

Minutes of the Public Works Committee of August 25, 2014

Present

B. Anderson
D. German
F. Smith
P. Vetro

Also Present

C. Saley, PW Director
L. Streit, Secretary

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

Minutes

Smith noted on the second page it should read the neighbor at Stanley Street not Drywell. A motion was made by Vetro, seconded by German to accept the minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report

Anderson thanked Chris for the work at the Oyster Festival. Chris stated that it was a learning experience and has some ideas for catch basins for drainage at the entrance for next year as well as the shifts and timing of the crews for clean up. Anderson stated that he has heard good things, it was very successful and the weather was perfect.

Some projects are being done at Eisenhower Park this week.

There will be a water garden at Parson's being worked on next week. This is in collaboration with some conservation groups.

Sidewalks are being done at East Shore and West Shore Middle Schools and Seabreeze.

5.5 miles of paving will be done and bids are going out.

Anderson asked about recycling bins/Big Bellies – a solar compacting unit. Chris stated that these are being placed at Gulf Beach, Bodie's Place, Walnut Beach and two other locations for a total of 5. When they are filled, it sends a message that can be checked on line. There are some issues with capacity. These are grant funded. There has already been some vandalism at Walnut Beach. Anderson noted that last night was an event there and it was largely attended.

South Street sea wall is complete; the stairs will be going in.

Soloman property – Chris spoke with the Police Department and this is being worked on.

The pond behind the Stone Bridge is challenging and work will be a long way out.

Vetro asked about the Carmen Road tide gate. It back feeds and goes into residents yards. Chris will follow up with this.

The lower part of Naugatuck Avenue – the islands were to be put in. This went before the Board of Aldermen and was stopped. This would have caused the loss of 10 parking spaces. Lights on Naugatuck Avenue were discussed; one side is from the Light the Night through the UI Company and one side is from the City and is metered. Drainage work will begin next summer on the upper part of Naugatuck Avenue.

Point Beach Drive drainage was discussed.

Hedges on Morningside were posted for removal. The revetment was walked with the Mayor last week. There is a meeting with the Morningside Association on 9/15/14. A letter will be sent out for work that needs to be done on private property.

Vetro thanked Public Works for the work that has been done at the boat ramp noting that the railing came right off of the pier. Chris stated that geese are a problem and a long term plan is needed. It is a real health hazard. Caswell Cove boat ramp is in disrepair and is in the process of seeing if this is accessible. This is being researched and was discussed that there is a real feral cat problem in this area.

Energy Programs for Parson's, City Hall and the Natatorium are being looked at for pricing and loan programs. There are opportunities to save money for the city.

Space at Parson's needs to be looked at and needs to be made more user friendly.

Vetro asked what the Oyster Festival costs the City. Chris stated that it costs close to \$10,000.00. Vetro stated that per the Police Chief it costs the Police \$25,000.00. Chris stated that he will look into the costs considering the preparation and the actual day of. Vetro stated that the Health Department, Fire Department, Police Department and Public Works all work overtime for this and that it is not fair for the taxpayers to pay for that and questioned what is paid for by the Oyster Festival Committee.

There was a discussion regarding charging pick up trucks at the Transfer Station and passenger cars a fee. Chris will speak to the Mayor regarding this.

A discussion followed regarding garbage trucks and the cost of repairs and longevity of the vehicles as well as the cost of staff and overtime. Composting and recycling needs to be looked at. Smith stated that he is looking to convene a meeting and streamlining ordinances on open space with the Police Department, Steve Johnson and the Parks and Recreation.

Anderson stated that the Housing Authority is having issues with their dumpsters at DeMaio Drive, Viscount Drive and Harrison Avenue. Chris asked that any complaints be referred to Public Works and it will be worked out.

Drainage on Darina Place was discussed as well as parking downtown.

The next regular meeting will be on 9/29/14.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit