

Minutes of the Public Works Committee on December 19, 2011.

Present

B. Nunno, Chairman
P. Vetro
D. German
F. Smith
B. Anderson

Also Present

B. Kolwicz, PW Director
L. Streit, Recording Secretary
Mr. and Mrs. Ziebell
Yul Sims

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Concerns

Mr. and Mrs. Ziebell were present to discuss the condition of Silver Street. Mr. Ziebell stated that at the FEMA hearing it was discussed no sweeping of Silver Street. He brought his computer and showed 8 pictures of the site that were taken this evening (Gardner Avenue, Chetwood, Blair Street and Silver Street) showing sand washed into the parking lot. Yul Sims of 804 East Broadway was also present. Mr. Ziebell stated that Joe Mailer from the DEP was at the site and viewed the silt fence and said that the drain has never been cleaned and is overgrown. Bruce stated the sewer project in the area needed to be complete before any work could be done and that a crew would not be down there without someone from the State.

Mr. Ziebell stated that the buffer area is filled with debris; garbage, bike frames, etc. and that the area is all city property and not clearly marked. There is a rental house and the renters continually encroach on the property. It becomes a lake and freezes.

Bruce stated that the City Engineer is working on the area; it can be cleaned up but the phragmites, the marsh etc. can not be touched. The State is flooding the area purposely to get rid of the phragmites; so the state and city need to work together.

Mr. Sims stated that a contractor put a membrane down and did not remove it; so residents get all of the run off from a created berm. Whoever did the sewer work created a problem. Mr. Ziebell brought an old topography map showing 4' elevations and it is currently 5 – 5.5'. The area is getting flooded.

Bruce stated that the sand can be removed but the State has to come in for any work in the marsh and the drain. Mr. Sims stated that the day after the hurricane the state came in and removed sand; now it's December and it is a mess. Bruce will speak to Ray Macaluso and Joe Mailer and the sand can be cleaned up.

Mrs. Ziebell stated that on Silver and Gardner Streets; the residents will work hand in hand with the City and the State to resolve this.

Director's Report

Last year 4 trucks were removed from the fleet; some were able to be used for parts. Two trucks will be coming in in January. A discussion followed regarding the vehicle acquisition program and time frames.

Last year was good in that the snow stopped in February. All sand, salt and mix is under cover. Last year the dome was damaged in a storm and a new one was put up a few weeks ago. A discussion followed regarding using the auger and maintenance of trucks. Nunno asked how much of the snow work is subcontracted out. Bruce stated that there are 22 routes and 9-10 contractors are used.

There will be a tour of Public Works at a future meeting. Bruce gave a brief overview of Public Works; it is the largest department, they work with Police and Fire and maintain the Police cars as well, Sanitation and Recycling, Highway Dept., Building Maintenance, Engineering and Wastewater.

Jobs in progress were discussed:

- Old Gate Lane is almost complete.
- Gulf Beach – the permit was granted to move the sand (10,000 yards). This project will go out to bid in the spring.
- Naugatuck Avenue – project is still moving forward; this is a major drainage project and anticipated to begin in 2013.
- Town Dock – project is moving along; drawings were reviewed.
- Bridge at Eisenhower Park has been installed 2 weeks ago. Dayton Construction did the project.
- Fort Trumbull revetment – a report has been submitted to FEMA and costs were brought down to \$3.9 million from \$10 million. Temporary fences are up and large stone for protection is to be installed. Anderson stated that the drain on Adams Avenue needs to be cleaned.

Concerns

- Anderson asked about the Clark Hill Street area – management of Washington Park. Bruce stated that the YMCA no longer manages this. There was a discussion regarding the lighting. Putting the lighting on line was discussed; this would have a cost but would be a solution. It was discussed that people are playing on the fields until November which leaves no time to prep fields and do repairs. The costs of fields are between \$20,000 to \$25,000 per field.
- Vetro asked about 75 Sparrowbush Lane; a tree and UI wires. Bruce stated that a crew went out and he would follow up with the UI Company. Vetro also asked about 415 Pond Point Avenue – there have been 3 car accidents. There is a stop sign at Yale and Pond Point Avenue and people don't stop; he asked if there could be a guardrail or sign installed. Vetro went to the Police Commission with this as well. Bruce will look into this. Platt and Melba Street – by the Fire House, people from the Saranor Apartments use the sidewalk and there is a telephone pole in the middle of the sidewalk and when there is snow it is a real problem. Bruce will look into this.
- Smith stated that he is on the Library Commission and there are ceiling issues at the Library. Bruce stated that they are aware of this and are working on it. The Walnut Beach Merchant Association – the public refuse cans were being used by businesses and were taken away. They would like them back for public use; there is trash in the street in the summer. Bruce stated that he will work with them.

- Nunno received a complaint from a resident in the Deerwood Avenue area that there is debris on city property. Bruce will look into this but it may be a zoning enforcement issue.

The next regular meeting will be on 1/30/12 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit