Minute of the Public Works Committee on September 21, 2020

**Present Also Present**

E. Beatty C. Saley, PW Director

T. Giannattasio S. Johnson, Assistant Director of PW

W. Willis J. Rosen, Mayor’s Assistant

R. Vitale L. Streit, Recording Secretary

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

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Giannattasio, seconded by Willis to accept the minutes of the February meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Director’s Report**

* Paving – an exorbitant amount of paving has been done but had to be paused. Paving will resume in the Benjamin Heights area.
* Storm Clean Up – residential clean up has be completed. There are still a number or parks and some open space areas that have to be done as well as stump removal.
* Bayview Beach Flood mitigation project is underway. This was delayed due to the inability to get material due to COVID-19. Westland Ave – the old pipe has been removed and new pipe installed. Storm damaged trees are still being addressed. A complaint was just received today. There was some flooding in the Milesfield area but was dry on Westland. Strategies are working extremely well and will continue on Deerfield, Milesfiled and Oakland. This will hopefully be completed by the Fall.
* Morningside Revetment Area – this is close to going out to bid.
* Wildemere and Walnut Beach area – there have been meetings with the residents.
* Crescent Beach – received the Army Corps permit; there are some concerns that there is not enough sand.
* Point Beach flooding – the successes with Bayview are being relied on to determine the next steps in this area. Waiting for the Gas Company to finish up in the Bayview/Welches Point area and then the road will be widened and paved later in the year.
* City Hall – has had paving work done and the micro grid is to be up and running in 1-2 months.
* A sewer line is being put in for the Wasson Field parking lot and bathrooms.
* The Benneville area is to be paved as well as Factory Lane to High Street.
* The parking lots at Gulf Beach have been redone and drainage put in. Areas have been regraded to eliminate drainage issues. Walnut Beach has had new sidewalks from Viscount to Naugatuck Avenue. As easement for a bike lane/walking area is being sought. Parking has been increased by over 125 parking spaces.
* Marie Street – temporary work is being done this week; Laurel Avenue will be next. The wall is falling in; this project will begin in early spring.
* Paving has been completed at the Margaret Egan Center.
* Johnson reported that the Beaver Brook boardwalk parking lot will be complete this fall as Phase II. An ADA access trail is to be created; grading is being finalized. A rain garden and sedimentation and erosion controls will be installed.
* The Housatonic Plant digestors are being cleaned (this hasn’t been done in 15 years).
* Johnson reported that Storm Isaias was very costly. There was enormous trunk and limb disposal. All costs are being documented for Emergency Management and FEMA for reimbursement. Costs related to COVID-19 are also being documented; building modifications, etc. Eisenhower Park needs work from the storm as well. The Solomon property has about 60 trees; trails will have to be rerouted. Andretta Swift at City Hall has been handling COVID-19 expenses. Six generators were needed for storm recovery and some were damaged which made renting necessary. Repair verses replacement costs are being looked at.
* The pump station has a lot of needs and the generators are a concern.
* 25 positions have been eliminated in 6.5 years. There are over 20 vacancies and it is anticipated that 5-6 people will be leaving. Chris is very concerned with having enough manpower to meet the needs. Johnson reported that a new person has been hired for the Open Space position.

**Concerns**

* Beatty asked if the paving schedule is active and when street lines would be coming. Chris will send out the paving list; funds are running low. Regarding painting; the whole town was done 1-2 months ago. They are working on the new streets – Gulf Street.
* Willis asked about paving on Southworth Street. Chris stated he will look into the timing for this; there is a subdivision going in there.
* Vitale thanked Public Works for their hard work. He asked about the stenciling around on Gulf Street and if it would be painted before winter. Chris stated that they are still working out drainage issues. Vitale asked if the tree removal would be good mulch. Johnson stated that it could be contaminated with other invasives and would not be good for a garden but could be for a path or boarder. He will have a better idea once he hears from FEMA.
* Chris stated that trash removal needs to be looked at. Two burners went down in Bridgeport and a long term plan needs to be looked at. It costs $84.00 per ton to get rid of recycling.
* Giannanttasio asked about activity on the North Street project; the building. Chris stated that they are working through the final design.Giannanttasio questioned what the Project Manager does. Chris stated that he is the lead role in paving, inspections, planning meetings and drainage projects. Regarding generators at Wastewater; are you looking for this to be bonded for Capital Improvement? Chris stated that he was not, he wants to see what is in reserve accounts and meet with the Finance Director. He is looking to streamline, get estimates and speak with the Mayor. Giannanttasio asked about the pipe going to the Sound at Westland Avenue as it appears to be elevated. Johnson stated that they wanted to make sure that it doesn’t get filled with stone/sand and with it at this elevation it will help with drainage. Chris stated that water on Bayshore was at 7-8” today and Westland was dry. The residents in this area will be very happy once the project is complete.

The next regular meeting will be on October 26, 2020.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. was made by Vitale and seconded by Giannanttasio. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit