



**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, APRIL 5, 2016
AT SHELTON CITY HALL, AUDITORIUM
54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT
AT 6:00 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alderman McPherson on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen Street Committee to order at 6:07 P.M. in the Auditorium, of Shelton City Hall and led the group in a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Present

Alderman McPherson, Chairman

Alderman Kudej

PUBLIC PORTION

Mike D'Amico, 11 Bristol Drive

Not this past fall but the prior fall, they came and did the chip sealing in the Bristol Drive neighborhood. Then we got pounded from all of those snow storms, and then in the following spring in which I am not sure if was oversight, but they never sent a street sweeper through there. There were several of us, fathers, out there with leaf blowers blowing all of the loose stones out of the road so our kids could ride their bikes on the street. You could not play basketball out there either because there were so many stones. I am just requesting that we get a street sweeper out there in that neighborhood, because for two springs in a row there has been about 8 feet of stones being raked into my yard. I am raking out the stones, and with all of the snow plows a lot has been pushed off to the side and it is backing off the storm drain. We are not looking for anything special, but when a street sweeper is out there if they could swing over. That would be great.

Showed committee members a photo of the mound of loose stones in his yard.

One of the other comments that I wanted to make to you was to check the contractors and to check the materials that they are using. I want to say that was around October

when they did that, and I was out there in June with a gallon bottle of Roundup because all of the cracks were back, and the crabgrass was around 15 to 20 feet long; it was in the middle of the basketball court.

Chris Vendetti, 148 Hillside Avenue

The purpose of my attendance is to follow-up with the meeting on site that the three of us had on March 11th, 2016, in order to raise awareness of the poor conditions of the street, Hillside Avenue and the surrounding connecting streets, for example: Park Street, Crescent Street, and Highland. They are all in pretty poor condition, even subsequent to a tar and chip application and I believe that was done around four years ago or so. There is also an absence of curbing in some areas of quite a bit of linear feet. In my opinion it looks like that could use some attention, for some curbing as well to prevent the storm water from washing off into the sidewalk areas and such. I just wanted to come in and make a presence to request that some attention to be paid, or at least an assessment be made to that whole area.

Alderman Kudej: We will try to get them out there as soon as possible.

Chairman McPherson: When they did part of it they stopped at Crescent Street, I believe. Then it comes up to Spring Street, then Park Street?

Alderman Kudej: And Chestnut. It runs parallel to Hillside Avenue.

February 28, 2016

Stanley Kudej
Alderman - Shelton, CT - Ward 2
43 Plaskon Drive
Shelton, CT 06484

Dear Mr. Kudej:

Hello and good day. I restored a distressed property here in Shelton from 2010 to 2013 and am now happy to be an official Shelton resident at 148 Hillside Ave. Unfortunately, the street and sidewalk asphalt here has been in poor condition and getting worse each year -especially due to the many cracks combined with water infiltration and the harsh winter freeze-thaw cycles. The surrounding streets such as Spring, Highland, Park, and Crescent are also in poor condition. On Thursday, 2/25/16, I spent some time visiting Lori, Rimas and others in the city hall Engineering department, and George at the Highways and Bridges department, to inquire about milling and repaving work here on my street. Everyone was helpful and educated me a little about the road maintenance initiative in Shelton. Ultimately, after a visit to the mayor's office, I was advised by Theresa Adcox to contact you as my liaison toward requesting that proper and thorough reconditioning work be considered for Hillside Ave.

Approximately four years ago, a "tar and chip" procedure was applied to Hillside Ave. and a few additional neighboring streets. Neighbors agree with me that this procedure is a "band-aid" over the problem at best, and the end result was very undesirable. Tar and stones are tracked into our homes and vehicles, stones invade our lawns, stones are kicked up into our vehicles while in motion thereby scratching the paint, and tar splatters onto our vehicle surfaces on hot days and also ruins footwear. I even witness cats and dogs vigorously shaking their paws to release the sticky stones. So please let me emphasize that I am not requesting a repeat tar and chip application. The neighbors and I actually prefer existing conditions over another tar and chip application.

In closing, on behalf of me and other Hillside Ave. residents, will you please introduce my milling and paving request to the public works director for consideration? I voted in favor of the "reconstruction and resurfacing of roads" referendum in 2014, and I've witnessed the positive results since its implementation. It appears to me that repaving of Hillside Ave. and adjoining streets, and repairs to those curbs and sidewalks on Hillside Ave. (falling under Shelton jurisdiction), is overdue. I'm hoping that city governing officials will agree. I understand that Shelton is comprised of hundreds of miles of roads to assess and maintain, and we will not be first on the list for action. Though, we hope to be added to the queue for the next wave of paving work.

I am happy to meet with you to discuss my request further. In any case, thank you greatly for your attention to this matter and for your service to our city.

Sincerely,



Chris Venditti

Phone: 203-243-7070
E-mail: cvenditti@netzero.net

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1.1 STREET COMMITTEE MEETING- FEBRUARY 2, 2016

Alderman Kudej MOVED to waive the reading and approve the Street Committee Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2016.

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

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

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 HILLSIDE AVENUE ROAD REPAIRS

Discussion:

Chairman McPherson: When we reach Part D: Report of the Chairman, I will do it under that; there are some other areas that we need to bring to attention.

2.2 LAUREL HEIGHTS AND RIVER ROAD GUIDE RAIL REQUEST

Discussion:

Chairman McPherson: Do we have anything new on updates on Item 2.2?

Alderman Kudej: I go by there quite often, so they chopped down most of the bushes. Right now you could see up the road. It is ugly right now but you could see the traffic coming down the hill. I have seen that letter from Bob Kulacz, that maybe they are asking to take it all of the way down. I do not think it is needed.

Chairman McPherson: The last that I saw was there was the attempt to push it back, trim it considerably and then to get it pushed back.

Alderman Kudej: It has been trimmed down quite a bit.

Chairman McPherson: You also have a guiderail request there as well. That is what we need the update from them, on.

Alderman Kudej: They are building on that lot now where I was complaining about the curb. I think the back of that building is too close to the road. We definitely need the guiderail put up there now, but I do not think there is more than 10 to 15 feet from the edge of that road to the building. It may be less; I think the builder should be charged for putting up the guiderail instead of us.

Chairman McPherson: I think that is something that we need to check with Planning & Zoning about.

Alderman Kudej: I think Planning & Zoning should have been aware of how close the back of that building is to the road.

Chairman McPherson: I think we should contact Rick Schultz and ask him to take a look at that. You bring up a good point that they should not have to be responsible for it, and I do not think we should be responsible.

Alderman Kudej: Doesn't the City need 9 feet from the edge of the road, in?

Chairman McPherson: It really depends; the standard is 10 feet.

Alderman Kudej: They may be infringing.

Chairman McPherson: That is why Planning & Zoning should look at that and see what we get back from Rick. From there, we will then put it on the next committee meeting.

There were two other guiderail requests: Old Coram Road by Rocky Rest Road. I think we also need an update on Saw Mill City Road. I had asked Alderman Finn to get me the nearest utility pole number on it, as a reference. He was able to do that so we need an update from them on that, as well.

2.3 SIDEWALK REIMBURSEMENT- 384 HOWE AVENUE

Alderman Kudej MOVED, per the recommendation of the City Engineer, to recommend to the Full Board to approve the sidewalk reimbursement of \$13,940 to Shelton Victorian Condominium, 384 Howe Avenue, Shelton, CT 06484 per Ordinance #877 (Section 14-9 of the Code of Ordinances) with funding to come from Sidewalk Reimbursement Account #001-3600-713.80-43.

SECONDED by Alderman McPherson.

Discussion:

Chairman McPherson: I took a look at it; I watched the process when they dug up the entire thing and I watched the process as they were putting in the new sidewalk with the matching brick. They did a very good job and I think it looks good. Hopefully we can get some others down there to do the same thing. It worked out very well. The City Engineer

signed off on it, we have the letter, and we can attach this when we send it to the Full Board.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 AMENDMENT TO CODE OF ORDINANCE CHAPTER 16 ARTICLE II SEC. 16-34 WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Chairman McPherson: This item is going to be tabled. We are having a discussion on this tomorrow. What we were working on, it was not ready on time for this meeting so we will take this up again at the next meeting.

3.2 LAUREL HEIGHTS AND CORAM ROAD SIGHTLINE OBSTRUCTION UPDATE

Chairman McPherson: Do we have an update on the Laurel Heights and Coram Road sightline obstruction?

Alderman Kudej: This is about the bushes that need to be cut down. They chopped them up pretty good. You could see cars coming down the hill now; apparently the City Engineer wants the whole thing taken out. Speaking of sightline obstructions, I was coming down Huntington Street and Myrtle Street. If you look down Myrtle Street, you cannot see the cars coming up until you get out. So, I think that someone should clear out that corner over there. The sightline is obstructed. It is tough seeing now with no leaves, but when the leaves come back on the tree you will not be able to see at all.

Chairman McPherson: We will see if we could get a crew out there and trim it back.

Alderman Kudej: There are sections of Coram Road that the asphalt is popping, and we should have someone to look at it to correct it before it gets worse. It is from Weybosset Street all of the down to Laurel Heights Road; that whole area I feel is getting water underneath. That would be up to George and his crew to decide on how to prepare for that.

Chairman McPherson: I went out and looked at an area on Woonsocket. The residents called me from 19 and 20 Woonsocket Avenue. I do not know if I have the numbers correct, which was the even side; I do not remember. In front of one house, the side of the road is broken up. Then on the other side they had curbing but the curbing is gone. Any run-off is starting to erode on part of the property, we probably need a section of the curb to be replaced. Water comes down and you can see it run off and see where it swirls on the property. This needs to be done when they pull out the curbing machine. They need to rip up that little section that is all broken

up on Woonsocket; in front of #19 and #20. It is a narrow section, but it is all broken up, but they have the milling machine where they can break it up but it needs to be taken care of.

Also, I went onto Buddington Road. I drove out from Huntington Street to Nells Rock Road and several sections on Buddington Road that are in need of repair. It is not the whole road; it is parts of the road that are in pretty good shape but there are some that they need to work on. I wrote them down and I will send it to them.

Another item is out on the corner of Prospect Street and Maltby Street where the hospital is. There is a parking lot across from the hospital and across the street there is a stop sign that is literally bent all of the way to the ground. Someone seen it and put up caution tape, but they need to fix that. In the post office parking lot, there is a one-way sign that is bent back, and we need to see if that can get fixed too. At some point I will put it on the agenda, but I will call the Acting Chief of Police because once again we have a problem where the hospital is. We have the no-parking signs; I had those installed in the 1990s but it is the people, it is the people that work for the hospital, people going into the hospital that are parking on that side. I am going to have a discussion with the Chief about this. I think there are 4 or 5 signs that clearly say no parking, and if they need to issue some tickets then I think they need to do it. The other issue across from there, there is a house where there are handicapped spots, but they have it hash marked out because people were blocking in the driveway; they were parking in the hashed out area and they are restricting access to the driveway and the residents cannot back out of their driveway. I talked with the residents and I told them to call the police and have them towed; it is not there for decoration and it is there for a reason. On one occasion I called the hospital myself and spoke to the administrator. The administrator told me it must have been a visitor, but I said unless you have a visitor that parks there everyday that gets out of the vehicle with a nurse's outfit, from 4 to 12 then I do not believe that is a visitor. I told the administrator that either you could approach that person and I would give them the make, model and plate number. Either you can approach your employee, or I said I will be happy to do it with a tow truck. So that was the extent of the conversation. I will talk to the Chief, and I will talk to the Traffic Division as well and we will have them look into it.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN- none presented.

5. STREET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

REPORTS OF:

D. STREET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alderman Kudej: At one of our Board of Aldermen meetings, there was a lady that was complaining about the speed and there was an accident someplace over here on Coram Road. She wanted us to either put a stop sign, or control the speed; I do not know if that is currently being worked on?

Chairman McPherson: Find out the exact location because what they could do is put up those portable signs that record your speed. I've seen one of those on Huntington Street, near Buddington Road because when you reach a certain speed it starts flashing. We could have one of those put up and monitor the speed over there because there are parts of Coram Road that are a raceway. People will fly, especially when you get to that sharp corner

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 motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Brittany Gannon
Brittany Gannon