



MEMO

"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."

TO: Finance Committee

FROM: Paula Vandehey, Director of Public Works *PAV*

DATE: June 12, 2013

SUBJECT: Resolution #15-R-13 regarding special assessments for Mason Street.

Resolution #15-R-13/Spears – "Whereas the City of Appleton has breached its promise to the citizens who own property on Mason Street that was reconstructed in 2004, Therefore, be it resolved that assessment that was paid be returned to the current property owner."

In June, 2004 the City Council approved narrowing a section of Mason Street from 40 feet to 37 feet, with no proposed parking restrictions at that time. However, staff does not believe that a "promise was breached" as the Common Council cannot bind future Council actions.

In 2006, this section of Mason Street was reconstructed and then assessed according to the City's Assessment Policy. Because R1 and R2 zoned properties are assessed at a maximum 33-foot width, the assessments for these Mason Street properties would not have changed regardless if the street was reconstructed at 37 or 40-foot width. The Assessment Policy only assesses for on-street parking where *"the requesting property owner, where permitted, shall pay for indented parking."* The property owners along this section of Mason Street were not assessed for on-street parking, nor promised on-street parking forever into the future. They were assessed \$33.10 per front foot R1 assessment.

Examples of streets that have been assessed and parking was removed as part of the project, include:

1997 – E. Calumet Street (Jefferson to Telulah) = \$37.20 per front foot R1 assessment
1998 – N. Meade Street (Wisconsin to Northland) = \$33.90 per front foot R1 assessment
2005 – N. Drew Street (College to Wisconsin) = \$31.80 per front foot R1 assessment
2009 – E. College Avenue (Walter to Matthias) = \$35.50 per front foot R1 assessment