

CITY OF SHELTON**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
STREET COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, May 4, 2004****MINUTES**

Alderman Ken Olin, Chairman of the Street Committee, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. in Room 104 of Shelton City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present. One tape is on file with the City/ Town Clerk's office.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alderman Ken Olin, Chairman
Alderman Stanley Kudej

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alderman Diane Marangelo

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Mooney, Superintendent of Highways & Bridges

PUBLIC PORTION:

Alderman Olin asked if anyone wished to address the committee from the public.

Dennis Kelly, 71 Willoughby Road

My reason for being here is to follow-up with some discussion I have had with Mayor Lauretti to make him aware of my concern with the street I live on and the surrounding neighborhood for the speeding that occurs. Mayor Lauretti indicated that it is a widespread problem. Nevertheless I wanted to draw attention to Willoughby Road and Independence Rd. I have forwarded an e-mail regarding a campaign called, Keep Kids Alive-Drive 25. There is more information on the web site. Maybe with increased awareness that people in Shelton can take ownership of creating the awareness of slowing down their driving. On the web site there is a lot of information as well as products you can purchase, such as speed limit signs. The ones I purchased say, "keep kids alive, drive 25". I have put them along the road. If there is some committee that can look into this campaign, it might be something that the City might want to adopt. Many cities have looked into it and embraced it. There is another web site called, Kids and Cars.org. I just found this today. Maybe an article in the paper regarding this might be appropriate. There was a study regarding speed bumps. I feel Independence would be a good street to use speed bumps, between Willoughby and Constitution Blvd. N. A lot of high school students use this street as a race track. It is exceptionally dangerous and I feel that would be a good place for speed bumps. Mayor Lauretti indicated that it would not be a high probability. I

guess the snowplows would prevent being able to put in speed bumps. Based on this particular study, speed bumps do reduce the risk of children's injuries. Mr. Kelly left information on the KidsandCars.org website.

Mr. Tom LaTulipe, 91 Toas Street

I couldn't help but hear what this gentleman said and as I went up Soundview, I noticed the signs. I wrote an editorial regarding putting up signs like that. This gentleman took upon himself to put them up. I feel it has a drastic effect on the community in slowing the vehicles down. I think it is a good idea and if you are looking at an organization to pick it up, maybe Neighborhood Watch would pick it up.

Mr. Kelly asked if there was a committee like that?

Alderman Kudej stated that the Neighborhood Watch is usually in conjunction with the police department.

Mr. Kelly stated that he is familiar with them and has already dealt with them and forwarded the e-mail to them and to the people in his area.

Mr. LaTulipe said he had asked for a sign at Cranston and Toas St. It has been put up. I was wondering if anyone had a chance to check the front of my house at the curb that I want to have put in? Also there is a car there on Pawtucket. I guess it will be there until the cows come home. The guy that owns the property now lives in Ansonia. (Alderman Olin mentioned that it was discussed at the last meeting). Also, on Toas, in addition to speeding the kids have made a skateboard jump. It is very dangerous. It seems that in society, in general, no one has any respect. That's all I have, thank you.

With no one else with an item for the public portion, Alderman Olin closed the public portion at 7:25 P.M.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman Kudej **moved** to recommend to the Full Board to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the March 3, 2004 Street Committee meeting. Alderman Olin **seconded** the motion. Mr. Mooney stated he wanted it noted that he was present at the last meeting, as well as this one. A voice vote was taken and the **motion passed 2-0**.

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 SPEED BUMPS

Discussion:

Alderman Kudej stated that speed bumps have been requested by a number of residents and the police department doesn't approve of them and I don't believe the Highway Dept. is fond of them either.

Mr. Mooney stated that in Westport they tried it on two streets in October and November, and the number of lawsuits they had immediately after putting them in was tremendous. They are dangerous. People lose control going over them. They are not a good idea, and especially dangerous for plows.

Alderman Olin stated that this committee does not recommend speed bumps.

2.2 MT. PLEASANT STREET – REQUEST FOR DEAD END SIGN

Alderman Kudej **moved** to forward to the Highways and Bridges Dept., for the installation of a dead end sign on Mount Pleasant Street. Alderman Olin **seconded** the motion. A voice vote was taken and the **motion passed, 2-0.**

Note: Received a call from Mary Boyko, 15 Mt. Pleasant St, on 4/15/04, requesting that a dead end sign be installed at the top of Mt. Pleasant St. Many cars are racing down the street and not realizing it is a dead end. She had one car go through her yard and fence.

Alderman Kudej asked Mr. Mooney if it is being worked on and Bill stated that it is in process. He still has to acquire a sign.

2.3 PERFORMANCE SURETY RELEASE – WATERVIEW LANDING, WARWICK LANE

Alderman Kudej **moved** to approve the release of the performance surety for the construction of Warwick Lane and the improvements made to Murphy's Lane subject to the following conditions:

- 1) The Board of Aldermen accepts Warwick Lane from Murphy's Lane to the cul-de-sac, 550 feet.
- 2) The developer shall clean all catch basins prior to the release of the surety

Maintenance surety is not recommended since the pavement structure has been in place through two winter seasons.

Alderman Olin **seconded** the motion. All were in favor, **motion passed, 2-0.**

2.4 DAYBREAK LANE INTERSECTION SIGHTLINE

Alderman Kudej **moved** to forward to the Highways and Bridges Department, per the recommendation of the Chief of Police and the City Engineer, to clear all the brush located along Old Stratford Road as described on the attached map. Alderman Olin **seconded** the motion. **Motion passed, 2-0.**

2.5 88 HILLSIDE AVENUE

Alderman Kudej stated to Mr. Mooney, as you come down Hillside from Coram, on the second bend, the water comes around the bend and cuts through the yard (at 88 Hillside). Mr. Mooney stated that he and Bob Kulacz took a drive over there and determined that they would also put in a higher driveway apron as well as a higher curb.

2.6 INTERSECTION OF CORAM ROAD AND PLASKON DRIVE

Alderman Kudej stated that there is a little island on top and we received an e-mail from Ann Walsh requesting that we beautify. I think it is a good idea. Mr. Mooney mentioned that he took a ride up there with the Mayor when we were looking at other things and the island is actually on Grove St. My recommendation would be to take it out of there. There are several similar areas that are “y” intersections and are dangerous. We took the one out at Trap Falls Rd. intersection and the one at Buddington should come out as well as Waverly Rd. I am recommending that this one come out as well. We will take the asphalt out and put grass there. We will make it a “t” intersection. If we go into these gardening things, we had a problem with a woman on Sims Way and Perry Hill Rd. She planted gladiolas and they were so high that when someone came up there with a small car they were unable to see. She got very upset when it was cut.

Alderman Kudej asked if they would put in some low growing ewes and some wood chips.

Mr. Mooney said that grass would be better because they don't seem to be able to maintain the bushes. It is just like on some of the cul-de-sacs where they put in an island with landscaping. It looks good for the first year and then no one takes care of it after that. Mr. Mooney stated that he would take care of it, but it would not be today.

3.0 OLD BUSINESS

3.1 THEODORE ROAD CULVERT

Alderman Olin asked Mr. Mooney if he aware of the area. Mr. Mooney stated there was a letter from the City Engineer.

Alderman Olin read the memo from the City Engineer:

The issue of repairing or replacing the headwalls of this twin conduit which conveys Walnut Brook under Theodore Rd was discussed with the Superintendent of Highways & Bridges. It is our joint opinion and recommendation that this culvert be replaced with a new single precast reinforced concrete box culvert. The cost of a project with this scope is in the range of \$30,000 to \$50,000.

A larger single conduit would not be subject to blockage by debris. The size of the conduit would be determined after a drainage analysis is completed for this location.

Alderman Olin asked Mr. Mooney if they were going to remove the jersey barriers. Mr. Mooney said you can't remove them until the problem is fixed. Alderman Olin said that the Mayor wanted it removed. Mr. Mooney stated that the Mayor talked to him about it and the objection was that the jersey barrier was causing some of the problems as far as the water coming down the driveway. That was not the case. However, we raised it 6". There is a hollow block wall and not enough meat to put a fence there.

Alderman Olin asked if it would be done this year.

Mr. Mooney explained that you have to go out to bid on this first, then get the engineering done. My guess would be a year to a year and a half.

Alderman Olin and Kudej explained that they went out there and the homeowner showed the pictures of what happened when the water went through there.

Mr. Mooney continued to explain that you have a hollow block wall. The wall that is adjacent to and across the brook from her property and runs perpendicular to the road. It is the property owners wall. If you take any of the headwall from there, the wall will fall down. Where the two tubes that are in there now go into the headwall, are all deteriorated. If we wanted to put a storm drain into that, we would be looking for trouble, we would lose the whole thing. The best way is to design it properly and put it in properly and then we could put the storm drainage in there right. We could put a higher lip on here driveway, but I don't think she could get her car over it. She drives a small car.

Alderman Olin said, so I guess we are going to have to design it.

Mr. Mooney said, Mr. Kulacz will design it, you will have to fund it. I guess that is where it starts.

Alderman Kudej **moved** to forward this item to the Finance Committee for funding of the Theodore Road Culvert project. Alderman Olin **seconded** the motion. All were in favor, **motion passed, 2-0.**

3.2 120/124 WOOSTER STREET

Discussion:

Alderman Olin stated this is the property owned by Jeff Mackniak, where the drain is and he built a garage over it.

Alderman Kudej said that he talked with Mr. Mackniak and I said that I didn't think we would be willing to do anything to the garage. I would strongly recommend that we give him a better curb there to try and divert some of the water there.

Mr. Mooney stated that putting a curb there would not be a problem.

Alderman Kudej said he would get in contact with Mr. Mackniak to let him know we agree to put in curbing.

3.3 HUNTINGTON STREET – LEFT HAND TURN LANE

Alderman Olin stated that the City Engineer has submitted his recommendations and the following is a quote from the Chief of Police:

"In regard to installing left-turn lanes on Huntington Street, I recommend that your committee contact the City Engineer and ask him to check into the feasibility of widening or reconfiguring the area to support a dedicated left-turn lane for northbound traffic coming into Huntington Center.

There have been four reported accidents at the intersection, three of which were rear-end collisions involving northbound vehicles following too closely to vehicles waiting to make the left-hand turn onto Blueberry.

If you have any questions or if additional information is needed, please contact me."

The memo from the City Engineer is as follows:

The construction of a northbound turn lane is feasible at this location. It is a significant undertaking which requires full design plans, acquisition of property and slope rights on the easterly side of Huntington Street and relocation of the existing storm drainage system at the intersection. An 8-24 referral from the Planning & Zoning Commission would also be required.

The preparation of a concept design, preliminary cost estimates and land acquisition plans by this office, requires authorization from the Office of the Mayor to work on this proposal.

Alderman Olin **moved** to request an 8-24 referral from Planning & Zoning. **Seconded** by Alderman Kudej. All were in favor, **motion passed, 2-0.**

Reports

- A. Director of Public Works – none**
- B. Director of Highways & Bridges – none**
- C. City Engineer – none**
- D. Street Committee Members - none**

Alderman Olin **moved** to adjourn. Alderman Kudej **seconded**. **Motion passed.**
Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Marianne Chaya
Clerk, Street Committee