



**SPECIAL**  
**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**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2013**  
**AT SHELTON CITY HALL, ROOM 104**  
**54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT**  
**AT 4:00 P.M.**

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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Alderman McPherson on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 called the Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen Street Committee to order at 4:00 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

**Also Present**

George Stachowicz, Highways & Bridges

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

#### 1.1 STREET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES- DECEMBER 4, 2012

Alderman Kudej made a MOTION to approve the Street Committee Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2012. Alderman Farrell SECONDED the motion. A voice vote was take and the motion PASSED 3-0.

### 2. NEW BUSINESS

#### 2.1 RECYCLING

Alderman Kudej: George, I noticed on the Little League field that there were two containers for recycling. The recycling tops look like they are secured, but it seems like you cannot pull them up. Who is going to be emptying them? Is it the Little League's responsibility? Parks & Recreation? Highways & Bridges? Who is going to be picking this stuff up?

George Stachowicz: I do not know what arrangements Paul has made. I am assuming that TrashMaster will be picking it up.

Alderman Kudej: I understand that they would be picking up the dumpsters, but what about the recycling containers?

George Stachowicz: If they are frontloaders, then TrashMaster will come and get them.

Alderman Kudej: These are very similar to what the neighbors have in the streets.

George Stachowicz: The 96-gallon containers?

Alderman Kudej: No, not that big. They have the tops on them where you can throw bottles and cans in. It looks like the tops are screwed or fastened on somehow and you just cannot pick them up. Somebody has to take the top off to empty them. Does your department have something to do with it?

George Stachowicz: TrashMaster has all of the contracts for the recycling, as far as I know. I will talk to Paul in the morning.

Alderman Kudej: I would like to know because the ball seasons are starting up. Are we going to have those things on all ball fields?

George Stachowicz: Well, I am sure that it is because the new season has not started yet and it hasn't been addressed yet.

Alderman Kudej: The season has started and everyone is just practicing now. The games haven't been officially started yet. Mostly, there has been a lot of activity on each of those fields every night now.

George Stachowicz: I believe it is TrashMaster's responsibility. I will talk to Paul in the morning.

Alderman Kudej: I have to be able to convey to all my managers and the people that are supposed to be cleaning up.

George Stachowicz: The Highway people will not be picking them up. We do not have the equipment for that.

Alderman Kudej: Who is going to be picking them up? I would have scavengers come and diving into the dumpsters and barrels, looking for cans and bottles. Paul told me that that was going to be against the law. I am going to tell the people down there, that they have to recycle to throw the bottles and the cans separately. I am sure that will be some garbage thrown around in there because people do not follow the rules. I would like to be able to issue direction, and now I do not know which one is right.

George Stachowicz: Again, I will talk to Paul about it in the morning. From what I recall from the last time I was down there, there were front loader containers where the big hooks came in on the dumpsters. The Highway Department does not have the right equipment for that. Plus, for schools, we take the hook lift truck that you are aware of. It is one of those problems that we are trying to find a solution for.

Alderman Kudej: Maybe TrashMaster put those recycling containers out there? I didn't check every field yet because they just popped in the last couple of days.

George Stachowicz: I will find a solution.

Chairman McPherson: The only thing that I had on recycling was when this ordinance was being proposed, Stan and I have brought this up in our district because we have numerous people that have been in violation in the past. The question, especially for people on Howe Avenue, who do not have driveways and such: what happens when the truck is not able to get to the container? The people park the cars on the street because they do not have anywhere else to park their cars. What happens if the truck cannot get in there? The trucks will then go right by and we will have an issue of the buckets not getting picked up. Paul was not that concerned when we first mentioned it to him, but when you have a row of 6 cars parked bumper to bumper right by Shelton Pizza Palace. There are all these houses and if the cars are all parked tightly, and the truck is not able to pick up the trash how will we be able to address that?

George Stachowicz: We have been having these problems as we have been going, and we have been solving them block-by-block. With no parking certain times of the day they are posted in certain areas. Once in a while the truck drivers and/or the supervisors will get out of the truck and pull them out. The people are getting used to it now, and they know that at a certain time, they are going to miss it if they do not have their stuff out there. They are getting better, but there are still some glitches; it is coming along.

Chairman McPherson: I had some good feedback, because people like the fact that they are recycling more. Myself, I used to have seven bags of trash and now I am down to two or three bags. So I have received a lot of phone calls and said that this was a good idea. At first, I was

concerned about the size of them, and then when we had that 3.5 feet of snow and the garbage wasn't able to be picked up, I was glad I had the bigger container because everything fit inside.

George Stachowicz: As people are getting educated, they will recycle more and more, and people are asking for more recycling containers.

Chairman McPherson: I have seen a couple things and I was wondering if that was going to be a problem for the truck: sometimes, people who live Downtown are overstuffing the containers where the lid cannot even cover. My complaint with that is if it gets windy, stuff will blow all over. Are the trucks having difficulty, as it makes that turn and start spilling out?

George Stachowicz: We are putting people on notice for stuff like that and pictures and sending them certified letters. There were a lot of them in the beginning, but now it is starting to slow down, as we are being aggressive with that. Actually they will not pick it up if the lid is off of it. Their drivers contact their supervisors and then, contact our dispatcher.

Chairman McPherson: That little store where Casden, they are noted for things like overflowing and if the top doesn't close. I watch all of this stuff.

George Stachowicz: I do not know if they are in a grandfathered area.

Chairman McPherson: I was never a fan of this grandfathering stuff because you have a problem and you cannot get rid of it. I wish they would stop grandfathering and make everyone comply. No one should be exempt from the rules, whether you have been there 100 years or 2 years. I was never a fan of grandfathering and I will never be a fan of it.

## **2.2 SIDEWALKS-DISCUSSION**

Chairman McPherson: I put this item on the agenda because I believe that sidewalks are used with LOCIP. I am looking in the Downtown area where it is not owned by a private entity, and if you are coming off of Exit 14 off of Route 8, you take that right and see that beat up sidewalk; I believe that is a City sidewalk and I would like to get that on the list to be re-done. This would certainly come up out of LOCIP.

George Stachowicz: If the funds are available, then sure. It would have to go through the Engineering Department, I believe.

Chairman McPherson: I have another area around Perry Avenue. If you turn onto White Street and then on that quick left onto Perry Avenue, on that left side there is a good stretch of sidewalk that used to be asphalt sidewalk. I think that the City owns part of the sidewalk. It is overgrown and you can see the asphalt dissipated. I think that would be another area as a good candidate, if we can get the LOCIP funding.

George Stachowicz: We will investigate it and see whose ownership it is.

Chairman McPherson: I think it may be ours; I know up farther are all of those landlord-owned houses, because then it becomes concrete. Right now it looks bad and it gives a bad impression. Somehow as we get into the summer months I know we will be doing a lot of paving. That would be nice if we can get that looked in to.

George Stachowicz: It would have to go out to bid; it wouldn't be something out of our department.

Chairman McPherson: I am going to approach the owner of Johnny's Pizza because that is all of his sidewalk- all of the asphalt is broken up and there is a tree that was never pruned or maintained, and it is starting to bring everything up. If I can convince the owner to go with concrete, because we do have that program in which he can get reimbursed on that. Hopefully I can get him to meet with the City Engineer.

Does anyone else have any other issues with sidewalks?

Alderman Kudej: I do not have anything on sidewalks, but do you think you can do something on New Street? I get a question about that corner a lot.

George Stachowicz: I talked to Engineering and we discussed it. There is that one depression there, or they can send them a notice to improve that area. Hopefully New Street will be done within this year, or next year. That will tie up everything with that whole north end, with all of those other streets getting done; Geissler Drive was done last year.

Alderman Kudej: In conjunction with that sidewalk over there, are you ever going to look at that railing that goes down the bank- where New Street goes around Howe Avenue.

George Stachowicz: That is on my guardrail list. We are putting that list together with the winter we have had.

Chairman McPherson: Speaking of Roberts Street, when they re-did that, with that old bridge and that channeling fence up into the river. There was never any fencing that was replaced, even a guardrail for that. Is that how this is going to stay?

A lot of people walk that way when you go down Roberts Street, where the river that goes under the bridge.

George Stachowicz: I thought a guardrail did go up, but I know that Building Maintenance was talking about helping us out to build a fence.

Chairman McPherson: I can see somebody tripping and going right over into the brook; that is about a 50-foot drop. That is a very steep fall and I know that it is not the fall that hurts you, it is that sudden stop.

### **3. OLD BUSINESS**

- 3.1 CORNER OF CENTER STREET & HOWE AVENUE- FLOODING ISSUE**
- 3.2 WOOSTER STREET (IN FRONT OF WOOSTER STREET MARKET)- 50 YARD AREA- NEEDS PAVING**

(Two items were addressed together)

Chairman McPherson: The issue of the corner of Center Street and Howe Avenue, where that nail salon is: when there is a lot of rain and that floods. Paul had told us at the time that he was going to look into it with the State, because that is a State road.

George Stachowicz: Paul never mentioned anything to me about that, or where it went. I know that there are two catch basins in front of the nail

salon. It is a double catch basin, but for some reason the grates are paved over. The issue is the water trying to force its way down there. I don't know if that happened when they paved over Howe Avenue? We can look into it. Maybe they were paved over accidentally?

Chairman McPherson: We received a call from the business owner, because when it floods it really stretches out.

George Stachowicz: It goes into the brook; there is enough area over there. It is a lot of water in a small area. I do not know why they covered over the grates.

Chairman McPherson: They would have to come out and fix it, since it is a State road. I will ask Representative Perillo to give them a call and to look into that as well. We might need him for the next item, which is Wooster Street, because they were still putting the lines in.

George Stachowicz: We cannot get any information on that. I am not sure if it is from UI-

Chairman McPherson: It is just terrible! It is taking a toll on cars.

George Stachowicz: We are interested as well because I would like to tie in Brook Street and the rest of that, because that is in pretty poor condition. I don't know if they are waiting on information from UI or for State approval?

Chairman McPherson: I thought they were already done now with digging everything up and putting everything in because they went all the way down on Brook, and all of sudden nothing. I hope they do not have plans of leaving it that way because it is really atrocious.

George Stachowicz: It is finished on both ends. It is just terrible.

Chairman McPherson: It is like 50 yards and it is a horrible part of the road to travel on.

I have one item that I didn't add on the agenda, and I talked to Paul about it. He said he would check with the City Engineer. Across the street from St. Joseph's, 34 Coram Avenue- someone had dug part of the road up, shaped almost like a "T". I don't know what they did there or put there, or if someone



had work done on the house? They did a very crummy patch-up job, and if you drive by it you can see how bad that really looks. It is not even brought up the level of the road that was before. It angers me because that road was just re-done, and somebody dug it up for another reason.

George Stachowicz: The utility company, Engineering has all the utilities. The utilities need a permit to open up the road and it is their responsibility to permit the repair. I am just sure it is the matter of when the weather getting better-

Chairman McPherson: Someone put asphalt in it, but never brought it up to the level of the rest of the road.

George Stachowicz: I am sure over the winter it settled; that's normal.

Chairman McPherson: I want to make sure that no one dug it up and then did not bother to do it the proper way. The same thing happened on Independence Drive: they put the three houses up and they dug across the road in two areas, and when you drive on that road, you hit a large hole because they did not bring it up properly. They did a shoddy job of filling it in, and that was whoever the contractor/builder was, who did that.

George Stachowicz: If they are not done properly, Engineering will put them on notice and they will come back and do it the right way.

Chairman McPherson: I am saying it so it is on the record, just in case he does not know about it and he could follow up with the information.

George Stachowicz: They have a whole list because we get the list too. They send a list of all of the utilities and road openings. They go through them and make sure that they are all done.

Alderman Kudej: Are all of the roads going to be tackled already?

George Stachowicz: The asphalt plant had just opened up last week. We have been giving recycled asphalt through grants.

Alderman Kudej: I know that some of your guys tackled some of Hillside and the next day there was bad weather-

George Stachowicz: We were trying to get the drainage in for you. We got half way up the hill until we hit the rock.

Alderman Kudej: Is there going to be more than one sewer put in there?

George Stachowicz: We put in two catch basins up the street. We got up to the bank-

Alderman Kudej: There were two at the bottom, so are you going to put two more going up?

George Stachowicz: There are two existing and we have installed two more. We got to that sharp turn, where the apartments are and that is when we hit the rock. We knew that was going to happen-

Alderman Kudej: You are not going to go more than six inches.

George Stachowicz: We got as far as we could right now. We tried to put in a lateral one across the street and there was rock right from the get-go.

Alderman Kudej: There is nothing easy on the south end. I grew up there and I understand the problems, but I also understand the complaints that the people are having.

I got a call a week or two ago, the yellow line that was painted on Coram Road. The paint fades and it doesn't adhere. The stuff is holding up pretty good so far, that you put down.

George Stachowicz: That goes out through the Police Department.

Alderman Kudej: I know that goes through the Police Department, but I just wanted to through it out there. Eric and I had the opportunity, last week, to take a tour of Charter Arms on the bottom of Brewster Lane. It is a business that moved from Canal Street and they are very busy, they have quite a decent crowd down there. The road down there is horrible. I don't think Brewster Lane has been touched in fifty years. There is not too much parking and I didn't know if there was any consideration being made. I believe the dog pound is going to be built there, so when there is construction going on, we should work together and improve the parking and traffic pattern down there.

George Stachowicz: That is something to look into. The right equipment will be there. They are parked on both sides of the road there.

Chairman McPherson: The road is very narrow, but when you get towards the bottom of Brewster and you take that quick left, there is a little vacant area that could be fixed up to create some additional parking.

George Stachowicz: That will overflow the traffic from the bus company.

Chairman McPherson: I am wondering if it is not just Charter Arms, or if it is bus drivers as well.

George Stachowicz: So there is probably an overflow- they are taking over from where the Pink Elephant used to be.

Alderman Kudej: It is the combination of everything. We were invited to go down there to take a tour of the place, and we could not find a place to park. You park on one side of Brewster, and you might get a little scrape job on your car.

George Stachowicz: That is something that we can address.

Alderman Kudej: They will be digging up the dog park, so we might as well get together and see what we can do to improve that area, considering that Charter Arms did not take that whole building. I understand that someone else is occupying part of that building? I think he was renting it out, so they are trying to utilize the stuff that we have there already. People do not have the opportunity to park. I should bring some of this stuff up to Planning & Zoning, in order to make them all aware of what is going on. I was surprised on the amount of items that go out of that place: 1200 or more per week. They deal strictly with revolvers, nothing else.

George Stachowicz: Do they outsource that?

Chairman McPherson: No, I believe that everything is done there.

Alderman Kudej: The frames are made someplace else, and from there they do everything. Once the construction starts down there-

George Stachowicz: That is when it should be done, not after the fact.

Chairman McPherson: It would be a good opportunity.

Alderman Kudej: I don't know the plans of buying our own school buses is going to affect that area, because I heard talk that they may move it someplace else.

As construction plans are being generated, everyone should be aware of what is going on, not just focusing on one thing but the whole area. It would be toward our benefit because if we do not address it in the beginning, you are going to get phone calls from all over.

Hopefully the roads get pushed along quickly. I figured that asphalt might be a problem.

George Stachowicz: No, the plant is open. We have all of the winter damage that we are trying to take care and get those miles of curb patched.

Alderman Kudej: My neighbors look at me and the road is deteriorating faster than I thought.

Chairman McPherson: There is a part of Montgomery and there is some erosion. There is also a 2 foot drop, and for three years I have been pushing and asking to try to get something done.

Alderman Farrell: Don't forget that e-mail that I sent you on Mill Street. There are many potholes on Mill Street.

George Stachowicz: Mill Street is a daily event for us. We finally got some hot material, and pretty much from the bottom towards Bridgeport Avenue, have been taken care of. To be honest, we send a truck there every day to Mill Street.

Chairman McPherson: That road is so narrow, you feel like you are going to fall into the river.

Alderman Farrell: Too bad because they're a lot of beautiful homes on that road.

Alderman Kudej: It is like the extension to Richard Boulevard: it is progressing and people are moving in there. The traffic is also becoming more noticeable; also on Belmont, my street, and the top of Grove Street- hopefully the contractors settle that. I was surprised on how fast those houses were being bought.

Chairman McPherson: If it is not right the first time, then they need to be held accountable. This is a big issue!

When we get these things, the Committee says that we are just not going to approve it for the sake of approving. I want to make sure we get writing from the City Engineer, that his office is satisfied, that everything was done in proper order and it fits the qualifications set forth by the Engineering Office. Otherwise, it will get tabled until it gets met.

Alderman Kudej: I haven't been able to notice the Retention Bond, because somewhere along there, there is supposed to be a Retention Bond to hold the water. That really gripes me that these contractors are building where no one would have ever thought that people would build. I thought people would build in order to control the water problems because it doesn't drain, and they are putting in Retention Bonds; to find out that the City is assuming all responsibility of maintaining those things and that should not be. The contractors are making the money, the builders are making the money and somehow they should be forced to maintain that.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Alderman Kudej made a MOTION to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Street Committee meeting. The motion was SECONDED by Alderman Farrell. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor motion passed 3-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted;

***Brittany Gannon***

Brittany Gannon

Street Committee Clerk

