

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE – MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2010
7:00 P.M. IN ROOM 104
SHELTON CITY HALL, 54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT

◆ **CALL OF THE MEETING/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Papa at 7:00 p.m. in Room 104 Shelton City Hall. All in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

IN ATTENDANCE: **CHAIRMAN PAPA**
 ALDERMAN FINN
 ALDERMAN MCGORTY (ABSENT)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: **CHIEF HURLIMAN**
 ALDERMAN MCPHERSON

• **PUBLIC PORTION**

No one spoke from the public at this time.

• **AGENDA ITEMS**

No additional agenda items.

• **CORRESPONDENCE**

No additional correspondence.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 6, 2010

Alderman Finn moved to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Public Health & Safety Meeting of October 6, 2010. Seconded by Alderman Papa. All in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

2.1 INTERSECTION OF MYRTLE STREET & HOWE AVENUE & RIVER ROAD- SPEEDING ISSUES

Alderman McPherson stated that he received a call from a gentlemen who was walking in the crosswalk at Myrtle and Howe and was almost hit by a speeding car. He'd like the state to erect one of those Crosswalk/Pedestrian signs at this crosswalk and asked if the police department could also look at ways to reduce the speeding on River Road.

Alderman Papa asked the chief to send his traffic division to review the intersection and the crosswalk of Myrtle Street and Howe Avenue and to also address speeding issues on River Road.

Joseph Nowancyk, Corner of Howe and Myrtle Avenue

Mr. Nowancyk stated that he called Alderman McPherson a couple weeks ago to relay his issue regarding the crosswalk at the corner of Howe and Myrtle as well as speeding on River Road and he was told that there was a meeting tonight. He added that he goes to church on Sundays and uses the crosswalk and people actually swerve around him as he is walking through. He sees other places with signs that say it's a state law to stop. He has been there 20 years and has seen it all. Recently at the corner of Myrtle and Coram there was a loud bang and apparently a girl blew the stop sign. Mr. Nowancyk wanted to know if the city can install pylons, plus signs prior to the crosswalk area. He thinks it's imperative to slow the people down before the church. He also has trouble getting out of his driveway because people drive so fast. There was a Cadillac going around the corner so fast that if there were a car parked on the other side it would have been demolished. He stated that he was late tonight but better to be a minute late than possibly have an accident. He sees people blow lights all the time and if you are behind them, you always catch up. He stated that he would go out himself and buy the pylons

and put them out but he feels he'd probably get in trouble for doing it because it's not his responsibility.

Alderman Papa discussed that it's a state road and the chief is going to check with the State DOT to find out what he can do and what he can't do. The Chief will get back to us at the next meeting and let us know.

Alderman Finn added that Derby has pylons on Elizabeth Street.

Mr. Nowancyk stated that the pylons are all over the center of Orange and that they really keep him alert. He thanked the committee for their time.

Bill Berthold, Angell Avenue

Mr. Berthold asked the committee if the big speedometers that the police set up on the side of the road record speed as people go by or do they just let people know how fast they are going?

Chief Hurliman replied that the ones that Shelton Police Department have record the speed. Some of the ones that are permanently mounted usually don't. Not all portable ones record the speed, but the ones in Shelton do.

Mr. Berthold added that maybe it might be worthwhile for the state to set up one of those speedometers so they could see just how fast everyone is going on River Road and that people are going way too fast.

Alderman Papa stated that they will have the Chief investigate.

2.2 UPGRADE OF STREETLIGHT ON POLE #3663 – HUNTINGTON STREET

Alderman Finn moved to forward the request to upgrade streetlight on Pole #3663 on Huntington Street to the Chief of Police for review and recommendation.

Alderman Papa stated that the Chief will look at it to find out if it's necessary. He stated that the committee didn't need a motion on this.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3.1 91 HILLSIDE AVENUE – REQUEST FOR MIRROR FOR DANGEROUS CURVE/HILL

Alderman Finn moved, per the recommendation of the Chief of Police, to deny the request to install a mirror at 91 Hillside Avenue. Seconded by Alderman Papa. All in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

Alderman Finn stated that there is a notation that the police department will authorize a curve sign with a 15 mph warning sign to be placed in that area.

Alderman Papa stated that Chief Hurliman had his traffic division review this and this is what they recommend instead of a mirror.

3.2 REVIEW OF IDENTIFICATION OF LANDLORD ORDINANCE

Alderman Finn moved to recommend to the Full Board to forward the amendments to Ordinance #827 - Identification of Landlord to public hearing. Seconded by Alderman Papa. All in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

3.3 REVIEW OF AMENDMENTS TO FIRE LANE ORDINANCE

Alderman Finn moved to recommend to the Full Board to forward the amendments to Ordinance #370 – Fire Lanes to public hearing. Seconded by Alderman Papa. All in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

Alderman Finn stated that for public record it says here that the request was made by Fire Marshal Tortora and that's absolutely correct and only the Board of Aldermen and the Mayor can submit an ordinance.

Alderman Papa stated that if the Fire Marshal isn't here and didn't send any information then he must have thought that everything was okay and ready to go to the Full Board to be sent to public hearing.

3.4 AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI. PAWNBROKERS

Alderman Papa stated that this is not ready and when it is they will have the item back on the agenda.

Alderman Finn moved to table until the next meeting. Seconded by Alderman Papa. All in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

3.5 STREETLIGHT REQUEST - ANGELL AVENUE - POLE 4278 OR 4277

Alderman Finn moved, per the recommendation of the Chief of Police, to deny the request for a streetlight on pole #4278 or #4277.

Alderman Papa stated that there's a response from the Chief on the backside that this was a priority three or two at best. The Chief said that they normally put streetlights up at intersections and junctions with accident history.

Alderman McPherson added that he and Alderman Kudej have been working on this issue and that Alderman Kudej couldn't be here tonight due to his recent surgery. He asked if the item could be tabled until Alderman Kudej could be present.

Mr. Bill Berthold, 18 Angell Avenue

Mr. Berthold stated that his neighbor, Ed Kochis of 19 Angell Avenue, is at the meeting with him tonight. He explained that before making the request he went and looked at all the streets off of Toas. Every one of them has a light at the intersection of Toas and whatever street runs off of Toas, and there are several lights down each street. On Sunset there is a light every 250 feet or so. The only light on Angell Avenue is at the intersection of Toas and Angell Avenue. At the bottom of Angell Avenue the light is actually on Sunset about 80 feet up from the intersection. It doesn't do the intersection much good and the one on the other end of the hill goes over the hill down Coram and is actually on the other side of the street on Coram. Angell Avenue doesn't have any. The concern is that it's dark, we've had theft from his house, next door to me and #16 got robbed.

Alderman Papa asked if this is on the curve?

Mr. Berthold explained this is around the curve and that whole street is dark. The only streetlight they have is at the intersection, all the other streets off Toas, which are fairly straight, have other lights somewhere down their street. Angell Avenue has the curve and has no lights and Angell is used as a cut through to get out to Constitution and the volume of traffic is heavy.

Alderman Papa explained that there may be a possibility that a light be can be moved from one pole to another if the police deem it necessary.

Alderman Finn asked where Pole #4278 or #4277 is?

Mr. Berthold explained that #4277 is on the curve near Mr. Kochis' house. That would probably be the pole of preference.

Alderman Papa explained that the committee will have the Chief look at the request again to see if there is a light that they can take from another pole and transferred to Pole #4277.

Alderman Finn withdrew the motion. Alderman Papa seconded.

Alderman Finn moved to table until the next meeting. Seconded by Alderman Papa. All in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

3.6 STREETLIGHT REQUEST – SOUNDRIERGE ROAD

Raymond Yarish, 11 Mustang Drive

Mr. Yarish stated that he is representing his son who lives at 32 Soundridge Road. His son works the evening shift at Sikorsky and asked him to represent him at the meeting. The light was looked at previously and was asked to be looked at again for a couple of reasons. There are 30 houses on Soundridge Road. Of those 30 houses, the first 10 houses coming off of Long Hill Avenue have four streetlights. The next 20 houses have nothing. There was an extension made to the road some years ago. That resulted in a 90-degree left

hand turn, which is where this dark section is, and it also intersects down with Allendale Court. There's no light there either. He feels that installing the streetlights would be consistent with the lighting practices of the surrounding neighborhood including the first 10 houses on that road. There are existing signs that read 'No Outlet' and 'Dead End'. No outlet going into that portion of Soundridge and dead end at Allendale. They aren't visible. If they were visible a lot of turn arounds from motorists who come down there would be substantially reduced. Mr. Yarish presented the committee with a copy of a map of the area with four x's indicating the lights that are currently there at the Peachtree & Blaho intersection and at an S turn. Pole # 5406 is right at the old cul-de-sac that was then extended. Pole #5446 is at the Allendale intersection and the #5409 is at 32 Soundridge, which is somewhat down the road so it provides some lighting there.

Alderman Finn asked how sharp the curve is?

Mr. Yarish responded that it's not really sharp but goes like this and then down again. This one is a complete right 90-degree angle.

Alderman McPherson and Alderman Finn discussed the possibility of moving a streetlight from a different pole to the pole that Mr. Yarish is requesting.

Alderman Papa stated that the committee doesn't put lights up just because it's a dark area. He added that Mr. Yarish's son has the option of putting a light on his own property if he wants to illuminate his area. Alderman Papa continued by telling Mr. Yarish that they received a petition regarding his streetlight request that states that 30 people from that street do not want a light.

Alderman Finn asked if Alderman Papa is going to make the petition available to the other committee members?

Alderman Papa replied that he will and that he just received it.

Mr. Yarish stated that not everyone on the street signed the petition. That there are other houses on the street that didn't sign it and that any addresses prior to #15 are people who already have lights.

Alderman Papa replied that there are certain criteria for installing a streetlight that include illuminating intersections, bad curves in the road, or streets that experience heavy traffic. The Traffic Division has reviewed this and came back and gave it a Priority #3, which means the request was denied.

Alderman Finn stated that Priority #3 doesn't mean that it is denied. There is discussion over what Priority #1, #2, and #3 mean.

Mr. Yarish stated that if the practice of the town is to have a light at intersections and dangerous curves then they should look at his request.

Alderman Papa asked if it is a dangerous curve or an intersection?

Alderman McPherson pointed out that right where they are requesting the light is where the street used to end, it was the original cul-de-sac where 5406 is and it actually becomes an intersection now because they put that new section of the road in and then it comes down here to another new road.

Mr. Yarish stated that Alderman Anglace went out and looked at it and said that the intersection created by the 90-degree extension of Soundridge Road would appear to meet the criteria of an intersection with sufficient traffic to warrant the installation of a streetlight. He said he'd also ask the committee to review the Allendale Court (inaudible).

Alderman Papa asked him how much traffic goes down the road?

Mr. Yarish responded that it's not traffic in terms of 'through' traffic but there are 30 houses with an average of two cars a house.

Alderman Papa continued that the problem is that they have 30 people on the street who don't want this light.

Mr. Yarish believed that half of those people already have a light. He believed that a light would clearly show that left hand turn.

Alderman Papa stated that with all these people opposed to it that he is not in favor of it and the Chief has recommended that no light should be put up.

Alderman Finn determined that by looking at the petition that everyone that has signed it from houses 29-2 probably shouldn't be included.

Mr. Yarish stated that the first 10 houses certainly.

Laura Yarish, 32 Soundridge Road

Ms. Yarish stated that she knows that one of the neighbors, who didn't want to get involved because there are some heated arguments in the neighborhood right now, said that that there was a petition going around and that this person didn't sign it because she thinks there should be a light there. There is a gentleman next door whom also didn't sign the petition as he wants a light too. She asked the committee that if the streetlight is denied then how close to the street can she go with a light of her own?

Alderman Papa responded that she should call the City Engineer's office to find out the proximity and said that she could put her own light pole up if she wanted to.

Ms. Yarish highly recommended a streetlight at the initial 90-degree angle turn.

Alderman Finn suggested tabling the item in order for the police department to go back and to review again. He wanted them to look at the third street light and the existing light that's there and see if that light can be moved to Pole #5406.

Alderman Finn moved to table until the next meeting. Seconded by Alderman Papa. All in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

4. REPORTS OF THE EMERGENCY SERVICES

- A. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**
- B. POLICE SERVICES**
- C. FIRE SERVICES**
- D. OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**
- E. FIRE MARSHAL**

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Finn moved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by Alderman Papa.
All in favor. Motion carried 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Adcox

Acting Clerk, Public Health & Safety Committee