

## Minute of the Public Works Committee on September 26, 2022

### **Present**

E. Beatty

R. Vitale

### **Also Present**

C. Saley, PW Director

S. Johnson, Assistant Director of PW

J. Rosen, Mayor's Assistant

L. Streit, Recording Secretary

Due to a lack of quorum, the following was briefly discussed.

Beatty reported that she had invited the Mayor to the meeting and he did not think a meeting was necessary.

8 positions were released when the Mayor met with Chris on 9/6/2022.

It was reported that on the Board of Alderman meeting agenda of 9/12/2022 was the reorganization of the Public Works Department and the concern is that there was no information on the previous/existing verses a modification and that an explanation was needed as well as input from Public Works. The Chair of the Ordinance Committee, Chair of Public Works and the Majority Leader were not ready to vote and the item was tabled by the Ordinance Committee. It was also noted that Chris was unable to attend this meeting and this was known prior to the meeting.

Vitale stated that if there was to be a new Ordinance, there was nothing to compare it to and the changes were unknown. The position of a Project Manager was questioned if this is a new position or new authority.

Chris stated that he met with the Mayor today and agreed that there should be a comparison and they are trying to memorialize the process. Some issues have been clarified but there are still some questions and work to be done. There is a lot more oversight required.

Chris reported that Fort Trumbull area is to be worked on with the Gas Company and this is anticipated to start in the next 2 to 3 weeks; drainage work, catch basins and paving. The Mayor would like restoration quicker.

It was discussed that the reorganization information should be obtained and discussed at the Public Works Committee before it is recommended to the Ordinance Committee. Beatty stated that she would take this to the Mayor, the Ordinance Committee Chair and the Majority Leader that more time is needed and documentation should be analyzed by the Public Works Committee including financials on it and if it is cost saving. Beatty stated that she would like a written project report.

Chris reported that the Morningside project is wrapping up and they are working on the Police Station renovations and there is a new paving requirement. October is coming up and some plow trucks are being worked on as well.

There were three retirements in the last month.

The Consortium for Trash (MSW) contract expired in 6/2024 and there is serious concern with increased cost. The City needs to be proactive and should partner with private companies.

The DOT Metro North will be working on the bridge over Naugatuck Ave and this will be a pretty big issue.

**Concerns:**

Beatty asked about the upcoming Porch Fest and October Fest. Steve stated that this is extra work of course and bulk pick up has begun; 38 tons were picked up today.

The Zombie Race is next week as well. Folks on Spokes is on Sunday

Arcuiolo walked Burnt Plains Road and Orange Ave today and there are no streetlights and the residents with young children are concerned with safety. Steve stated that he will look into this as he is not sure if this is a state road. There is a big commitment and cost with putting in a streetlight. Justin reported that this is an extensive process to streetlights; there has to be a Police Department assessment, a report to the UI Company and this has a significant cost.

Beatty inquired about the 8 positions released. Chris confirmed this and reported that he has had interviews for the Maintainer positions, the Clerk position and 2 Truck Driver positions and there has been some movement from within as well.

**Concerns to be discussed at the next meeting:**

- The issue with the Wastewater Sewage Treatment issue from last month – follow up.
- Insurance claims for vehicle damage
- Trip hazards around town due to trees

The next regular meeting will be on October 24, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Streit