

Halls Road Improvements Committee Regular Meeting Minutes
Old Lyme Town Hall
December 1, 2016

Present: *BJ Bernblum, Bud Canady, Michael Lech, Michael Perks, Frank Morelli, Lindsay Eisensmith, First Selectwoman Bonnie Reemsnyder,*

Absent: *Diane Birdsall,*

Guests: *Jon Curtis, RiverCOG, John Cody, Citizen*

Call to Order: *Chairman BJ Bernblum convened the meeting at 6:39 P.M.*

Approval of minutes of November 3, 2016

*A motion to approve minutes as presented was made by Michael Perks, seconded by Bud Canaday. **So voted.***

Discussions:

- *Chairman opened a discussion with the committee about potential new members.*
- *Jon Curtis, Planner, RiverCOG gave an update to the committee concerning the CT Surface Transportation Block Grant Program administered by CT DOT. An application was submitted which would provide an 80/20 split funding for sidewalks, trees and lighting on Halls Road with an estimated cost of 2 million dollars. Mr. Curtis discussed prior years funding history and commented that if the project isn't chosen but DOT is amenable to the project, then there is a possibility for the DOT to seek out other funding alternatives.*
- *Mr. Curtis had no new information on the EPA's Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program. The program offers no cost technical assistance for community improvement projects.*
- *The committee discussed the CT Main Street organization which Michael Lech had contacted about possible assistance. Mr. Lech's conversation brought forth that assistance from CT Main Street is unlikely as the program targets urban areas.*
- *The committee discussed next steps which evolved to the formation of two sub-committees. A public input focus sub-committee which would be chaired by Michael Lech and include committee members Michael Perks, Lindsay Eisensmith. Jon Curtis of RiverCOG and committee guest John Cody will also participate on the sub-committee. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) committee was also formed which would be chaired by Frank Morelli and include committee members Bud Canaday and Chairman Bernblum.*

*Received 1/26/17
Ellen K. Oppert*

- *Chairman Bernblum and the committee had open discussions on:*
 - *Wastewater disposal study*
 - *Intermodal Access for Halls Road*
 - *Other funding sources*
 - *Sharing the committee's business with other boards & committees*

- *Michael Lech discussed a project in Groton that will utilize Tax Increment Financing (TIF) CT Public Act No. 15-57. Once the TIF project has created a District Master Plan which describes the boundaries of the district, it is eligible to use the incremental revenue generated by increases in assessed property value to fund or repay costs of project within the district. TIF Act encourages development where it might not otherwise occur.*

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, January 5, 2017

Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Michael Perks and seconded by Michael Lech, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Frank Morelli
Committee Member