

Minutes of the Public Works Committee on September 24, 2018.

Present

B. Anderson
P. Vetro
A. Giannattasio

Also Present

S. Johnson, Asst. Director
L. Streit, Secretary

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

Eagle Scout Project Presentation

Marco Buschauer, 8th grade student at Harborside Middle School, presented his idea for Eisenhower Park. This is for his Eagle Scout project with Troop 1, Mark Krom, Troop Leader.

Buschauer showed a Power Point presentation as well as distributed hard copies of his presentation to the board members. His idea is titled as "Story Walk". Story Walk promotes literacy and exercise in young children and encourages families to spend time together in nature. It involves placing pages from a story book in stands along a path, encouraging people to read the book while walking outside. The books will be changed on a quarterly basis by library staff, and while mostly showcasing children's books; adult poetry and short stories may also be featured. The project has been fully approved by the Milford Park & Recreation Commission and is supported by the Milford Public Library. Buschauer reviewed book stand options in 2 plans; 1 is 20 signs at a cost of \$4,576.00 and 2 is 32 signs at a cost of \$5,970.00. He found a manufacturer, cost and prices. He is doing fundraising now in order to build and install the signs and plans to have a plan and execute launch party. This is geared towards young children. Milford Public Library is committed to the cost of changing these books quarterly. This project will use existing paths at the park.

Anderson asked if there was community involvement. Buschauer stated that a Go Fund Me page has been opened and he has reached out to large companies in Milford. Johnson stated that this should be coordinated with Public Works in order to continue maintenance and plan to minimize vandalism.

Christine Angeli, Library Director stated that this project has the full support of the Milford Public Library as well as the Friends of the Library.

Public Comments

Leroy Dupee, 25 Newton Street, stated that he came before the commission a few months ago regarding sand on the street and thought it would be addressed. It has now become a hazard to anyone on a bicycle. The street is a bike route. Glendale Farms has a dirt driveway and it comes onto the road. Johnson stated that he did some research and there have been a number of requests from 2008 on this issue and he has asked the Highway Foreman for an update. Stormwater mitigation is an issue and he is following up with this with Chris.

Anderson asked if the complaints came from the same person 10 years ago. Mr. Dupee stated that it has been him. He feels this is a safety issue and he has been removing the sand that builds up in the street and comes down his driveway. He has lived her for over 30 years and is getting older now and it is becoming more difficult for him to do this. Vetro stated that if this was from a construction company and it was not taken care of they would be fired. Vetro stated that he

would look into this. Giannattasio agreed and asked where the root cause is. Johnson stated that it comes from the farm. Vetro asked if there is a catch basin. Johnson stated that there is one further down the road. Dupee stated that forceful water comes out of the farm and right into his driveway and then becomes sand. He has reached out to the farm; however, they are not very approachable. Johnson will follow up on this. Dupee stated that the City came to sweep after the last time he came before the committee; but it is still a problem.

Judy Celano, 19 Summer Place and Brechin Morgan, 39 Orland Street were in attendance to present an issue at the little park area in front of their houses. Celano stated that she has lived here her entire life. The little park area in front of her house was owned by the Bay View Association. There would be meetings there, there was a little fence around it, there were two concrete pillars at the gate and there were roses, yucca plants and irises all around the edge. Her father used to mow it and she would weed and plant it; it was lovely. Now there is a big maple tree in there that is very old. Recently city trucks came and removed the shrubbery and the topic came up as to who owns the property and it was deemed that the City owns it and they started mowing it. Now invasives have grown in. At one time, the Falls family threw garbage and dumped stuff there and neighbors removed the debris and cleaned it up. There are many invasives there and the lilac trees and rhododendrons have been torn out. There are still vines in the wire. She would like to know how it could be made nice again. The park is now open and 3 water mains have been put in and people can park on it and no one can get through. Morgan stated that there has been discussion over the years that the road would be widened for emergency access. The area was all overgrown into the street on the back side.

Anderson asked if this was a park that could be used by the public and that input from the residents would be needed. Morgan asked why work crews were sent out there. Anderson stated that this is the first hearing of this. Johnson stated that a crew is normally sent out as a response to a complaint. Morgan asked if there is a plan for the tree. Johnson stated that there was not. Vetro stated that when there is a complaint, the Tree Arborist will go out and assess the tree; if it needs to be removed due to interfering with the wires then the UI Company would have to be involved. Morgan stated that he called a Landscaper and he said that he thought the UI Company should remove it. Morgan called but did not receive a response and asked if it is removed is there a possibility to replant. Johnson stated that the Mayor is in favor of planting trees. There would be smaller trees around wires, they can not be in snow shelves or become sidewalk issues. Morgan asked if they met with the neighbors and came up with a plan, would that be considered. Anderson stated that it would be and that board members could attend a neighborhood meeting as well. Johnson stated that the City has a liaison with the UI Company and he will follow up with them. Morgan wanted to address the parking signs and was referred to the Police Department for this.

Staff Report

- Joe Griffith, the City's DPLU Director is putting together the community rating system for flood awareness to ensure the 5% discount that is received on national flood insurance. Public Works, Bill Richards, the Emergency Management Coordinator and MaryRose from Inland Wetlands are involved with this. There are 295 parcels of open space in FEMA flood zones documented. Mapping and documentation is an effort that has been going on for over a year. FEMA is coming tomorrow to review this and do site visits. Resiliency in planning and infrastructures in progress are also considered.

- Planning projects are winding down; CDBG, beaches, Gulf Street revetment, Pelham Street are to be completed by next June. Beachland Avenue is being worked on to drain towards the marsh. Vetro stated that the residents at 59 Beachland Avenue are concerned; they just spent \$6,000.00 on vinyl fencing. Johnson stated that he has reassured them the work to be done and the process. There is a big timeline with DEEP permits; a slow start. Chris will be meeting with Engineering next week to review the Bayview area. The plan was submitted to DEEP on 8/6/18 and awaiting comment. A discussion followed regarding mitigating flooding.
- Milford Point Road is the next project. The permit from the Army Corps will be coming in the next 2 weeks and will go out to bid this winter.
- Morningside revetment is the next project that has to go to DEEP, Flood Management and Army Corps and will go out to bid in the winter.
- Gulf Beach groin; the DEEP does not want to permit this; it is being worked on with natural designs, living shorelines.
- Crescent Beach and Walnut Beach– designs are completed

Concerns

- Giannattasio asked about the 76 Burnt Plains Road guardrail that needs repair. Johnson will follow up with this.
- Vetro stated that the corner of Rivercliff and Sachem Street has 3 trees that have been an issue for some time. Johnson will follow up with this. Vetro stated that on Merwin Avenue, Public Works did a great job on the drainage issue but now there is a big road depression from patch. Johnson will follow up with this. 67 Indian River Road, the curb was removed when milling the road and is now creating a problem and needs to be replaced. There was a complaint that a City truck was at a residence on Atwater Street. Johnson stated that it was likely for a disabled or elderly resident but he will look into this.
- Anderson stated that German reported 15 Nicole Drive has an issue in the road in front of their driveway. On Old Gate Lane there is a Car Wash sign on City property. Is Chapel Street at East Shore Middle School on the paving list? Johnson stated that portions of Chapel Street are and he will follow up with this.
- Anderson asked about the drainage at 49 East Avenue. Johnson stated that someone from Engineering went out and got measurements and there is a pipe to tie into. He will follow up with this.

Minutes

A motion was made by Vetro, seconded by Giannattasio to approve the minutes of the 8/27/18 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting will be on October 29, 2018.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit