken out.
- Biggs said we would have to put a quote out for this.

E. Bike Path Snow Removal:

- Frey indicated that she needed a refresher on the topic of snow removal on the bike paths.
- She said she had several runners approach her about having access to the bike paths. Apparently the bike path along Fabyan never gets done so the runners have to stop at that main street and they can't complete the full circle around the subdivision because the path is not plowed.
- Earle said that according to the snow removal map, the only paths that are plowed are the ones that lead to the school.
- The other paths have never been part of the snow removal process, so someone, unbeknownst to the SSA, is clearing these paths on their own.
- Frey said that is what she thought and that only paths leading to the school are cleared so that students have an easier time getting to school.
- Fitzgerald asked if this is something the SSA should consider adding. She specifically mentioned along Herrington and along Dobson which cuts off the entire Oakmont section from getting to the Village Center area unless people walk in the street.
- Biggs said that this is something that could be considered when bidding out the contract this Spring for next year.
- Frey said that this had never been an issue in the past with the only concern being children having safer access to the school. However, she did make note of the fact that there seem to be more runners as of late as well as younger, active young families moving into the subdivision that use the paths on a regular basis.
- Biggs added that these areas could be added as an alternate to the bid. Or all bike paths could be added. This is certainly something that could be posted for discussion at an upcoming meeting since he is planning to put out a bid invite for snow removal in March.
- Earle asked if we would be salting the bike paths.
- Biggs said you have to be careful, because if the SSA begins salting, there is an inherent liability if anyone were to get injured while using the paths.
- Frey interjected that she believes this is why the paths were never plowed.
- Earle said there are puddles on ice on the paths.
- Biggs added that "once you touch it, you own it". If you plow and don't salt, anyone injured can sue the SSA.

- He added that the plowing of the school path is part of the snow plowing contract. He suggested that everyone bring their ideas to the table and we can review the snow plowing contract map. This can all be added as an alternate and get a price.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. FY2016 Budget:

- Earle asked if the last financial report was the preliminary year-end report.
- Biggs indicated that the final budget expenditures cannot be obtained until the books are closed for FY2016.
- Earle asked when Biggs thought this would be.
- Biggs replied that it is currently being worked on, so possibly 30 days. If we didn't have it for the February meeting, then it should be available for the March meeting.
- Earle said it looked like we had spent approximately \$16K of our reserves, since there is a remaining \$102K.

B. Bike Paths:

- Fitzgerald said it looks like bike path repairs have not been budgeted, but it was mentioned that some repairs were made.
- Biggs said there were repairs. Perhaps notations were not made, but those dollar figures could certainly be added.
- She asked if anything showed which areas were repaired. He said that Earle and Remiyac had mapped out areas on a diagram.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn was approved on motion by Danklefsen, seconded by Earle. Motion was carried unanimously by voice vote, by those present. Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.