



**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
S T R E E T   C O M M I T T E E   M E E T I N G  
M I N U T E S  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 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, December 5, 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 Gidwani

**Also Present**

Brian Roach – Assistant Superintendent Highway & Bridges

Alderman Anglace – President, Board of Aldermen

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Alderman McPherson addressed the audience to let them know that when their item appears on the agenda they will be called to the table to sit to discuss it.

Alderman McPherson welcomed Brian Roach, Assistant Superintendent of Highways & Bridges and newly elected Alderman Gidwani to the Street Committee.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

**1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

## 1.1 STREET COMMITTEE MEETING – OCTOBER 3, 2017

Alderman Kudej MOVED to waive the reading and approve the Street Committee Meeting Minutes of October 3, 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](http://www.cityofshelton.org).*

## 2. NEW BUSINESS

### 2.1 SUNSET DRIVE GUIDE RAIL REQUEST

Alderman Kudej MOVED to authorize the Director of Public Works to work with the Police Department on the placement and installation of a small guide rail at the corner of Sunset Drive (and the no name street).

Seconded by Alderman McPherson. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion:

Alderman McPherson asked the couple to state their name for the record.

Reyes & Rafaela Garcia of 40 Sunset Drive introduced themselves and sat at the table.

Alderman McPherson: The pictures are helpful, thank you. When I originally went out to look at it I missed it the first time, but after visiting your house it then became clear. The picture doesn't really show it but there is a slope. I was wondering if there was a stop sign there but there isn't.

Reyes Garcia: The problem occurs particularly in the winter months when there is any kind of snow or ice on the street. People try to make a left turn onto the no name street off of Sunset Drive and they lose control of their vehicle. We've had a couple of those. Once my shed was damaged. That person stopped. He had no choice because he had to be towed out and he paid for the damage so there was no problem there. There are other people who end up gouging out the soil as it is soft and they dig out the ground and I have to fill it back in. We get at least two cars who end up off the road and onto the property and they are not speeding. It's that they either miss the turn and try to turn too sharp and they don't realize how slippery the road is and they just go right into it.

Alderman Kudej: It's a tough turn there.

Reyes Garcia: About four or five days ago I had a friend come over and visit me and he said he missed the street, he didn't see it, and there is a light there. There is a light but it's a very dim yellowish light.

Alderman McPherson: That's going to be changing because we are in the process of changing all of the streetlights in the city. So, there will be an LED light there.

Rafaela Garcia: It would be nice if they put a stop sign coming down the hill before the no name street. There is a stop sign on the no name street but not on the incline or even a sign that says: "slow down" or "sharp turn". What we are afraid of is that they will end up in our driveway. If they do we are in danger as the tree is no longer there to protect us. That tree was pretty banged up from cars hitting it.

Alderman Kudej: It's basically a safety hazard all the way through there. Putting in a small guide rail would help and putting in some kind of shrubbery.

Reyes Garcia: In the spring time I have someone coming in to plant some bright green bushes/trees.

Rafaela Garcia: At least if they see the trees they will say "hey, that's not the road, it's actually property." But right now, there is nothing there so it looks like the road. They could end up damaging a lot of things.

Alderman McPherson: The picture doesn't really show it as it looks flat in the picture but it's not. It does go down.

Reyes Garcia: Yes. Sunset Hill is a hill.

Alderman McPherson: Even where the corner is here, it looks flat but it really isn't. It has some depth to it.

Alderman Kudej: A guide rail isn't going to be a costly item and the shrubbery will give them a little bit of privacy.

Alderman McPherson: Well I think that you don't need a very large guide rail. I think a smaller one will indicate the corner and it will be a benefit. I think there are some other things we can do in addition to that.

Reyes Garcia: Well, what I would like to see is a guide rail that goes 60 degrees of the curvature, goes around and then about 30 feet back because we actually had three trees, and...

Alderman McPherson: I can see the stumps.

Reyes Garcia: Yes, and there was another one over here and believe it or not, somebody nailed it. So that's why I would like it to be a little past where that shed is now.

Rafaela Garcia: You had mentioned that there were other things that you would like to do. We will take anything that you can recommend that will keep us safe there.

Alderman McPherson: We are going to recommend a few things in addition to that. You had mentioned signage. I mentioned the light. The light will be brighter there with LEDs that shine down and out so it will light up that area a little bit more. We are in the process of doing that citywide now. Brian, can you guys go out there and take a look at it?

Brian Roach: Yes. We can take a look at it but I would say as to what type of guide rail should be put in that would be Mark Siglinger.

Rafaela Garcia: I talked to him too. We've talked to everybody. We just want to be safe there. There was one other thing that I wanted you to look at. Down near the no name street there is a water issue, it collects there. They were going to put in something to drain the water down because any cold and that becomes an ice skating rink. That's another problem.

Reyes Garcia: We get this large accumulation of rainwater and there is no place for the rainwater to go and so it sits there. The city came and dug out the tail end of my property and dug out the gutter to let it drain and it did drain a little bit but didn't help that much. That is a whole other issue that I had forgotten about.

Alderman McPherson: That is something that Brian can take a look at.

Brian Roach: I will talk to engineering about it as well.

Alderman McPherson thanked the Garcia's for coming and told them the city would be in touch with them.

Alderman McPherson: The next two items we can take together.

## **2.2 CORAL DRIVE STREET**

## **2.3 SPINNING WHEEL ROAD**

Discussion:

Alderman McPherson: I take it these are smaller roads.

Brian Roach: Yes, smaller sections anyway. Trumbull did their part of Spinning Wheel. Both of them are scheduled for next year. We would have moved it to this year if we had known Trumbull was having someone come out and do that. But, they are both on the list for next year.

Alderman McPherson: I believe Alderman Capra had informed me that there was some kind of petition from the residents up there. Not sure if you have seen it or not. So that will be taken care of next year. Very good.

## **2.4 CORAM AVENUE SIDEWALK PARKING**

John Sonsini of 32 Perry Avenue introduced himself.

John Sonsini: A few issues, some are on the sidewalk. You have the pictures. The main problem and issue is that there is one slab that is a little bit wider, a newer slab, which would be right underneath that tire. That would be the water curb cock. Where the curb is, the water curb cock is right there and right behind it is the gas one, a half a foot away. So, both of them are there on the curb line. This is strange because it was replaced as you can see from the photo and it's sinking again because it separated but it separated on the water side. The water company's responsibility side, let's say. So, I was not responsible for it. Had it broken on my side, I would be responsible for it. I understand all that, all the legalities, but with the water and gas being there and the sidewalk being in disarray over there and everybody driving and parking on it. I called Yankee Gas and showed them pictures but they said it's my responsibility if something happens to it. The sidewalk is my responsibility also but with people continually parking on it that's actually sinking already and that's actually two years ago that was done.

Alderman McPherson: When were these pictures taken?

John Sonsini: Just before Thanksgiving. There are plenty of cars, if you go by it, you will see it all the time.

Alderman McPherson: My first thought was are there any residents who live in these houses who are parking there?

John Sonsini: It depends. Being near St. Joes church, it's everybody. The tenants that live there have a driveway. The house next to it, the small dog salon, they park further up because they have a hydrant in front of their house and the person next to me has a driveway also.

Alderman McPherson: Representative Perillo and I have talked about this issue. We both looked at it. At first I believed it to be up a little bit further past the dog salon. Actually, the cars do it up there as well. Rep. Perillo happened to see the DOT people in the area and showed them the area I originally thought it was and they are going to shift the yellow line over to give those people more room on the side of the dog salon. They also looked in front of the school and the church and the DOT said that it's very wide there and there is no issue there of moving the line. I think the next thing we may have to do is get signage that says: "No parking on the sidewalk." Maybe the police department can put notices on the vehicles to not park on the sidewalk.

John Sonsini: That was done already. There is a no parking sign from the Masonic Temple down to White Street, obviously because it's very narrow there, and from the crosswalk up there is no signage there which I don't mind, but being that this area is my responsibility what are my options? I have talked to some of the officers and they did put notices on the cars and for about a week no one parked on the sidewalk and then they went right back to doing it.

Alderman Kudej: This is an issue and I don't know what the solution is going to be. I live up on Plaskon and people are parking all over the place. I am waiting for the first snowfall to come and the plows are not going to be able to get through and handle it.

John Sonsini: So now you are saying they will move that line. Will that help?

Alderman McPherson: I don't think they are going to move this line. They are going to move the other.

John Sonsini: Like I said, the church side has a larger side. There was a no parking sign but there was an accident there about a month and a half ago. It took down the sign.

Alderman Anglace: You probably could ask the state if they could put a higher curb along the sidewalk just from the point of view of directing the water flow off the street. Then you may get their attention. Just to keep the water flowing in the right direction. They probably would only need a curb in front of the house and up a little bit farther and down a bit. It shouldn't be a major job. They might consider it. The curb would be a deterrent for people parking on the sidewalk.

Alderman McPherson: Especially the sharp granite curbing. You pull up on that and it may cut your tires.

Alderman Anglace: From the pictures you can't tell if there is a...

John Sonsini: When they repaved that road like six or seven times the curb is all but gone.

Alderman Anglace: An alternative would be to ask the state to raise the existing granite curb. If they raise the existing curb up then that would direct the flow of water and that would be a deterrent for people trying to park on the sidewalk.

Alderman McPherson: We could certainly reach out to them to do that. You have responsibility for this entire sidewalk?

John Sonsini: What's in front of my house. People have always parked there with the carnival and church, etc. but it's getting blatant and if you look at these pictures you will see how blatant it's becoming.

Alderman McPherson: Oh yes, I see, why don't they just park on your front yard?

John Sonsini: Exactly. Maybe we could put a bug in the police department's ear about the parking there. Maybe people can start being ticketed. That would be a deterrent.

Alderman McPherson: Yes. It would. I think the suggestion that John Anglace made is a very good one and I will get a hold of Jason Perillo.

Alderman Anglace: You make the point that over the years they paved the road and they buried the curb. I don't think that's a major job.

Alderman McPherson: That's true. The curb is all but gone now.

Alderman Gidwani: John, there is a sign there that says no parking?

John Sonsini: Yes, that's where the end of my driveway stops. There was one right here. This is the one that was knocked down. I would replace the sidewalk tomorrow if I knew that people weren't going to park on it again and ruin it.

Alderman McPherson: We will be happy to look into it and enlist help from our State Representative.

John Sonsini: As I said, my main concern is the liability and also to keep the sidewalk safe and the gas and water line safe. With the frost heaves coming in for the winter it isn't going to make it better. I appreciate the speediness of getting this on the agenda.

At this point, Paul DiMauro, Director of Public Works, was put on a conference call to participate in the discussion of Item 2.5.

## **2.5 SIDEWALK REIMBURSEMENT - BRIDGE STREET**

Alderman Kudej MOVED to recommend to the Full Board to approve the sidewalk reimbursement of \$20,691.95 to Bridge Street Partners, LLC, 8 Huntington Street, Suite 171, Shelton, CT per Ordinance #904 (Section 14-9 of the Code of Ordinances) with funding to come from an account to be determined by the Finance Director.

SECONDED by Alderman Gidwani.

Discussion:

Paul DiMauro: I will give you a quick overview of what has happened with this. Originally, we received an invoice somewhere in the neighborhood of \$48,000 for the work. It appears that the new construction should be exempt from that. I instructed them to rebill the invoice to just cover those areas that are not associated with new development. I received that invoice in the amount of approximately \$28,000. There was an item on Bridge Street which I said should not be reimbursed because it was part of the new development area so I deducted that amount. I then went and looked at the area under the bridge. What he had done there is he had enlarged the area. That would be more than what we normally reimburse for a sidewalk. I had them go down and measure the area. You will see in the left-hand column where I reduced to what we would normally pay which is a 4-foot-wide sidewalk of concrete. Curbing, I added it because they didn't have curbing of 44 feet. Then the pavers are a two-foot wide strip which would normally be what we would put in a sidewalk installation. So, with those numbers it brought it down to \$20,691.95. So, I reduced it further by \$8,000. As far as the inspections and all, I was there when they were doing Canal Street and there was certainly more than enough concrete put into that area. Also, the pavers were put in better than what we do. They actually put concrete in first which is a far superior method of doing it. So, I feel comfortable with the reimbursement of \$20,691.95.

Alderman McPherson: Any questions from the committee.

Alderman Kudej: I am not familiar with the part of the bridge.

Brian Roach: I have photos.

Paul DiMauro: The part of the bridge is the smallest part anyhow. That area originally had parking pushed all the way up. The sidewalk was pushed back. So, it was brought back to be a straight line now.

Alderman McPherson: There used to be a parking spot there. So, he brought it out even with the rest of the sidewalk. He made the area safer actually.

Alderman Kudej: Where are the lights supposed to be?

Alderman McPherson: You can't see it but they are there now. There's one here and then there are several going down along that sidewalk. Behind the Dunkin Donuts parking lot, behind the building now. You can see one of them right here. They go all the way down to the corner. There are about five or six lights there. This area in the photo is what Paul is talking about.

Paul DiMauro: I reduced that area about \$4,000 or \$5,000.

Alderman McPherson: Anything further on this?

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

## 2.6 RIVERVIEW AVENUE (DEAD END)

Alderman McPherson: Paul, I have this item Riverview Avenue (dead end). Ed Conklin, the ZBA Chairman, had come to me. During their November meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals, they gave a variance to a builder on Riverview Avenue, the dead-end section. The variance required the builder to make much needed street improvements to the road that his property abuts. One of the major complaints to the neighborhood is that the dead end has no turn around at the end. The improvements from the builder, they are looking to add a small cul-de-sac which would improve things on that part of the street. Where that ends is some city open space there that is blocked off with some boulders. Just your thoughts if you could have Brian look into it? Does the possibility exist that we can put a small cul-de-sac there?

Paul DiMauro: We shouldn't be doing it. The builder should be doing it. Is that what you are saying?

Alderman McPherson: Yes. We wouldn't be. He would be.

Paul DiMauro: If you have another unit going in there it could cause severe bottleneaking in there and we won't be able to get in there. There has to be one of two things: a cul-de-sac that allows our trucks to move to be able to push the snow aside and turn around safely or a hammerhead type situation where a truck would pull in. Brian can explain that to you. Either way we need our trucks to be able to move the snow. We've got to have something that handles the snow plow turning around. I don't care if it's on our city property. That's not a problem. It's just a matter of making sure it's there.



Alderman McPherson: I think too we will have to check with Teresa Gallagher as well. I wanted to stop in today but I had missed her. I think we are going to need her opinion there.

Paul DiMauro: I will look to the engineer for the mathematics of the layout. I don't see where we would have a problem with open space because we would be technically opening up that area to an easier approach and all if they do it properly and enhance the area. In any event. I don't want to see a situation where we can't push the snow and we have to back all the way out of that road. Run it off to Brian, Ernie or myself and we will discuss with the engineer.

### **3. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **3.1 ASPHALT ISLANDS AT KNEEN & HOWE; HOWE AVENUE AT EXIT 14; POST OFFICE PARKING LOT ISLAND; BOTTOM OF BROOKE & HOWE**

Alderman McPherson: I am not giving up on this. The reason being is that the one on Kneen and Howe really needs to go. You can keep one part of it but that back part of it needs to come out. This is the one that is always getting chewed up. It looks terrible and it doesn't match the existing one. I think it needs to go.

Alderman Kudej: I worry about the directional signage there so people don't get confused. I mean I got wrapped there once. I've seen other cars wrapped there. Trying to get to Howe Avenue to 34 in New Haven, there's no signs. People are trying to get to 34 to New Haven and people get confused and get t-boned. I asked Perillo to bring it up in some of his meetings.

Brian Roach: That has to be addressed by the state.

Alderman Kudej: I think if that they cut the back of it off. It's very long island. The back part is always run over and chewed up. I just don't think that part serves a purpose. I would agree with keeping the front half. So, you have that separation for people turning onto Kneen. It's just an eyesore at this point. So, we would like to see it removed. Then there is another island, I think we can do better with this as well. At the bottom of Brook Street. I bring this one up because when you go down Brook people often turn left and if someone wants to turn right they can't get by there. I think that by either cutting back that island or we get it out of there altogether so you can have a wider lane when you get to the bottom there. I just think it would be an improvement. At least you would be able to widen that part of the lane.

Alderman Kudej: The other island on Grove and Coram. Work was started and there has been no action on it. I don't know if there is a problem. At one time the mayor wanted to get rid of the whole thing. There's horses around it. You just can't leave it the way it is right now. It's either got to be cleaned up and signs put up there because people come flying up Coram and don't know which way to go if they should stay right and go down Grove or bear to the left and go down Coram. Let's see what we can do.

Brian Roach: Right now that area is kind of the staging area for the gas company. Until they get out of there we can't do much.

Alderman Kudej: I don't know what's going to happen when the snow comes.

Alderman McPherson: There is one thing I will say. When you get the first snow I think they should be plowing as far as they can to the sides of the road. That's going to set the pattern. I go through this every year. This is my property and the plow driver is leaving this much snow on the side. They are just not coming close enough to the sides.

Alderman Anglace: They aren't coming close enough so they don't hit too many mailboxes.

Brian Roach: Right. Initially that is just opening up the roads. Then they come back and push it.

Alderman McPherson: They have to come back and push it back and they are not. They just aren't plowing over far enough.

**4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-** none presented.

**5. STREET COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**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 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

*Theresa Adcox*

Theresa Adcox  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen