



PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING Shelton, Connecticut

February 7, 2007

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alderman Papa called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 P.M. in room 104 at Shelton City Hall. All in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Alderman John Papa - present
Alderman Jack Finn - present
Alderman Joe Lanzi – present (retired)

Also in attendance:

Alderman Stanley Kudej
Chief Hurliman

There was a quorum of 3 present, 0 absent

Public Portion

Peter Bonitatibus

I see that on your agenda is 3.1.4. My letter did not request a stop sign or stop light, those are alternate suggestions I had. My letter did state that we are recommending that we have a mirror installed on a pole so that traffic out of Waterview drive could see traffic coming up from the Rt 110 side. I just offered the other 2 things, stop sign and traffic light only as alternatives. We are recommending that we just get a mirror.

Alderman Papa commented; I'm not sure that the Chief got that information from the secretary. She has a copy of the letter.

****Clerk to send a copy to the Chief.**

Mr. Bonitatibus continued; it is a problem when you have to stick your nose out pretty far onto Constitution Blvd to take a look at the left. They do come

up that rise pretty quick. When your looking their and you think you're clear, then you've got someone coming from the Bpt. Ave side. If we could get a mirror, that is really all that we are looking for. Not a light, not a stop sign.

Alderman Finn stated; that the city would not be responsible for coming up with the cost of the mirror. The cost would have to be absorbed by your self. The Police Dept would just have to approve it.

Alderman Papa replied; This is what happened on Mohegan Road, they were granted permission and they bought their own mirror.

Mr. Bonitatibus replied; if that is the decision, I wasn't sure if I needed to get authorization or if I could just go and do it. My point was, I presented to you people and if it something that you agree on , then I wil present it to my Board, I am also a member of the board of Directors of the condo, so I can present that as a cost issue. If it is approved, then we can certainly will be able to do that.

Alderman Papa replied; the Chief will recommend to us.

Chief Hurliman replied; You need authorization to do it. I would recommend to them that it will be done and then they could tell you, you could do it.

Alderman Kudej stated that he had gone out personally to view the problem and he agreed that you really have to pull out to see anyone coming down the road. It's not a rock or shrub obstruction that can be moved. If someone is really speeding up the hill, you're going to be hit.

Alderman Papa stated that the Chief would review the situation and get back to the committee with his recommendation. He will advise the pole that it should be placed on. Once he has advised this committee we will inform you and then it would be up to you to buy the mirror and have it installed.

Mr. Bonitatibus replied; that is all we are looking for.

Sarah Plucienik, 28 Mohegan Road

I am here now to raise the issue of the crosswalk to and from Mohegan School. From my point of view as a child, I feel this is a very dangerour place for anyone, young or old, to cross.

Everyday, a school staff member crosses me and my brother across the street to our home. Each day, someone risks their health and safety by trying to stop traffic. Sometimes the cars whiz by, not paying any attention, and

almost runs over that persons feet. The school staff has to come out because there are no officers to cross us safely.

Let me tell you a story that happened not so long ago. One night, after a PTO activity, a young lady and her two children were crossing the street to get home. While waiting to cross, the closest lane to them stopped, but the opposite lane did the opposite. A car whizzed by the young lady and her children while crossing, almost hitting the young lady. The family crossing was mine. My family knows first hand about the dangers of this crosswalk.

I have a few suggestions that might be considered to help stop these dangers. One would be to have the town provide an officer for everyday after school. A lot more people would stop for them. Another suggestion was to put signs up about stopping for people at crosswalks, and maybe just maybe, put a stop sign up. I understand the dangers of a stop sign there, like during winters icy conditions and the sand on the ground. It would help a lot of people who travel to the school for school, exercising, and just plain fun. Please consider my ideas. Thank you for your time.

Alderman Papa stated; Thank you. We also received a letter from Mrs. Camp. They are very concerned about that area and putting up flashing lights and we've talked about that. I've talked to the Mayor. He looked into it and I've talked to the Chief. We are aware of it and I guess we'll make a decision on what we could do. I know that there are sign up there at the school but they, the PTA, are looking for a little bit more than just the signs. As long as you are taking notes, maybe at the next meeting we could have some sort of response from you on that.

Alderman Lanzi asked; Chief, would you be short changing yourself to have a patrol up there every afternoon?

Chief Hurliman replied; It's not that we're short changing but obviously with the number of people we have, If we send them out there but if we have something else that goes on that doesn't take to many things. Then all of a sudden the person doesn't show up because they are doing something else. In other words if you have a car accident, you're not going to go to the school for the crossing for example.

Alderman papa asked; are there are crossing guards?

Chief Hurliman replied; no not at that school. They use school staff.

Alderman Papa asked; would that be a suggestion? That they get crossing guards that are not police officers. Retired people who walk up there. Like St. Josephs church has a cross guard.

Alderman Lanzi replied; He is a volunteer. There is a lady at Lafayette School. Is she provided by the police dept.? Is that paid by the police dept.?

Chief Hurliman replied; the Board of Ed.

Alderman Papa continued; we have a study as you remember, the police dept made an extensive study about these problems that we are talking about. The Board of Education was there and they are going to come up with some recommendations too. Maybe they will recommend that we should have some crossing guards.

Alderman Finn stated; we should forward the public portion tonight to the Superintendent of schools and ask her to address the issue of hiring a person as a crossing guard. In the meantime, if the Chief feels its necessary to install the state law indicating that the pedestrians have the right of way in cross walks.

Alderman Papa suggested; maybe we can do something by putting those little signs that they have. They used to have them down when they first started...

Alderman Finn replied; we would have to get somebody to take them in and out.

Alderman Papa continued; if someone who is concerned, volunteers could take them out and in. Every time I go into Stratford at school they have crossing guards. That might be one way for us to do it, have a human being out their crossing the students.

Alderman Lanzi asked; May I recommend that we send a letter to the Board of Education or the principal of the Mohegan School to look into the hiring of a cross guard.

Alderman Finn stated; if I see her tonight I can make her aware of it.

Alderman Finn and Papa stated that this would only be for during school hours.

Not for night time PTA activities.

Agenda Items**1. Approval of Minutes**

Alderman Finn moved to recommend to the full board to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the January 3, 2007 Public Health & Safety Committee; Seconded by Alderman Papa. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 2-0.

2.0 New Business**2.1 DISCUSSION OF OFF STREET PARKING OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES
IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS****No Action Taken**

Alderman Papa stated; Tom Dingle was the one that brought this to our attention. He could not attend this evenings meeting. I am suggesting that I meet with Tom Dingle and the Chief to go over the state statute and what else we could do if we have to tighten this up and make it a little more stringent. Check and see if we do need another ordinance. We'll discuss it at the March or April meeting rather than discuss it now.

3.0 Old Business**3.1 Huntington Street – Streetlight Evaluation Plan**

Alderman Finn moved to recommend to the full board the adoption of the street lighting plan dated 5-11-06, endorsed by the Huntington Street evaluation's report. Pole numbers 5282, 2259, 2258, 5284, 2256, 2255. The annual cost of this upgraded street lighting is \$690.06; Seconded by Alderman York. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 2-0.

**3.2 REQUEST FOR STREET LIGHTS (POLE #1485) ON THE HILL SECTION
OF KERON DRIVE**

Alderman Finn moved per the recommendation of the Chief of Police not to approve the installation of a streetlight on Pole 1485 at this time. However, this should be placed on a Priority Two list for future reconsideration. Seconded by Alderman Papa. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 2-0.

3.3 Streetlight Request – 70 Wooster & Cliff Street

Alderman Finn moved per the recommendation of the Chief of Police not to approve the installation of a streetlight at the intersection of Wooster & Cliff Street at this time and that this request be placed on the Priority Two list for future consideration; Seconded by Alderman Papa. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed 2-0

3.4 Request for Stop Sign – Constitution – Rivendale

No action at this time. The clerk will put a request to the Chief of Police for the installation of a mirror by Rivendell Condo's.

Alderman Lanzi asked to discuss item 3.2 again and clarify the priority ratings.

A priority 1 should be installed immediately, a priority 2 can be installed at a later date. A priority 3 does not require an installation.

Alderman Finn stated; the clerk should keep a file of the priority 2 for future installation.

Alderman Lanzi asked the Chief to revisit this and provide an additional recommendation.

**Clerk to review streetlight ordinance to see the designation for the installation of streetlights on curves and intersections.

Reports

No reports were made.

Adjournment

Alderman Finn MOVED to adjourn the PHS Committee Meeting, SECONDED by Alderman York. All were in favor, MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:30 PM.

February 7, 2007

BOARD OF ALDERMEN
PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING

PAGE 7 of 7

Respectfully submitted,
Brigitte Plucienik

Brigitte Plucienik
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

MAYOR MARK A. LAURETTI

DATE