



**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, DECEMBER 4, 2012  
AT SHELTON CITY HALL, ROOM 104  
54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT  
AT 6:00 P.M.**

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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Alderman McPherson on Tuesday, December 4, 2012 called the Special 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**

Atty. Steve Bellis, Pellegrino Law Firm  
George Stachowicz, Highways & Bridges Staff (in lieu of Mr. DiMauro)

**Public Portion**

Public Portion of the meeting involved the appearance of Joseph Knapik of 23 Stonewall Lane, Shelton:

These comments will once again address a long-standing street repair problem. The problem and attempts to fix it go back to the winter of 2008-2009. The problem involves the city caused snowplow damage to curbing and curbing footings.

I've appeared several times before this committee with no result. Former Alderman Olin and current Alderman Kudej visited the sight-no result. Director of Public Works, DiMauro, last year visited the sight and took pictures-no result. I've written a letter at his request to Chairman McPherson-no result. I've had two telephone conversations with Chairman McPherson-no result. I spoke with

Chairman McPherson informally- no result. The situation despite extensive efforts to remedy it, is minor, however, its ridiculous longevity is not...2008-2012. If you have the honor of serving as a city alderman or you receive a city paycheck, you need to do your job. To conclude the length of time its taking-four years-to fix the damage is now the issue and deserves publication.

Chairman McPherson: I would like to say to Mr. Knapik is what I have said before; it was assured that it would be done. I do not know why and I cannot explain why but again I will do my best to get that issue resolved for you. I will speak again and George is here, on behalf of Mr. DiMauro, tonight and we will go over that issue again.

Mr. Knapik: Well after four years, I hope that we fix it.

George Stachowicz: I would like to comment on this. I recall this coming through our office, and to be honest I do not have an answer for you. All I can say is that two years ago, we just started digitalize and computerize all of the complaints, so they are all on the computer. Before, they were all in a paper system, in a book. To be honest, we did not start this until 2010, and the complaints that were in the book before, we didn't answer because there were so many so we assumed that they were done. I apologize on behalf of our department for this. I will take care of it this week. You shouldn't have to wait that long.

## **\*\*ADD-ON**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2.4 ACCEPTANCE OF HUNTINGTON WOODS SUBDIVISION**

Alderman Kudej moved to add on to new business: 2.4 ACCEPTANCE OF HUNTINGTON WOODS SUBDIVISION. Chairman McPherson seconded. Vote is unanimous.

## **1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

Alderman Kudej moved to waive the reading of the Street Committee Meeting Minutes of September 4, 2012 and the Special Street Committee Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2012 and approve them. Chairman McPherson seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion carried.

## **2. NEW BUSINESS**

### **2.1 NEW STREET GUARD RAILS**

Alderman Kudej: I got a call to check this out. Going up New Street from Howe Avenue- the railing is old and rusted and seems to be headed down that corner and so is part of the road and the neighbors pointed out that they would like to have something there. I know it is not a high priority item yet, I don't think the traffic is that high so the first chance we get, we should look at it.

George Stachowicz: Once a year we do put a guardrail list together for different sections of town, unless there was an accident involved, then we would do that right away.

Alderman Kudej: When I went to look at it, it was covered with vines and brush so you couldn't really see it. I think in some areas, the vines are holding up the guardrails.

George Stachowicz: Is this a type of guardrail with wood?

Chairman McPherson: It is with wires.

George Stachowicz: It would have to be replaced with iron.

Alderman Kudej: I told the people in the neighborhood that I would bring it up in --

George Stachowicz: The other day, we were talking about getting the list together. It is usually a September thing.

Chairman McPherson: I am glad that the state got with the modernization with getting rid of those old ones on Howe Avenue, up by the park. They did a nice job putting those in, but of course they took forever.

### **2.2 SIDEWALK AT NEW AND ROBERTS STREET**

Alderman Kudej: The next item is the St. Mary on New Street and Roberts, on the corner. An individual grabbed me and said the city repaired that sidewalk. It's a repaired job and it is in bad shape. Somebody almost broke

their neck and apparently tripped. That thing is not level; it is just patched up with that asphalt.

George Stachowicz: When they re-cleaned Roberts Street, they damaged that corner and we came in quickly and repaired it.

Alderman Kudej: Well it should be leveled with the road or something.

George Stachowicz: It has been heaved over the years and even going towards the park there. It has sunken, so how extensive do you want to clean? It is usually the homeowner's responsibility and on that corner should be handicapped - -

Alderman Kudej: That's just the way it is right now.

George Stachowicz: We are trying to match the existing sidewalk, which is already angled. Is there some handicap there?

Alderman Kudej: I don't know—

George Stachowicz: If you are going down the hill –

Alderman Kudej: I got approached by a group of neighborhood people. They said the city did it and George was one of them. That sidewalk goes down to half of that driveway and it stops and it doesn't continue all the way down. I was just wondering what happened there?

George Stachowicz: The city ordinance with abutting properties –

Alderman Kudej: I know what the sidewalk ordinance is, but does it have to come from the City Engineer's office? Sidewalks?

George Stachowicz: Yes it does. There is a reimbursement program.

Alderman Kudej: It is also under Paul's jurisdiction.

George Stachowicz: I will get together with Engineering.

Alderman Kudej: I think if we just re-did that corner, I think - -

George Stachowicz: It is no problem, but how extensive do you want to get? Do you want to go down to Howe Avenue?

Alderman Kudej: No, I am just bringing up things that people brought up to me.

George Stachowicz: I understand that.

Alderman Kudej: So if we can go out and take a look at it, and maybe do something it would be great.

### **2.3 CORNER OF CENTER AND HOWE (IN FRONT OF LUCKY NAIL SALON) – FLOODING ISSUES**

Chairman McPherson: Under 2.3, I spoke to Paul earlier. This is more of a state issue: 2.3 Corner of Center and Howe in front of that nail salon. It seems to flood there, and I have been getting some calls on it. I think it's more than cleaning the storm drain. It could be an actual serious issue there.

George Stachowicz: There aren't many catch basins on that corner. I think the first one there is around Porky's Café.

Chairman McPherson: Yes, and I noticed it's the state- there are a whole bunch of markings near there, and across Center Street, and up Howe Avenue, going up between where the little park is. Where Howe Convenient is, there are also orange markings all over the place.

George Stachowicz: Engineering would know what those markings mean.

Chairman McPherson: It is the state, but we do not know what the markings are. I think we are going to have to ask our State Representative to look into this to see what they have planned there.

George Stachowicz: They would have to get a call from Engineering for the "Call before you dig".

Chairman McPherson: Yes, I have seen the white "Call before you dig" markings too. I noticed them before, but I do not know when or what the state is planning to do there, since they are both state roads but I think you are right about that issue; because I received a call from the business owner there, as well and it apparently gets pretty deep water there and it goes over the curb.

George Stachowicz: Is it consistent, or is it just that one?

Chairman McPherson: A couple of times you get considerable amounts of flooding there, and also it seems to me that the road dips towards that way too and that may be enhancing the problem. That is something that we will have to look into as well.

George Stachowicz: I think there should be pictures taken of it during rainstorms and such.

Chairman McPherson: Yes, I just never have the camera on me when it does that.

I do have something on here that was not added on here, and Paul and I were talking about this in the past: the section in front of Wooster Street Market, they just never came back and I know that UI put in their lines underground and they were supposed to have that repaired but they were never able to do it.

George Stachowicz: It was a state project and the UI never came through to put the lines in before the state, so they just left that section out and it has probably been a year now, right?

Chairman McPherson: Oh yes, more than that.

George Stachowicz: Usually, they like to have that sit for a while.

Chairman McPherson: That's terrible. That is a very bad section.

George Stachowicz: I talked to Paul about that too, and the Mayor. I do not where that is. I could ask again, possibly Engineering.

Chairman McPherson: I suggested to Paul that maybe we should contact Representative Perillo and see what he can do.

George Stachowicz: I can find someone, or you can just call the state district, because I wanted to tie in the rest of Brook Street. They were going to a section of Brook Street and if they were going to do that, I was going to see if they were going to get the funds to finish it.

Chairman McPherson: Speaking of Brook Street, that awful little island there; it is just really bad and maybe that is something that we should look at. Maybe that is something that the Engineer could look at if that really does serve a purpose, or if we can take it out of there?

George Stachowicz: I will tie it in with any reconstruction to be done on Brook Street.

Chairman McPherson: Or maybe to make it look more attractive.

George Stachowicz: It is outdated.

Chairman McPherson: I was going to put plants there, but it looks horrendous. No sense of doing that if it is going to look like that but that is if it even serves a purpose anymore. That thing is probably 40 or 50 years old.

Alderman Kudej: Before we get to item 2.4, I want to bring up the island issue: on Coram Road and Grove Street- the little island up there, the sign that says Grove Street on the poll is down.

## **2.4 NEW BUSINESS**

### **ACCEPTANCE OF HUNTINGTON WOODS SUBDIVISION**

Chairman McPherson: Attorney Bellis is here on this motion.

Atty. Bellis: I represent Huntington Woods. I am Attorney Steve Bellis, with the Pellegrino Law Firm.

I do not know if you have that Planning & Zoning letter, dated November 4, 2011, to release the bond and request that it go the Board of Alderman, to accept the entire road system and other public improvements. Rick has the deeds in his files and he has asked me to try to get this expedited. They want to close it out because this subdivision is old. So, the only issue that came up, and I am dealing

with Paul DiMauro on it; was that the Planning & Zoning Commission did not want the developer to remove the island on Buddington Road that was part of the approval. They unanimously voted not to have that done. The Mayor spoke with Mr. Blakeman and he was going to come up with some site work, or work that he would do in lieu of removal of the Buddington island. I think that the last thing that he and Paul DiMauro were considering was perhaps doing site work with the dog pound.

Chairman McPherson: It was well over one year ago, that the Full Board voted unanimously to get that island out of there.

Atty. Bellis: Planning & Zoning said no.

Chairman McPherson: I cannot see where the aldermen having the jurisdiction in this matter.

Atty. Bellis: The Mayor said that Paul's department would have to deal with this.

Chairman McPherson: Was he supposed to work with Mr. Swift?

Atty. Bellis: Yes, but I think they changed their opinion on that.

So, Rick wants the deeds recorded, and wants to get the subdivision approved and close the books on it, because it is an old subdivision.

Chairman McPherson: We usually get notification from the City Engineer. He would send us a letter to say that he recommends sending it to the Full Board for approval, for releasing the bond.

Atty. Bellis: Paul DiMauro sent me an e-mail and said he was going to be dealing with any issues. There is nothing left to be done as far as the subdivision, but the subdivision issue was in lieu of work on Buddington Road.

Chairman McPherson: It says subject to the following, the first issue is that the Full Board accept the entire road system and other public improvements made within; and second



The posting of the Maintenance Bond unless waived by the Board of Aldermen.

Atty. Bellis: I would suggest that it would be waived because normally these things are acting on right away after the subdivision is built. This subdivision is around 10 years old.

Alderman Kudej: I would think that Kulacz would be sending us a letter.

Chairman McPherson: He would need to send us a letter, or send it to the Full Board. Will it go to the Full Board as is?

Atty. Bellis: Yes, you can request him to do that. I know that Paul said he stepped in, and Paul, the developer and I went through the whole subdivision and there was a little punch list and it was all done. Paul walked it himself.

Alderman Kudej: It has to go to the Full Board anyway.

Chairman McPherson: We are reading from the Planning & Zoning motion which says to recommend the release of the bond.

Atty. Bellis: The bond has already been released.

Alderman Kudej: Then, Kulacz will send us a letter. We only have the Rick Schultz letter.

Alderman Kudej: We just need to get that letter from the Engineering Department. That is all we are looking for.

Chairman McPherson: Well, I would suggest sending it to the Full Board and when that comes around, I am sure we will have more information on it. We will send this on to the Full Board for approval.

**ALDERMAN KUDEJ MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD TO ACCEPT THE ENTIRE ROAD SYSTEM AND OTHER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE HUNTINGTON WOOD SUBDIVISION AND POSTING OF THE MAINTENANCE BOND UNLESS WAIVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN. CHAIRMAN**

**MCPHERSON SECONDED THE MOTION. A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN; ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSED 2-0.**

- 3. OLD BUSINESS
  - 3.1 NO ITEMS

Chairman McPherson: We have no items under OLD BUSINESS that I am aware of. Alderman Kudej concurs.

On behalf of the Street Department too, as you know, we have been doing a lot of work on a lot of these roads; roads that have been in awful shape and we are seeing a lot of results with that. Mr. Knapik, I apologize and we will get this resolved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Chairman McPherson made a motion to adjourn the Board of Aldermen Street Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Alderman Kudej. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor motion passed 2-0.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

***Brittany Gannon***  
Brittany Gannon

