



BOARD OF ALDERMEN
STREET COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, May 2, 2017
AT SHELTON CITY HALL, ROOM 104
54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT
AT 6:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alderman McPherson on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen Street Committee to order at 6:00 p.m. in Room 104, of Shelton City Hall and led the group in a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Present

Alderman McPherson, Chairman

Alderman Kudej

Alderman Farrell -Excused

Also Present

Ernest Hutchinson IV, Highway Superintendent Assistant

PUBLIC PORTION:

_None

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1.1 STREET COMMITTEE MEETING – March 7, 2017

Alderman Kudej MOVED to waive the reading and approve the Street Committee Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2017.

SECONDED by Alderman McPherson. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed Unanimously.

Full set of minutes can be found at www.cityofshelton.org.

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 UPDATE ON ROAD REPAIRS

Discussion:

Alderman McPherson: This was put on the agenda so we could get an idea of where we are at and what is planned for the roads. Can you tell me, is it done by percentage or by miles of road?

Ernest Hutchinson: As far as I am cognizant of there isn't a percentage or mileage. Roads are being done on an as needed basis or if there is a hazard, like a ravine. Since the beginning of January drainage projects have been completed on Beardsley Road and Hill Street. We have also completed many catch basin repairs as well as sanitary sewer repairs on Woonsocket, Orchard and High Street. As far as the roads, we are doing a tremendous amount of crack sealing. Right now we are underway, being involved with it all this week despite the weather. The chip sealing work is around the corner. As you can see, we have a full agenda on roads that are categorized. I can give you a copy of this list, if that would help you.

Alderman McPherson: Yes.

Alderman Kudej: That would be beneficial, this way when people ask us we have an idea of where they are at, when we are asked and we are usually guessing at the answers of where it's at. That would be helpful to have.

Ernest Hutchinson: Would you like me to send it to Theresa or do you want these directly to you Eric? Or both of you?

Alderman McPherson: If you can send them over to Theresa, she can print out copies for both Stanley and myself.

Ernest Hutchinson: Alright, I will get a copy of this 2017 road improvement list over to you guys via Theresa as requested. We are also doing a tremendous amount of milling and patching. We are taking a slightly different approach this time. We are milling and patching when there are potholes after potholes. We have done this over by the lake, Long Hill, Walnut Tree, Ripton Road, Coram, and Mill Street. Where there is a bigger reoccurring problem we have been doing this mill and patch and it seems to be working out. If you folks have driven up Long Hill, there's been extensive milling and patching done there and so far so good. We are planning to continue this concept and process of

milling and patching. I know Stan has brought up before areas of Coram that are perpetually plagued by potholes.

Alderman Kudej: Yes. There's certain areas of Coram that seem to get washed out more so than anywhere else. We were trying to stay away from curbing some of those areas, but the more I look at it, the more I think maybe we should try it. Over where Coram and Hillside meet, right now you can't see it because of the vegetation is over grown, but there is a pretty good sized gully there.

Ernest Hutchinson: That area was just brought to my attention this morning. Coram and Hillside, I believe it's either #117 or 177 I have it on my agenda to take a look at tomorrow. Just as you have said, there's some washout. I will be looking into this. Exactly what you were just talking about. Alderman McPherson, do you have any areas of concern or are aware of that you would like me to look into?

Alderman McPherson: Yes. Right outside here as you turn onto Hill Street, there is a pothole in the middle of the road and in the parking lot of the Post office there is a rather large and deep pothole that is in need of filling.

Ernest Hutchinson: Stan, do you have any others that you are aware of? Other than Hillside and Coram?

Alderman Kudej: This is something, where Hillside and Coram meet. That turn there is a horrible, horrible turn. Trucks have gotten hung up there and it's always been too much of a costly item. Probably involving blasting, but it would be nice to make it easier but the whole area, below Tuxedo is almost done in its development there but I was approached a while back about Grove and Harvard Avenue. Up there it's a dead end, someday we are going to have to open that up and provide another access area, especially when River Road is backed up with traffic. It would be nice to take a look into it to see if it can open up and give more access.

Ernest Hutchinson: That will need to be sent up to the engineering department to take a look at it.

Alderman McPherson: I don't have anything addition to add so we can move on to the next item.

2.2 TRASH PICKUP RESIDENT COMPLAINTS

Discussion:

Alderman McPherson: This was a last minute add on item by myself, since then I have spoken with Paul and the situation has been resolved.

Ernest Hutchinson: The director was involved.

Alderman McPherson: The director was involved and matters have been resolved, it's what I have been told this afternoon but I also said to him that we need to make sure we have something in place so it doesn't occur in the future.

Ernest Hutchinson: This will stay in effect, that way there won't be a reoccurrence.

Ernest Hutchinson: It's been that way for three years. It might have been something that happened during the transition between Trash Master and Winter Brothers, the exchange between the two. It was brought to our attention from City Hall and then the director got involved to get it straightened out.

Alderman McPherson: I said that we have that in our area and it would not have been a good thing. I was glad that it was taken care of. I plan to have a meeting with Paul to share some recommendations as well to help. These are some tough areas, especially with one ways. It's more of an issue in this part of town than say it would be in the Huntington part of town, only because of the one ways. Cliff Street has three parts, the middle and two one ways.

Ernest Hutchinson: We don't want to have any upset residents.

Alderman McPherson: No. You're right, we don't. Ernie, we have this trouble more in the winter. I drove up there and there's nine driveways, maybe ten but everyone parks on the road. We've had that situation right back here, on Prospect. I've had residents come to me and ask, "Aldermen, what are you going to do? The road has to be clear" and I've told them they are a part of the problem. They need to park in their driveway and not the road. We use the code red to say you need to move your vehicle at this time. With code red we are able to say down to a specific street, specific neighborhood that there is vehicle restrictions. That's one of my recommendations for some of these tougher areas. The area like section on Howe Avenue, over near J&B Auto Body. That curb, down near there are signs up stating No Parking for trash pickup with the times. Even though they all have driveways they park in the road and it drives me crazy. Things would be easier if they parked in the driveways during those times.

Ernie Hutchinson: It would be easier for the automated trash pickup and recycling too.

Alderman McPherson: I had mentioned that when I spoke with Paul. We are thankful that the situation was resolved and that everything was taken care of. We just want to make sure that we don't run into reoccurring things. If there's something that we can do as a committee, put in recommendations that would benefit everybody.

Alderman Kudej: On the trash pickup stuff, I don't know if it will be a problem or not but I have dumpsters down the little league field and the last couple of years it started to rust and decay so it was replaced with another. We use 55 gallon drums as trash receptacles but the garbage has to be put in by hand because the side doors are too small so we

can't put the drums in the side door. The opening is too small. I have complained to White Brothers but I just wanted to mention it.

Ernest Hutchinson: Does Parks and Rec. collect it? Do you need a larger dumpster?

Alderman Kudej: No, it's the side doors are too small.

Ernest Hutchinson: That is Parks and Rec. I will look at that but it's not my division, but Paul was looking into a simple little fix for the gallon drums. When people throw out stuff and the plastic bags slip. We are currently looking into purchasing retainer clips to put around the top of the can in order to hold the bag in place on the drums. I'm looking into getting 27 for the department to have because that will help with the problem. It stops the bag from falling in.

Alderman Kudej: I could use those at the field. When you get them, drop a few off at the field.

Alderman McPherson: That's a good idea. I just have a question regarding the bins, the wheeled carts. Do you get requests for additional ones?

Ernest Hutchinson: Yes, often.

Alderman McPherson: Okay, when I drive around I see that some have two or more recycling.

Ernest Hutchinson: That's one thing the city is trying to encourage. With the recycling the city gets paid.

Alderman McPherson: My trash has cut down considerably with having the recycling bins.

2.3 CORAM ROAD

Discussion:

Alderman McPherson: I don't have anything additional on this.

Alderman Kudej: It was the potholes and such but we have discussed it.

Alderman McPherson: Since Coram Road was already discussed in 2.1 no further discussion needed.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3.1 INTERSECTION OF GROVE AND CORAM

Discussion:

Alderman Kudej: They are working on that. I was surprised yesterday when the backhoe was there, and dirt piles. The area is being worked on, both yesterday and today.

Ernest Hutchinson: Yes. This was an area that you had asked about at the last meeting.

Alderman Kudej: I was glad to see it. I'll wait to see what develops there.

3.2 EAST VILLAGE ROAD GUIDE RAIL

Discussion:

Alderman McPherson: This has a really lengthy history to it. When this issue first came up it went to Chairman Papa on the Public Health and Safety committee. He was approached by an individual and so he put it on the agenda and we'll look at it but it's been bouncing back and forth between the Street Committee and the Public Health and Safety Committee. I appreciate that Chairman McGorty's committee looked at it as well. Where are we with this? Are we going to move forward?

Ernest Hutchinson: As you have said, there is a long and lengthy history on this. Back on February 11, 2014 its request for the guardrail was studied by the engineering department and they felt that it was not warranted. The police department stated the same. At this juncture there are no plans. Extensive studies have been done and it has not been found warranted. The photo shows it's a very shallow transition through there. There are several other areas in the city that could use one.

Alderman McPherson: It's more leveled then I had thought.

Alderman Kudej: In my opinion, it is not necessary it.

Ernest Hutchinson: The department concurs with the findings of the engineers.

Alderman McPherson: We agree with the findings and go along with those recommendations. I'm glad that we are done with it.

3.3 DEBORAH DRIVE

Discussion:

Alderman Kudej: This street is a dead end with a turn around and I have not been there but have been told that the road is all broken up.

Alderman McPherson: Complaints have been made regarding the chip sealing.

Ernest Hutchinson: It's slated to be addressed. The department has said that chip sealing will be in 2018

3.4 RIVERVIEW PARK

Discussion:

Alderman Kudej: During the winter months this area gets used for dumping of snow and ice which causes breakage of basketball courts and the parking area. There are complaints by individuals that the completed work is unsatisfactory.

Ernest Hutchinson: The basketball courts or the parking area?

Alderman Kudej: It's the parking area.

Ernest Hutchinson: Milling has been put in that area there.

Alderman Kudej: Milling was put there but that area has received complaints from individuals who are not satisfied with the results.

Ernest Hutchinson: That area has been taken care of and I have been there and have not seen any concerns that these individuals are saying. There was a small divot, or two but I think the millings held up well.

Alderman Kudej: I like the millings too, I use it down at the field parking lot. People have brought complaints so I'm sharing them.

Ernest Hutchinson: We did it, the entrances look good. I think it has held up well considering the funds and budget allowed and don't see where the complaints are.

3.5 418 RIVER ROAD

Discussion:

Alderman McPherson: This is the driveway entrance to Sunnyside School and the boat ramp.

Ernest Hutchinson: This is a valid concern. It has been brought to our attention and we have responded. Photos have been taken and you can see there are areas in need, but

the work can't be done while school is in session. Repairs will be put on hold for about a month or so, until then.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN- none presented.

5. STREET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Discussion

Alderman McPherson: Does anyone have anything to add?

Alderman Kudej: I have nothing to add at this time.

Alderman McPherson: If you see anything while you are around you can just jot it down and we can add it, or call it in.

Ernest Hutchinson: I have nothing to add.

REPORTS:

A. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

B. SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES

C. CITY ENGINEER

D. STREET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Kudej made a motion to adjourn the Board of Aldermen Street Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Alderman McPherson. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Vivian Kudej

Vivian Kudej