CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Aldermanic President John Anglace opened the Public Hearing at 7 p.m. All those present rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Aldermanic President John F. Anglace, Jr. – present
Alderman Lynne Farrell - present
Alderman John “Jack” Finn - present
Alderman Stanley Kudej - present
Alderman Kenneth Olin – present
Alderman John P. Papa – absent
Alderman Jason Perillo – present
Alderman Anthony Simonetti - present

Legal Notice
City of Shelton

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FOLLOWING:

- WATER MAIN EXTENSION – HICKORY LANE

SAID PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE CONDUCTED ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2007 AT 7 PM IN THE AUDITORIUM AT SHELTON CITY HALL, 54 HILL STREET, SHELTON.

ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE AN INTEREST THEREIN MAY APPEAR AND BE HEARD.

NOVEMBER 16, 2007
1. Water Main Extension, 2-23 Hickory Lane

Alderman Anglace stated, the Legal Notice was posted, sample letters were sent out. We have a map showing that there will be 12 properties impacted. And we have the cost estimate, repayment schedule and frequently asked questions. I will presume that what we have as Aldermen, you have as homeowners. Correct. The City Engineer is here, Robert Kulacz, and he starts off the public hearings with a synopsis and summary of procedure.

Robert Kulacz, City Engineer

Good evening. Our office undertakes the water main extensions within the City as they are requested by the various neighborhoods. I’ll start with a brief overview.

The City up-fronts all the costs for the water main installation. The Aquarion Water Company, the local water company tells us how the mains are going to be laid out. We design the water main extensions in house and we go out to public bid. In previous years we used to pay the water company up front and they used to do it at their cost, but now we’re able to go out to competitive bid for both the water main and the water services. Neighborhood map shows we’re going to start off at the intersection of East Village Road and extend it approximately 1,200 feet to the center of house 22 and 23. With that extension we will also install the water service connection which terminates with a meter pit on the front lawn. The only responsibility you have after that is to make the connection from the meter pit to your house. So the City project basically covers everything within the City right of way, the water main and the service connection with the meter pit, and that cost estimate per house is $13,869. That is based on the current unit prices we have. We’re doing a water main project that is currently being installed on Booth Hill Road in the area of Federal Road, for 7 or 8 houses, and the prices are running relatively stable for the last year and a half or so. This is a pretty good indication of what it would cost.

What the Aldermen want to hear tonight is to find out if there is a clear majority in favor of the water main installation. They’ll want to hear your opinions pro and con and they’ll make their decision on whether to fund the project based on your responses.

Just to give you some information on the water main extension, you will be getting about 85 to 95 pounds of pressure on this water main. The water company is recommending that you install a pressure reducing
valve on your connection in the house. Sometimes if you’re operating on a well or with low pressure and you add this higher pressure to your house you could end up with possibly having to replace some of the faucets and washers with the higher pressure. There is plenty of pressure available at this location, and no other work is contemplated.

If the Aldermen approve the project we would go to bid in the spring, put together the work specs during the winter and if it goes out to bid in March you could possibly have everything in place by the end of May.

In regard to the repayment or the assessments, everyone is assessed a fair share of the cost of the water main. If the water main goes in during 2008, the permanent pavement repairs in 2009, so the fall of 2009 would probably be the earliest you’d be seeing a water main assessment on this project. We included a typical payback schedule based on a 3.8 percent interest rate. The first year there is no interest on the repayment, it’s straight principal. Then in subsequent years the interest kicks in. In the second year you can see in the total column is your yearly payment on the payment schedule, and it gradually decreases in year 10 when you pay it off.

The interest rate will be determined at the time when the City goes for long term borrowing. What will happen now if the Aldermen do proceed with it, they will pay off the money with short term notes and then we go out for bonding, sometimes on an annual basis, depending on what projects there are, and the interest rate will be determined at that time. That is a summary of the process. I will be here for questions. If you have other questions tomorrow or the next day, feel free to give us a call and I’ll provide answers for you.

Alderman Anglace stated, thank you. We would like to know if you are in favor or opposed to the project. If you have any questions, raise them because that is why the City Engineer is here.

John Tate, 6 Hickory Lane

Good evening. I have to admit, I think that myself and I think I can speak for most of the residents that we were a little surprised by the cost of the project. We have spoken many times before, myself and many of the residents, about attempting to get a water line extended up Hickory Lane over the years I’ve been there – for 19 years. I have tried at least twice. My neighbor Joe Porto at number 2 has tried a couple of times, and probably a few of the other neighbors over the years. To be honest with you, the response I got probably 15 years ago was nasty by the City
of Shelton. They just said there is no way there’s going to be a water line extended up Hickory Lane. I didn’t get the name of the woman I spoke to back then, unfortunately it was many years ago, but the attitude was just that, you are out of luck, I’m sorry, we’re not going to run the water line up there. So we have tried a couple of times, and finally we gave up, and many of the neighbors had well work done over the years and updates, or new wells drilled, and pretty much gave up on the project.

The reason I decided to start the petition again was, I’ve been having a problem with my septic system in my front yard. It’s a whole separate subject here, but this is what led up to this point. I got an estimate of roughly $33,000 to replace my septic, which is a very high amount in my opinion. The plan that I got from one of the engineers was to tear up my whole front yard including my driveway and two large trees to put in this gigantic new septic system. So I got some opinions from different septic contractors and got prices on the original plan, and one guy also suggested abandoning my well in my back yard and trying to get the water line extended up the street.

Either way I know it’s going to be an expensive proposition, but I have to admit that I was a little surprised by the cost. I have a few questions here. I’ve polled some of the neighbors trying to get an overall feel of how they felt about it. I think that most of them that voted yes originally and would support this are questioning it now because of the cost. I know it’s spread out over a 10-year period, but some of these people are retired, and they have actually changed their mind because of the cost of the project.

I have a question on putting the bids out for water installation on the estimate that was sent to the residents. That is probably not going to stand as a solid price, is that the way it works? I know it’s just an estimate at this point, but if they run into ledge or other problems on the street, that could probably go up quite a bit and the residents would probably have to cover that cost, is that right?

Mr. Kulacz replied, that is correct. We try to put an average amount of rock ledge into every project. For example, the Lane Street project was almost 100 percent ledge, which was the first one we did under our bid. These are the best estimates we have based on the current unit prices. That’s not to say that the asphalt prices couldn’t really be affected in the spring or later on when we do the restoration work. That is always a possibility. These are the best numbers that we have available, and this is what everything is running.
Mr. Tate continued, we are just worried that this could go upward of $20,000 per family when all is said and done. I know it’s a tough question to answer, but in reality this could get a lot more expensive.

Mr. Kulacz stated, it could, in all honesty, I haven’t come back to the Board for any extra funding for all the projects we’ve done. We add 10 percent for contingency and we haven’t had to come back yet to the Board for additional funds, but that’s not to say that something like that wouldn’t happen. We can’t guarantee it, or we can’t guarantee that maybe the contractors aren’t interested and may give us a high price. It’s all supply and demand. There are no guarantees with this. I’ve given you what our past experience has been – the latest prices, and tried to keep the highest price, rather than the low end, that we’ve been getting.

Mr. Tate stated, the question at the bottom of the page where it says, why does everyone share the cost equally. How does the Water Pollution Control Authority factor that?

Mr. Kulacz replied, the Water Pollution Control Authority does a combination of frontage, the area of the lot, the value of the lot, and whether it’s on a corner. They have a complicated formula. A lot of times we put water anywhere there are sewers and that question comes up. There are no sewers on Hickory, obviously. Each ordinance is set up differently. Our ordinance is set up so that everyone pays the same whether you have the larger lot on the street or the smallest one. We also have the provision if somebody subdivides their lot in the future, that we put an assessment on that lot and the additional money that we collect is rebated and credited to the people that have already been assessed. That has come up in quite a few cases. Everything is set up by ordinance. Water mains are equally shared. If you benefit, you pay an equal share. You benefit equally.

Mr. Tate asked, could you go over how the cost does not include connection from the meter box to the house – that will be a separate cost?

Mr. Kulacz stated, right, a lot of times the residents will group together and try to get an estimate from a contractor, three or four together and that will get some cost savings. We don’t keep a record of what they run. You can get an estimate from 10 feet off the edge of the road to your house, and it could be anywhere from $1,000 to $2,000 – again it depends on the contractor, what kind of internal plumbing modifications you have to make. Some people can connect to their existing well connection. The wells can remain, but you can’t have a cross connection.
If your well pressure is higher than the water pressure, they don’t want that to go into the public water system. The costs are going to vary depending on your terrain and what type of restoration you need.

Mr. Tate stated, I had a question about the cost being paid over 10 years. If somebody moves within that period, obviously that cost would have to be carried over to the new resident, right?

Mr. Kulacz replied, normally what happens in the closing all of this will come up. If you close on a house, and there is oil left in the tank, the buyer has to buy that from the owners. Or sometimes people make arrangements to pay off the assessments, whatever the real estate transaction incurs, but normally it’s picked up by the new owner. That is normally what happens. People can make other arrangements. Some people have, to avoid the interest, some people have paid it up front so they wouldn’t have to have any interest. That is available too, but that is not usually what happens.

Mr. Tate stated, I have a question about how it is decided how certain water mains are run. I don’t know if the State has a lot of say over water mains being run over certain properties in the City. I applied quite a few months ago with the State Department of Public Utility Control, I was going to try to run a water line, if you look at the map, my house is #6, I was going to run a water line through a property on Ridgefield Road, I had permission from one of the property owners there to get the right of way, and I know it was probably a crazy idea and probably wouldn’t get passed, and it didn’t get passed. But at the end of our street, #1, when the general store on East Village Road was demolished and the developer put in two homes there, one where the general store was and one at #1, the line was run through the property on East Village Road to the property on Hickory Lane.

Mr. Kulacz replied, that was a subdivision. You can see on the map there is a little strip of land that runs parallel with Hickory Lane. In other words, 159 East Village Road which is where the former general store was, doesn’t have frontage on Hickory Lane, there’s a little 10 foot strip and that strip was created specifically so they could have frontage on the water main. The water service line runs on that strip. That is something the developer did to avoid having to extend the water main up Hickory Lane. That was legal. The water company allowed it. It has been done in the past. It is still done on occasion. That is why the cost is a little higher on this project, because #1 isn’t going to be assessed because they do have access already to an existing water main, and then we have to run past the two houses on the corner, 149 and 159, and they can’t be
assessed. That is why it’s as high as it is. Normally the DPUC requires that you have a water main directly in front of your house, and your water service has to be completely on your property. The only time they will give you that variance is if for some reason you can’t get a water main to be extended within reason in front of your house and a $15,000 cost is certainly something that is not going to sway them.

Mr. Tate asked, is it also possible to get another estimate from the other construction companies? Could it be lower?

Mr. Kulacz stated, this is based on our low bid. Butterworth & Scheck has been our low bidder for the last three projects. They are very competitive. In fact our bids for the last project that went out, the cost was about $174,000 and all four bids were within $3,000 of each other. I don’t think we’re going to do too much more competitive wise.

Alderman Anglace stated, I think his question was, can you get another estimate? The answer is yes, certainly we could get another estimate, but this is based on historical documents of recent times. We will, if this project is approved, we will go out to competitive bid. That could result in lower costs or higher costs.

Mr. Tate asked, if the project is approved by the Board, and you happen to get a higher bid, is there any recourse as far as the residents? If this came in say $5,000 more than this bid. Right now it is difficult to say that all the residents are going to go for this because of the cost.

Alderman Anglace stated, if the cost comes in higher than we anticipated, and you change your mind and don’t want the project to go forward, just simply tell your Alderman and they’ll carry it back and we’ll put a stop to it.

Mr. Kulacz stated, what will happen is, when the Aldermen appropriate the money, it is based on my estimate plus 10 percent for contingencies. If the bids came in higher, I couldn’t award the bid. I would have to come back to the Board of Aldermen for additional money. If it’s within 10 percent, that is in normal range, and then we’re fine. But if it is going to be something that is out of whack, we can reject the bids and go out and do again in a month or two. Those are the options we have. I can’t get any additional cost estimates because we’re basing these unit prices on our past experience over the last year and a half. We went out four or five times for six or seven streets that we’ve done. These are the prices that we’ve obtained. I know they’re a lot cheaper than the water company, they’re at least 25 percent cheaper than if we contracted
directly with the water company. The water company has certain contractors and that is what their bidding is based on. This is all that we can provide at this point. No contractor is going to give me an estimate for something in February – he could be busy, or out of business or the price of asphalt is affected by the cost of crude oil. You have to know the numbers when we go out to bid, and sign a contract with a construction company to do the installation.

Alderman Anglace stated, let me explain the role of the Board of Aldermen in this process. The 12 homeowners that petitioned will decide whether or not you want the water and whether or not you go ahead with it, by majority vote. Or you will decide by majority vote that you don’t want to go forward with it. The Board of Aldermen’s function is not to approve the project, but to facilitate the project by putting the money up front so the project can go forward, then you would pay back the City over a period of 10 years. The interest rate that is used is the current interest rate that is available to the City, which is generally somewhere between 2.5 to 4 percent. It is very reasonable. That is our function.

What we want to know is, as a group, as each homeowner, does the majority want this project to move forward, or does the majority not want it to move forward. By allowing you to ask questions, and by answering those questions to the best of our ability, then you will make the final decision. You can make that final decision tonight if you have everybody here – all 12 homeowners. If not, we will do what we’ve done in other cases – the City will mail a ballot, and everybody will vote by ballot, to be returned within time limits. When the ballots come back Mr. Kulacz will announce to us the results.

Some people may say I don’t want the water, I don’t need it. If you are in the 12 houses, and the majority wants it, you got it, you’ve got to pay for it; you will be assessed. No if’s, ands or buts. That is the way the ordinance is written and the law does not allow us to waiver from that. Some people might say, it’s a hardship. While we may sympathize, we cannot change it. You have to understand that also. Voting on this is really important.

In this cases, with 12 houses, you get a majority of 8. Here is what happens. You might get 5 yes, 5 no, and 2 don’t vote. Those people that don’t vote, they’re subject to whatever the majority votes to do. If they choose not to cast a ballot, they’re just saying, we accept the decision of the majority that did vote. I hope we’re providing you with the information you need, because when you walk out of here tonight, you want to go out of here with all of the information, all of the questions
answered, with all the information that is available. Don’t be bashful asking questions.

Mr. Tate stated, that is the last question I have. I also want to thank Mr. Finn and Mr. Simonetti for coming through the neighborhood and talking to the residents and keeping us updated.

_Jay Monahan, 11 Hickory Lane_

I just have a couple of questions, and a couple of my own pros and cons here. I agree with what John said so far. It is an expensive project. Times aren’t the best for a lot of us, and people put a lot of money into the wells. Again, I was under the impression that nothing would ever be done up there. I am on the other end of that pendulum. I have Culligan – and if you want to spend some money, get Culligan in there, and have them bring the salt into your house. No matter what I do, it still tastes like nothing I want to drink, so I don’t.

For me, it’s kind of a no-brainer or wash. That money for the project, well heck, if I turn Culligan off tomorrow, it would be a happy day, and I would use that same money to pay off my bill, so it’s not that tough financially for me. But other numbers that play in here, any ballpark on what it does for the resale of a house if you have City water? I know you get more for your house when you do sell it. Are there any percentages that you guys are aware of?

Alderman Anglace stated, that question probably could best be answered by somebody in the real estate business who is aware of current market values.

Mr. Monahan stated, usually the bottom of the barrel is well and septic. Then you’ve got City water, or sewer, then you’re elevated. I’m just trying to work that into the big picture of what you’re getting for return in bringing water down the street. The other thing, and I’m glad you brought this up earlier, is that you can leave your well intact, as long as it’s not purged into the same line as the City water. So we have an opportunity to save even more because we’re going to pay for the water we’re going to use from the City, obviously, but in my thought process, I could still use that well to water the tomatoes, to wash the cars, things like that, saving on using City water and cutting my dollars there. So if it helps any of you justify the costs, I hope that helps.
The other thing is, is anybody aware of anything on the insurance? When you have City water, which means you’re close to a water main to where the Fire Department can have a hydrant?

Alderman Finn replied, yes, they’re extending the water service for fire service and that will decrease the insurance on your home. It has decreased mine.

Mr. Monahan stated, okay, so there are other savings there. I guess the picture I’m trying to paint here is, although yes, it’s a tough nut, there are ways you can look at having a little payback here, a little more payback there. I don’t know if any of you had to dig your well in the middle of February because of that darn check valve that stopped holding water, well that gets pretty darned expensive too.

Ken Leeney, 10 Hickory Lane

I am the unfortunate person that spent $10,000 to put a well in five years ago. Now it’s going to cost me another $13,000. The one question I have for the engineer, and it’s a serious one for me. Most of the septic systems on Hickory going down on the even sides are in the front yards. When they start digging, and we actually have to run that pipe in, now unfortunately for some unknown reason if the City decides to go 2.5 times the size of what you actually need, because I know my neighbor spent $35,000 [inaudible] makes no sense for the overkill that they’re required. The Tax Assessor says that when you go to sell the house, they will knock it down anyways and put a new one in. So I don’t understand the overpowering of the septic and what happens when your tank and leeching fields are in the front yard and you start digging through there. Now is it going to cost me $50,000?

Mr. Kulacz stated, probably what you want to do is, the first thing, after the water main is put in and is cleared for testing or during that time the construction takes place, we send out a letter to all the homeowners asking where you want your water service connection. At that time, it’s probably good to check with your plumber on how you are going to make the connection. You’ll probably also want to contact the Valley Health District, which has relocated to Seymour. They are responsible for your septic system as well as the wells, and see if you can find out where your system is.

Mr. Leeney stated, when they put the junction box in, I don’t want to go zig-zagging like this to get around it to save myself $35,000, but if they put it here, and I go straight to the house, I’ve got myself a problem. At
this point, I’m 54 years old. Another $50,000 added to my house is not exactly what I want to do right now. Then you guys are going to go into the back yard and put in a crazy 2.5 times what I need. I have one bathroom, two sinks.

Mr. Kulacz stated, I can’t speak for the Valley Health District – they handle all the engineering and their specs.

Mr. Leeney stated, I think everybody on the even side is going to have that problem. There is a lot of ledge on that side.

Mr. Kulacz stated, well, we put the water service connection wherever you want, whether it’s on the side property line, you go down and come around the back, it’s not a gravity line. We can go any way that you want.

Mr. Leeney stated, oh, okay, that was my question.

Mr. Kulacz stated, you can do that, because it’s not a critical, it’s not like a sewer connection that has to be straight and true, otherwise you’re going to have blockages and have to install cleanouts. Your water service line is 1” copper tubing, it’s flexible, it doesn’t have to go in a straight line, and the only requirement is that you have four feet of cover so it doesn’t freeze. That is all you have to worry about.

Joe Porto, 2 Hickory Lane

While you are digging up the street, can we put a storm line in? The water table in that area is so high, it affects every one of these people’s septic system. You’re going to have the street dug up already, so can we put something in like that or do we have to go through another meeting and another public hearing? I requested that 30 years ago. The City said no, and I ended up digging my own. That 10-foot strip that you’re talking about on #1, I have access to that. I put my own line in 400 feet down the road, from underneath my footings down to the storm catch basin. The City allowed it because they wouldn’t do it.

Mr. Kulacz stated, anything additional, I can’t make those commitments. We have done it in some cases, re-curbed one street where the curbs were in poor shape after we resurfaced the road, but certainly something like that, if it’s justified, Highways & Bridges, I don’t have any authority over them, I can make a recommendation.
Mr. Porto stated, you can go up there any day during the winter and you’ll see ice all over the place because people pump water out of their cellars onto East Village Road. The same thing happens on Hickory Lane. Every one of them have water. How many people here have water? They all have water! Thirty years ago I requested that. I don’t get water because I’ve got that line going in, but it’s 30 years old now. You wonder why I’m bitter? You let a contractor go through a back yard because of a 10 foot strip? Who authorized that? I had 30 families in here saying no to subdividing that lot on the corner. One person said yes and he was a contractor. And this City said yes, go ahead and split it. What happens on the other side of the street if she decides to split that lot? Do we get reimbursed?

Mr. Kulacz stated, well, if 149 splits and they connect to the water, yes, you get reimbursed. This happens for a 10-year period. Now, they could wait 10 years. The way it works out, within 10 years the water company will collect what is called a fair share cost. They will rebate that to the person that put in the water main, which will be the City, and that is what we will credit to your account, or if your account is paid off we would issue a refund check.

Mr. Porto stated, only if she splits it this way. If she splits it East Village Road way, and she has access, she doesn’t have to pay.

Mr. Kulacz replied, that is correct.

Mr. Porto stated, I’m sorry to be combative, but for 33 years I’ve asked the City for one thing, a storm sewer up there, and it hasn’t happened yet. I know; I dug my own. Where will the hydrants be, by the way?

Mr. Kulacz replied, The Fire Marshal and the Fire Chief will have to approve it. We haven’t gone that far yet – that is during final design. It will be somewhere along that stretch, based on their approval.

The other thing I wanted to cover, and no one brought it up, but maybe one of the questions would be, how come you didn’t start at #28 and bring it down to #2 and we could maybe save a few feet of water main, which is true, but it’s a different water service level. It wouldn’t have sufficient pressure. Those water mains are being served from down below. There under reduced pressure. So the water company is requiring that we come in on East Village Road. It wouldn’t make a day and night difference in the cost, it would have been reduced to maybe $12,000 a household, or to $1,000 per house, but it will still be in the same range. You can’t make that connection due to the lower pressure.
Mr. Porto asked, who do we see about putting a storm sewer up there? Doe we have something official, or do we just go another 30 years? Can we do it now while we’re digging up the street?

Alderman Anglace stated, storm sewers are not the subject of this public hearing. The question is out of order. Questions regarding the water main installation are appropriate.

Mr. Porto stated, right, the answer is no. Not a problem.

Alderman Anglace stated, we’ve talked about tie-in costs, and mentioned the fact that the project is approved, we go forward with it as approved, get together and get a quote from the construction outfit, and you generally do get better rates than if you do it later on. I’ll give you a specific example. I know of a project that went through 12 years ago, and the tie-in costs were $2,000 per home. Today, the idiots that didn’t do it, you’re looking at him right here, it’s $7,000 the quote I received. So it’s real. If you’re going to tie in. The other thing that is critical, is to make sure the service connection is where you want it and where it does you the most good, because it doesn’t matter to the City, we’ll put it any place you want, but that is important. The other thing that’s critical is where you bring that service connection. If you bring it to your side of the street and it ties in right along the curb line, or if you don’t act on it they leave it across the street and when you want to tie in you have to dig into the street. Pay attention to that, because it could cost you down the road.

John Tate, 6 Hickory Lane

I’m just a little confused by the last statement about having to dig under the street. Wasn’t it in the contract that they would put a meter box on your property?

Mr. Kulacz stated, everyone will get a water service connection terminated by a meter box, whether or not you’re going to hook into it or not. That is so we get the road dug up once, restored, and no one has to go in there again. We’re going to have everything so that all you have to worry about is your front lawn to your house. We do the same thing with any sewer project also.

Alderman Anglace stated, so far we’ve heard from four homeowners out of the 12. That is not enough for the Board of Aldermen to reach a conclusion, so it appears that we have to do a ballot vote.
Mr. Kulacz explained, our office will send out a ballot. Normally we’ll give you four weeks. We will mail ballots as soon as this week with a return date to give you time to check with contractors to find out how much it will cost to bring it from the front lawn – again, we’re talking about 10 feet from the edge of the road is where we will basically end with the meter pit. From that point is where you’re going to deal with the contractor who will bring the service line from the meter pit to your house, whatever internal plumbing modifications you’ll have to make. We can give you a month to make the decision and have a return date at the end of December if that is adequate or acceptable to the Board and residents. You’ll have time to give us a call with further questions. There are no dumb questions. Ask away, we are here to try to give you all of the information. We put in, since I’ve been here, 800 or 900 water connections.

Jay Monahan, 11 Hickory Lane

Relative to what you just commented on – the ballots. You’re going to send them out, we’re going to fill them out, we’re going to mail them back within a 30-day period, you’ll have the totals of how many came in. If only three people respond with ballots, and all three are in favor and nobody opposed, is that considered a majority? Or do you need at least seven votes?

Alderman Anglace stated, then that information will be forwarded to the Aldermen, who will discuss it and we will decide whether we consider that a majority or not. We would not decide the question in advance.

Mr. Monahan asked, then is there a way for us to be notified? There is a lot of stuff going on in some of these peoples lives, that’s why I know a few of them aren’t here. Is there a way that we can find out which houses haven’t received ballots so whatever way they vote at least we can get them to vote so you have a clear picture of what the needs are?

Alderman Anglace stated, the public hearing is the way for people to come, be heard, and everybody gets some insight as to the thinking. Once the public hearing is concluded we do the ballot. We don’t announce the results of the ballot as they come in, just at the end.

Mr. Monahan stated, I don’t want the results of the ballot, I’m not asking for yeas or nays, I’m asking for the number of people that sent ballots back in, so that if five houses misplaced their ballots in those 30 days and forgot about it because other things came up, and we know that for
instance, #13 Hickory Lane didn’t send in a ballot, well then, ‘hey, don’t forget to send your ballot in whatever way you vote.’ I’m not asking to know results ahead of time, I’m just asking to know, hey, you got enough votes to make an intelligent decision on the situation.

Mr. Kulacz stated, it’s public information, if you want to call our office we’ll tell you which houses we received. We don’t have a problem sending out a second ballot, we’ve done that. We’ve had some people that were away on vacation the entire summer and out of the country. We make accommodations. Just call us and we’ll work with you.

Alderman Anglace asked if any other member of the public wished to speak. Being none, he called for a motion to conclude the hearing.

Alderman Finn MOVED to conclude the public hearing and to proceed with the paper ballot, with the results to be announced at the end of December; SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder                 Date Submitted: ________________
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

DATE APPROVED: ________________  BY: _______________________
Mark A. Lauretti
Mayor, City of Shelton