



BOARD OF ALDERMEN
STREET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026
SHELTON CITY HALL, 54 HILL STREET, SHELTON CT

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Alderman Durante called the April 7, 2026 Street Committee Meeting of the Board of Aldermen to order at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium at Shelton City Hall. All those present stood and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PRESENT

Alderman Lorenzo Durante, Chairman – Present
Alderman Anthony Simonetti – Present
Alderman Bryan Lizotte – Present

Also in Attendance:

Brian Roach, Superintendent of Highways & Bridges – Present
Rimas Balsys, City Engineer – Present
Eric McPherson

PUBLIC PORTION

There was no one present from the public.

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1.1 REGULAR STREET COMMITTEE MEETING – MARCH 3, 2026

Alderman Simonetti MOVED to waive the reading and approve the Regular Street Committee Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2026. Seconded by Alderman Lizotte.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

(Please visit www.cityofshelton.org to view minutes)

2. NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Durante: There will be a lot of updates this month.

2.1 CURBS AND POTHOLE ISSUES

Brian Roach: As they are reported, they are put on the list, worst of the worst and they are chasing it down every day. Tomorrow we will start probably on Long Hill and the more main-ish roads. Any recurrent potholes that we have been filling and filling are going to be milled out and patched. It was a brutal winter.

Alderman Durante: With us being on the Street Committee I think we have an obligation, when appropriate, that if we are getting calls, send them to myself or Theresa. Don't just say we will get it fixed or it is happening now. We have to be very respectful of what is going on. We need to be an advocate of our committee. If there is a street that has issues, the constituent can send us photos or we could go take photos and tell them how we are approaching it. We are a team and need to be an advocate.

Eric McPherson: I would like to add to that. I have told people that we have 216 miles of road and we can't be everywhere. If you see something, say something. The public can call you, the clerk of the Board or Public Works and let them know and help us to help you.

2.2 CANAL STREET PARKING ISSUES

Eric McPherson: It is a mess, a real problem and there are also speeding issues which is for the Public Health & Safety Committee to deal with. People are not stopping at stop signs. It comes down to enforcement. I have been down there, Bryan has been down there as well as Ben Perry. This is an ongoing problem. Signs were posted with No Parking. If it were up to me, I am advising, I would send the Fire Marshal down to meet with the management of that establishment. You have 3 or 4 people living in the units and they all have cars. They are charging their residents for parking the extra cars in the garage. I would meet with management and the Fire Marshal and say we would fine you \$100/day and start towing the cars. They created the mess. There are outdated zoning regulations with 1.5. I fought this in 2011 and people handed me my head. There are outdated regulations that have made that mess. The establishment needs to be held accountable and we need to review what exactly their approval was because it has changed hands now, it is Merion, previously was Avalon.

Alderman Simonetti: The manager does not control the street.

Eric McPherson: They control their parking garage. They are charging their residents. They pay \$2000 a month.

Alderman Simonetti: My point is, how is the manager of that facility responsible for our street.

Eric McPherson: Let your tenants park their cars in the garage to get them off the street. You can't get a fire truck down there.

Alderman Simonetti: I would say, put notes on the cars one time. If you park here again you are going to be towed.

Eric McPherson: What part of No Parking signs do people not understand. They posted No Parking.

Rimas Balsys: It is a Fire Lane. The whole street.

Alderman Simonetti: Do we have to call the Police to have it done or just call a towing company.

Eric McPherson: I think the process should be – the Fire Marshal’s office should talk to the management. If that does not work then you post No Parking signs and Tow Zone.

Rimas Balsys: Again, it is a fire lane so you don’t need that. There are dumpsters down there. They should be forced to take those off the public street and either find a parking lot for them or put them inside their own property. They are on the street because they forgot to put dumpster pads in. Not our problem.

Eric McPherson: The other problem we will have is eventually when that crossing gets opened, it was a cut through before we built down there and people were doing 50 mph down there to get around downtown. You are going to have a whole new issue. You need to put speed humps in there. That is the solution to this parking problem. I think the Public Health & Safety Committee needs to put it on his agenda and start addressing it.

Alderman Durante: It has been on for a while and nothing has worked so we need to try something else. Let us try with the fire marshal to communicate with them.

Alderman Simonetti suggested that the Fire Marshal be requested to do at least a once a week tour down there and ask for the police to remove cars illegally parked.

Eric McPherson: To Rimas’ point about the dumpsters. They are in the street.

Alderman Simonetti: I think we can send a letter from the committee to the management.

Alderman Simonetti MOVED to ask the Fire Marshal to make a trip down there and any cars that are parked illegally that he calls for police or a wrecker to remove them. Seconded by Alderman Lizotte.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Simonetti suggested that a letter be sent from the Street Committee stating that the dumpsters be removed from the street, except on the day they are being emptied.

Rimas Balsys: They are on the street, I believe there are five of them.

Eric McPherson: We have an ordinance.

Alderman Simonetti: This came up at P&Z, the new facility that is going to be built, they are planning a place for the dumpsters, so they will not be in sight with walking on the Riverwalk. The truck can get to them, dump them and put them back in.

Alderman Simonetti suggested that the Street Committee send a letter to the management of the Merion to remove the dumpsters from the street except on the days that they are being picked up. Once empty, they should be removed immediately from the street.

Alderman Durante: We will verify the ordinance.

Alderman Simonetti MOVED that we review the trash ordinance and if it is true that they cannot be on the street for x amount of hours, then we send a letter to the management of the Merion to remove the dumpsters from the street except on the days that they are being picked up. Seconded by Alderman Lizotte.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

We should ask Theresa to pull up the Trash Ordinance.

Brian Roach: We should ask the Police Department to repaint the fire lane on the pavement.

2.3 REPAVING CORAM FROM CENTER TO KNEEN.

Rimas Balsys: We received a meeting invite for a meeting for the restoration of Coram, Prospect, Division and a couple of others this morning. Brian and I are meeting with the gas officials tomorrow at 9:30 on Coram, apparently it looks like it is at the bridge, to discuss the reconstruction/restoration which is basically curb to curb, mill and pave, and new handicap ramps where the ADA requirements are. How long will they take? At this point I have withheld permits on any new expansion work they are doing, because they are doing Howe Avenue, White Street, etc. in the neighborhood and we have told them flat out that they are not getting any permits until they have initiated repairs. They were kind of taken aback in a way that we would threaten to make them start.

3. OLD BUSINESS – FOLLOW-UP

3.1 0 HIGH STREET DONATION

Alderman Durante: We all took a peek. I believe it is in our best interest to hold off on the donation. It does not seem like we can partake in all the other stuff we would have to do and it is not really a property that we can utilize right now.

Brian Roach: There are issues with people dumping there and also that section of the culvert becomes our problem.

Alderman Durante: It is recommended that we take No Action at this time.

3.2 BEARD STREET REPAIRS (WHERE WOOSTER, PERRY & MEADOW Meet)

Brian Roach: It is on this year's list for milling and paving.

3.3 RIVERVIEW PARK ROAD REPAIRS

Brian Roach: That is also on the list, but at the very bottom of the list.

Eric McPherson: We are making progress. When I see the asphalt go down, I want to personally go down and cut the ribbon! This has been a 3 year thing.

Brian Roach: This is an expensive repair/repave.

Eric McPherson: A lot of people use it. We understand that the main roads get priority, then side roads, etc.

4. REPORT OF CHAIRMAN

4.1 NO ITEMS

5. STREET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

NO ITEMS

REPORTS OF:

A. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

B. SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES

Brian Roach: Basketball hoops during the winter I would like to see added to the ordinance about the mailboxes. We have had quite a few issues this year with the trucks catching them and people coming after us for the money for it.

Eric McPherson: There are also some that have poles in the ground.

Brian Roach: They should not be allowed to do that. The hoops overhang the street and it somehow catches the mirror. I can write something up.

Alderman Durante: We have an ordinance regarding the sidewalk. Can we add it to that?

Brian Roach: It has to be past the curb line is basically all we need.

Rimas Balsys: We have a street ordinance we can add to it.

C. CITY ENGINEER

Rimas Balsys: We are apparently complete with the handicap ramp contract. We have had some suggestions that maybe we should somehow promote that, maybe on the City website to let people know what we have done the handicap ramps downtown and in the slab area. We are working on drawings for Coram on the other side which is a little more extensive than we anticipated originally. DOT is kind of hanging us out there.

Alderman Durante: Is there a timeframe for Coram?

Rimas Balsys: I anticipate the engineering to be done within two weeks pending a review from DOT. We think we have it nailed down. Then we are back to the table with the contractor.

Eric McPherson: They Mayor had wanted to go all the way down to the intersection.

Rimas Balsys: The section we bid was 75% of that whole block and it was twice what we had for money.

Eric McPherson: We still get that grant that Paul Grimmer had gotten. I think we get something like \$249,000 a year that can be used on a lot of these projects that comes out of Community Development.

Rimas Balsys: That is where this money is coming from, it is a leftover. Maybe they can fund from this year's budget and add to it so that block is complete. Right now, it goes from the low side of the 24 hour store, that driveway entrance. We had hoped to get to the far side of Cuppy's.

Alderman Durante: Rimas, you detailed what we would need for the lights for the Coram Avenue Section and I think we looked into that. That is also a work in progress.

Rimas Balsys: We are not putting the lights in as part of the contract. We are just doing some conduit so that the city can come back in and put the bases, based on spacing. It will be prepped. Same with the piece on the corner, 62 Center and 325 Coram. I met with that developer last week and he is going to be redoing the sidewalk as well where Jeff's Appliance used to be and then around the corner. He is going to do brickwork on the Coram side and put in conduit as well.

D. STREET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alderman Simonetti: At the last meeting I did compliment the crews for what they did as far as moving snow, etc. I want to say that I know you were away, but your staff and everybody performed great and that is a big compliment to you, Brian, because that means you have a good system going and thank you very much for that.

Brian Roach: It is a good group. Small group, but good group.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Simonetti MOVED to adjourn the Street Committee Meeting at 6 p.m., seconded by Alderman Lizotte.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Fonda

Donna Fonda
Acting Clerk, Board of Aldermen