

Minutes of the Public Works Committee on March 27, 2017.

Present

B. Bier
B. Bevin
P. Vetro
J. Golden
D. German
G. Grant
F. Smith
E. Beatty

Also Present

C. Saley, PW Director
L. Streit, Secretary

Golden called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

A motion was made by Vetro, seconded by Bevin to accept the minutes of the January and February meetings as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report

Snow – hopefully the snow is done now; 500 more tons of salt was ordered in anticipation of the storms that were forecast. Maintenance has been done on the trucks. Golden asked where/how the salt is stored. Chris stated that it is stored in the yard/barn and will last until next year.

Founders Walk – the goal is for this to be ready by Memorial Day. Grant asked about the existing wall; its condition. Chris stated that they tried to tie it in as best they could and there will be some planting; ivy. Vetro stated that there has been a lot of erosion over the years. Chris stated that there is a \$300,000 - \$325,000 grant from the state and funds from Town Aid as well. They are looking to move telephone poles and redirect some of the wires. He is working with Steve Johnson and Richie Tomasco to plant trees for shading; there are mostly invasives there now. A long term plan is to have a pedestrian area by the tennis courts with Public Works doing a lot of the work. Decorative lights will be put in. They are looking for trees that will have the biggest canopy and fastest growth to be put in before the walkway is put in. A discussion followed regarding trees. This will be a signature area; the Public Works crew has done an amazing job. A poll will be taken to see who would like to tour Founders Walk.

Welche's Point Road – trees have been done. The wall, sidewalk and curb are to be done; a resident has asked for stone. The retaining wall will be done in-house.

Bids – Chris reported that some towns piggy back on bids from town to town (using another towns bid to purchase the same product). Milford has nothing like this in place. This would be cost effective with no bidding process.

Paving – the list for the paving plan was sent to Bryan Anderson; the goal is to do rounds in the summer and fall. The State is doing some milling and paving. The Water Company is doing

some work. Public Works is working around this. \$3,300,000 was bonded for the Gulf Street project and will be 100% reimbursed. It's looking like this will be a Fall project. An easement is needed and has received a verbal approval.

Welche's Point/Gulf Street Bluff – there has been a meeting for design work and there will be a public meeting.

Darina Place – plans are being finalized; Chris will follow up with this.

Dredging of Ponds – this will be going out to bid. There are low levels of PCB's; .03% and .09%. This will cost approximately \$700,000 to get rid of. The plan is to start in November.

Beautification – German stated that the point is to try and make Milford look good; pocket parks, signage, planters, overgrowth; looking for consistency with fencing, especially down town. Vetro suggested contacting The Chamber regarding Adopt A Spots. Beatty asked if there was funding for this. German stated that they are just starting to look at this and maybe looking at volunteer things. Chris stated that Steve Johnson is working on community volunteering. Golden suggested kids that do High School community service. Vetro suggested students from Platt Tech.

Transfer Station – one bin per week is being filled up with mattresses. SARAH is now taking the recyclable cans; the funds go to programs for special needs kids. Chris stated that he is looking for funds for a swap program. Goodwill is to put a bin in at the Transfer Station.

Concerns:

German – asked about tree stumps at New Haven Avenue/Anderson Avenue and if the UI will grind these down. Chris stated that Public Works is down 20 positions and the UI does not take stumps down. A discussion followed regarding removal of trees and the offer of replanting them elsewhere; not many people want this done. German asked about the new parking at the train station and it is free after 5:00 and on weekends and he would like the signs changed so people know this. German asked about the Agro property (the old 7 Eleven) and who maintains this. Chris stated that Public Works now maintains this. German asked if the Farmers Market would continue at this site. Chris stated that rules need to be worked out. German asked about signage on trucks. Chris will follow up with this. German asked about the Fitness Center at Parson's. Chris stated that it is being worked on. Chris stated that it is in the contract that there are no layoffs except through attrition, however, they are down 20 positions and there is a hiring freeze. He is trying to balance funds. German asked about the lights at The Chamber. Chris stated that he thought this was done but he will follow up with this.

Grant – stated that there is a lot of sand over at the Silver Sands boardwalk from the last storm. Chris stated that he will look into this; if it is City or State.

Bevin – asked about Gulf Street by the pier and that there are a lot of shells; so much that he thought it was snow. Chris will look into this. Chris stated that Bayview was the worst hit by the last storm. The last storm was a 9; storm Sandy was a 10.3.

Vetro – asked about tree removal; some is being done by Public Works and some by the UI Company. Chris stated that that was correct. The UI is doing a decent amount of clearing. It needs to be advertised so people will know; trees can be replanted in a different location. Beatty stated that property owners are notified of a tree removal, there is an appeal process and then a Tree Warden has to say if the tree is decayed. It was discussed that a lot of residents do not participate in this. Vetro stated that Atwater to Morningside and Point Beach to Morningside; the walkways are in bad shape. Chris stated that the will look into this.

Golden – asked when street cleaning would begin. Chris stated that it will begin in the next 2/3 weeks. There is one street sweeper; bringing in a contractor for this was discussed.

The next regular meeting will be on April 24, 2017.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit