Minutes of the Public Works Committee on May 28, 2019.

**Present Also Present**

B. Anderson S. Johnson, Asst. Director

K. Fortunati J. Rosen, Mayor’s Assistant

A. Giannattasio L. Streit, Secretary

P. Vetro

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

**Public Concerns**

Brechin Morgan, 39 Orland Street, reviewed his proposal for the park in his area. He spoke to Milford Landscape and Steve Johnson and got some ideas. He presented a plan/picture for Summer Place. He reviewed trees and plantings proposed and the existing tree being trimmed. He submitted a quote of $14,000.00 for the project. This quote excludes benches and the flower bed in the center. It would cost an additional $6 – 8,000.00 for that. In the plan, the City would widen the road and asphalt. Neighbors would oversee but it would still be a City park and the city would mow and maintain it. Anderson asked if this plan would be widening of the road all the way around. Morgan confirmed this.

Steve stated that some sewer lines go through the top part of the park and there are some invasives there that need to be removed; mug wart, garlic mustard, etc. and would require long term maintenance.

Anderson asked what the conversation has been with the Bayview Association; a way to cut costs, supplies purchased by the Association or residents? Anderson further stated that a discussion should be with all of the residents in this area and he is happy to help facilitate that.

Fortunati asked if the cement structure is no longer there. Morgan confirmed this and stated he is not sure what happened to it.

Morgan stated he is not familiar with a process like this and asked if this was a reasonable cost for this project. This is the only response/quote he has received and stated that some companies stated that it was a lot of work to give a quote and then not get the job. Morgan offered to pay $150 for a quote and still has not received a response.

Vetro stated that this project would set a precedent; there are a lot of spots in neighborhoods and Public Works is down manpower and budget. He suggested Adopt A Spot where donations and volunteers are sought. Anderson suggested breaking the project down into phases; more discussion is needed. He stated that he appreciated Morgan’s work and it was a good plan.

Morgan stated that the road is the first issue. Steve stated that roads are 40’ and they are not looking for that here. Vetro suggested having the Fire Department come look at the location to see what width is needed. Steve stated that he would speak to Chris Saley and Steve has some photos of the area from 5/6 years ago to look at and compare. He further stated that the UI Company trims trees for lines. Morgan stated that he called the UI Company and they stated that they had no plans to do anything here at this time. Giannattasio asked if people would be allowed to plant things randomly. Morgan stated that there is a sub group of the Association (Steering Committee) to oversee it so that doesn’t happen.

Diana Bytell and Gayle Hoffman stated that they are part of the Recycling Task Force as well as the Conservation Commission and wanted to speak about littering in the City. Gayle stated that she feels this is a quality of life issue; that it is discouraging and disrespectful and she would like to have a cultural change and take care of it. The amount of daily clutter is disgusting. She is a Social Worker by trade and recognizes that a change of thinking is a slow process. She thinks signage at beaches and parks is critical. There needs to be some ideas about enforcement. It is not just out of towners that litter, it is locals as well. She questioned if there are enough garbage cans out; she is not sure. She would like to start with signs at the beaches and parks. The Conservation Commission just passed a motion to support this as well. She has seen Pooper Scooper signs but not No Littering signs. Walnut Beach is a place that she sees people leave litter. The State has a sign on North Street that has a fine of $117.00 for littering. A fine should be posted as well.

Vetro stated that Public Works has found people and fined them; people bring household garbage bags to beach garbage bins. He suggested working with Boy Scout Troops; they are always looking for projects in the community.

Fortunati stated that she is part of the Recycling Task Force that just started; they have met twice. There are 3 kids and 4 adults. The kids went to city hall and kids drew signs. She suggested seeking funds for a billboard. She questioned if signs would be effective or would more garbage cans be more effective.

Gayle feels there needs to be awareness first. Anderson suggested summer help handing out brochures. Steve agreed there needs to be conversation. Vetro stated that it is important to the City and the City is encouraging using cans.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Vetro and seconded by Giannattasio to approve the minutes of the 04/12/19 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Director’s Report**

* Milling has begun; Home Acres, Spruce Street area began this morning. The plan is to start paving that area next week.
* Walnut Beach – water is being hooked up for the bathrooms. Parking kiosks and meters will be added here as well. Anderson asked about the water filler that was requested by Jeremy Grant last year. Steve will look into this.
* The large Dog Park is open and has been getting a steady stream of use.
* Parks – Public Works is down staff; another person will be retiring after 33 years of employment. Trying to get caught up on grass cutting.
* The DOT has requested paving the Quarry Road Bridge; this is to be done this year. The bridge at Schoolhouse Road over the railroad is being looked at as well.
* The Bay View Beach flood mitigation project had a pre bid meeting. 6 or 7 Contractors showed; the bid opening will be in June.
* Steve will be doing a presentation to the Morningside Association about the revetment project.
* The Milford Point Road project is to go out to bid.
* The Beaver Brook Boardwalk is under construction. The biggest challenge is behind the Motel 6. The plans didn’t reflect the actual conditions; a lot more material is needed and digging has to be twice as deep as planned. The goal is for it to be completed in 2 weeks.
* Bulk Pick Up will finish up this week. Anderson noted that they did a terrific job. Fortunati stated that soft goods recycling has curbside pick up for textile recycling. Simple Recycling is the contractor; residents will be getting a letter as to when this will begin.
* There is a purchase order with T-Mobile to put GPS is the Public Works fleet; this will net in significant savings.

**Concerns**

* Giannattasio asked if there were any projects that could be collaborated with the Summer Place Park. Steve referenced Subway; they maintain Mondo Ponds with mowing and landscaping. Their employees use it a lot. He will look into this further to see if there are any other projects in the area.
* Anderson asked about the Gulf Street project; he would like a final meeting with the residents before construction begins with the City Engineer, Chris Saley, Steve Johnson and Codespoti and Associates. Potential dates for this are 6/11 or 6/12 at 6:00 p.m.
* Justin reported that the Splash Pad was to open on Memorial Day but it had to be resealed and will now open on 6/8/19. Food Trucks were there and they were to clean up; Public Works had to go out and get garbage. Anderson will follow up with vendors regarding this.
* The guardrail at Burnt Plains Road and Stiles Street is done.
* The drainage behind the Library and Underhill Road has both been addressed. A discussion followed regarding residents dumping yard waste in culverts and causing drainage problems. Johnson stated that he would like to put together a public education presentation in collaboration with the Inland Wetlands Agency.
* Vetro asked about the drop from the steps at the end of Marie Street. Steve stated that they are working on it. Vetro stated that water is draining in the back yard of 117 Paschal. Steve will look into this.
* Anderson reported for Alderman Veccharelli that at 196 West Avenue the curb strip was taken up by a plow and needs to be restored.

The next regular meeting will be on June 24, 2019. There will be no July or August meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit