

Anthony Filiato, Chair
Eva Bermudez, Secretary
Mary Ann Jacobs



3 Primrose Lane
Newtown, CT. 06470
Tel. (203) 270-4210
www.newtown-ct.gov

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

Draft Minutes of the Legislative Council Ad Hoc Committee for Policy and Planning of Roads Meeting

The Roads Committee met on Wednesday, August 19, 2015 in the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Lane, Newtown Room 1. Committee Chairman Anthony Filiato called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Present: Anthony Filiato, Eva Bermudez,

Also in attendance: Director of Public Works Fred Hurley, Deputy Director of Planning Rob Sibley, Anthony Klabonski.

Absent: Mary Ann Jacobs

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motioned made by Mr. Filiato Seconded by Ms. Bermudez, unanimous approval.

OIL BUSINESS: Discussion

Mr. Filiato opened the discussion on the first agenda item: Possibly create new objective guidelines of when and how we address problem areas in our ordinance and standards on roads taking into consideration cost effectiveness.

Review of documents sent.

Rob Sibley Presentation of Town Road History-

Mr. Sibley reviewed GIS and recordings for when roads were accepted by town with current subdivision process and the affect it has on projects. Explained when roads are necessary and the multiple ordinances by different committees on streets and sidewalks.

Example given: Private roads with three or more homes need to be plowed due to liability.

Reference to Scenic road ordinance adopted in 97' amended in 99'. Explains how roads come to be.

Each ordinance compliments the other each are constantly being updated ordinance with basic road frame work through zoning. Roads must have a certain pitch, width, right away established etc. all new roads currently follow these regulations. When repairing a road is important to maintain a low impact affect during development. New water regulations and studies show that you want sheet flow instead of underground drainage where ever possible to avoid water recapture in storm drain or sewers.

Further information on how sub-divisions improvements are dependent on status of each division rather than the entirety of the road. One section may be in more disrepair than anther. This section of the presentation leads to questions made by council on transfer of lands to connect the right of ways.

Review of Ordinances- The planning and zoning commission has the right to approve and deny request they could ask a developer to pave a road but by law could not demand the home owners to make improvements. The commission only makes reasonable request. If town choose to abandon a road its only in the section of the right of way, if you release the right of way for the road its released to owners ex: Intersection of Jeremiah Rd. and Filo Curtis Rd. a right of way was abandoned between two homes. Constituents could say no thank you but most accept the additional land. Taxes do go up but when the town gives up the land it comes with the surveying and assessment and any additional documents.

The town can also become the land owner and give up the right way for example prior to Aquarion coming in United Water wanted to take over roads and water systems in Sandy Hook. The water company took over a few roads that had failing water tanks that were creating a health hazard; any remaining roads are currently owned now by the town. This was signed off by PURA the town.

25% percent of the town still is mapped by hand on paper with no toll post and varying widths.

Fred Hurley Discussion on signs, regulations & paving procedure Presentation- DPW does not have the authority to decide to add a stop sign has to go through state DOT and police commission; local police control the speed limit. If a road does not have a speed limit sign posted by town regulations it currently is 25 miles an hour. Police has certain authority for traffic given by our town charter; there is no state standard on roads that we have to adhere to.

The town has paving plans are presented and reviewed in 4 quadrants, each team has a project leader also known as Crew Chief and they create a plan of priority per area and present it to DPW supervisors. At any giving time during the 6 month window they are paving and fixing an area in each quadrant.

Privately Owned Road Areas: Cedarhurst, Rolledge, Potatuck, ShadyRest

Home owners can put together a collection to fix a specific road and make a donation to the town to the GL24 acct for roads. Town has also gone half and half on the cost of a road in the past.

About more than 50% of roads are at standard and would like to get up to at least 80% to standard. Continuing subdivision repairing is important to not lose the good roads we have.

Action items-

Rob- Creating a road map & list of comparable towns

Eva- Information request to CCM

Fred- Request of additional supporting documents and the reconfiguration of rd. width document

Tony K- Look into flow chart formats

Tony F- Reach out to Dave G, next meeting agenda and revision of ordinances that might conflict

NEW BUSSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Mr. Filiato motioned to adjourn at 7:50pm Ms. Bermudez seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eva Bermudez

Ad Hoc Committee on Roads Secretary

Attachments: Supporting documents on roads passed out during meeting.

These minutes are subject to approval by the Legislative Council at the next regular ad hoc Roads Committee meeting. All corrections will be determined in minutes of the meeting at which they were corrected.