

Anthony Filiato, Chair
Eva Bermudez, Secretary
Mary Ann Jacobs



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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, September 2, 2015 in the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Lane, Newtown Room 1. Committee Chairman Anthony Filiato called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Present: Anthony Filiato, Eva Bermudez,

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

Absent: Mary Ann Jacobs

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion

Mr. Filiato opened the discussion on the first agenda item, flow charts:

Mr. Klabonski presents flow chart examples of how to manage the road development process. Group discusses possible ways to reconfigure chart to condensed version. Global chart needs annual review by crew leaders and a format that could be updated periodically, while still maintaining easy access to the public.

Second agenda item, comparable ordinances:

Mr. Sibley passes roads ordinances from Glastonbury and New Milford. Conveniently Glastonbury recently completed a similar revision process. Comparing ordinances lead to the question what is the scope of the issue in ordinances document management and what do these examples have or do not have that we could learn from. Glastonbury ordinances had interesting details for how to maintain scenic roads and listed all private roads into their ordinances. Mr. Hurley pointed out that Newtown has close to triple the amount of private roads than Glastonbury has.

Third agenda item, further research:

Review of road width variation document. Mr. Hurley suggests we take one section at a time and create a plan around the most problematic areas road by road. For example paved and unpaved Pond Brook Rd., sections of it is soon to collapse into Lake Zoar that restoration is \$200,000.

We should look into our scenic roads and possibly consider giving home owner the option of making their own dirt road into a carriage road like other states and historic towns have already implemented. After it is approved as a carriage road the town could then collect an assessment fee to maintain that historical road. Newtown has two officially approved scenic roads: Zoar Rd. & Sandford Rd. The Newtown scenic road ordinance does not state that a scenic road could never be paved.

OLD BUSINESS: Discussion

Overview of current road status, further review of current ordinances & Legal research:

- We currently have standards for acres of development or difficult parcels.
- We have some roads that are extremely small and un-used so the town removed them example old route 25 and route 6 a small road off of the intersection was removed.
- The town will not take financial interest on road that is currently not in use.
- Newtown has 275 miles of private and public roads in with an additional 25 miles that are managed by the state and have 1,100 outfalls (storm drains). In any emergency Newtown has to maintain the 25 mile state stretch cleared and clean if the state crew is delayed in doing so. The state of Connecticut does not reimburse the town for the cost incurred. Any permit needs a parcel study.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Mr. Filiato motioned to adjourn at 7:05pm Ms. Bermudez seconded, unanimously passed.

Action items:

Rob- Look into flow chart formats, breakdown into sections.

Eva- Information request to CCM, is pending.

Fred- Site visits of problem roads pick a candidate road to flow chart and collect pictures.

Tony K- Review gravel roads in neighborhood and report back.

Tony F- Meeting agenda, notice and revision of ordinances that might conflict.

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.