

# WAYLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Wayland Town Building

February 24, 2014

7:00 PM

## MEETING MINUTES

T. Abdella, B. Goldsmith, J. Mishara, M. Wegerbauer (arrived at 7:43), D. Ouellette – DPW Director

Meeting opened at 7:07 PM

(Abdella announced that the meeting is being videotaped and recorded.)

### **Public Comment**

Abdella made a request for public comment. There was none.

### **Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours Prior to Posting, if any**

Ouellette discussed with the Board the status of surplus vehicles scheduled to be traded in or auctioned off.

Ouellette addressed the Board regarding the preservation management plan for North Cemetery.

Ouellette noted that he favored employing ground-penetrating radar in areas of interest, rather than digging test wells, which would be more intrusive.

Goldsmith made a motion that Board support the use of ground-penetrating radar instead of digging test wells in North Cemetery. Wegerbauer 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

Goldsmith asked Ouellette about the status of the year's snow removal budget.

Ouellette responded that a request has been filed for an additional \$200,000.

Goldsmith discussed the current status of the Water Department budget with Ouellette.

Goldsmith asked if there are any budget issues other than the snow removal budget.

Ouellette responded that issues stemming from a lack of manpower in Parks Department may arise in spring.

Ouellette discussed with the Board a recent accident involving a DPW backhoe during snow removal operations.

### **Review and Approve Minutes; Status of Posting to Web Page**

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the February 10, 2014 BoPW Meeting.

Abdella made motion to accept minutes as drafted. Goldsmith 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

Abdella announced a 5 minutes recess, with the meeting to resume at 7:35PM.

Meeting returned from recess at 7:35PM.

### **Public Hearing – West Plain Street / Old Connecticut Path Intersection**

Todd MacDowell of Danforth Green, Russell Adams of C&C Consulting Engineers, and Jarrett Groccia of C&C Consulting Engineers appeared before the Board to discuss proposed changes to the intersection of West Plain Street and Old Connecticut Path.

Adams and Groccia of C&C Consulting Engineers gave an overview of the project and updated its status, highlighting proposed changes to the intersection, as depicted on an illustration distributed to the Board and meeting attendees. They discussed different options regarding the positioning of the sidewalk and trees along the roadway in the right-of-way.

(Wegerbauer arrived at 7:43)

Ouellette discussed issues regarding erosion around the drainage discharge pipe at the intersection.

Nancy Haskins 240 West Plain Street – Inquired about the amount of room between the road and property, and noted that the proposed changes would shorten residents' yards.

Alan Reiss 463 Old Connecticut Path – Asked for clarification of markings on the plans being discussed.

Groccia clarified the areas in question for Reiss.

MacDowell noted that project and all proposed changes remain within the public right-of-way.

Jennifer Goodfellow 480 Old Connecticut Path – Asked about the placement and length of sidewalks on the proposed plan.

Ouellette noted that the plan was initially drafted in 2006, but an extension of the sidewalk will be considered.

Anette Lewis 33 Claypit Hill Road – Asked if the project engineers are the same as in 2006. It was clarified that it is the same engineering firm, but different engineers. Lewis recalled that an extended sidewalk is not included in the current plans because the shoulder is not big enough. Lewis also questioned whether construction will be done by permit or by legal agreement.

Zachary Blocker 464 Old Connecticut Path – Requested clarification on traffic signal.

Groccia explained that the signal will work off actuators as well as timing.

Blocker of 464 Old Connecticut Path asked if the catch basin is there to mitigate an existing problem or in anticipation of a future issue.

Goldsmith responded that there is a fair amount of erosion at the discharge pipe, and it is the Conservation Commission's desire to reduce erosion as the reason for the catch basin.

Blocker of Old Connecticut Path expressed his concern that it will be more difficult to access the other side of the road with the proposed changes.

Ann Gleason 236 West Plain Street – Asked if the stoplight at the southeast corner of the intersection will have a right-turn arrow or a right-on-red arrow. Gleason added that she applauds the proposed reconfiguration of the corner.

Groccia noted that right-on-red would be allowed, but there will be no green arrow.

Goldsmith asked if there would be pedestrian signals at the intersection.

Groccia responded that there would be pedestrian signals at the crosswalk.

Gleason of West Plain Street asked when construction would begin on the intersection.

Ouellette noted that the earliest the project could begin would be April 15.

Gleason of West Plain Street called attention to a curve in the road not depicted on the map, and asked if there will be any warning of upcoming intersection.

Groccia noted that lights will be positioned within the accepted standard cone-of-vision. The posting of a 'signal ahead' sign could potentially be posted.

Alan Reiss 463 Old Connecticut Path – Asked about the radius of the left-hand turn at the intersection.

Groccia noted that the plan was constructed to ensure vehicles could navigate the turn.

Sarkis Sarkisian, Town Planner – Noted that the driveway at the intersection will be light-actuated and will get a dedicated green light.

Sarkisian noted that if a sidewalk could be extended, a crosswalk through the intersection would be beneficial.

Sarkisian asked if the traffic signals at the intersection would be ornamental.

Groccia confirmed that the traffic signals will be ornamental.

Haskins of West Plain Street asked about symbols on the plans.

Groccia pointed out symbols representing traffic lights and pedestrian crosswalk signals on the plans.

Adams and Groccia discussed proposed catch basin changes to the intersection, and described the characteristics of a deep-sump catch basin.

Adams noted granite curbing will be added to length of roadway and discussed the status of drainage in the area.

Goldsmith asked if signals minimizing light pollution have been considered.

Groccia noted that they could look into minimizing light pollution.

Reiss of Old Connecticut Path asked for clarification on how the sidewalk will blend with existing driveways.

Groccia explained that the sidewalks will be asphalt and will blend with driveway.

Blocker of Old Connecticut Path expressed his concern that the left turn lane runs across both of his driveway entrances, and asked if the lane could be shortened, so as not to affect one of his driveway entries.

Lewis of Claypit Hill Road voiced her opinion that residents should provide input as to the location of sidewalks.

Sally Gaglini 10 Hawthorne Road – Voiced her concern about the potential increase of cut-through traffic on Hawthorne with the proposed changes.

Reiss of Old Connecticut Path noted that changes to the plans regarding the location of the sidewalk were surprising to him, and he was not prepared to address these changes.

Haskins of West Plain Street noted that either proposed configuration would be an improvement in aesthetics and safety. Haskins noted that the intersection was described as failing in the past, and asked if it would be given a passing grade with the changes. Groccia responded that he was not certain on the specific grade, but it would be improved with the proposed changes.

Haskins noted that West Plain Street residents wanted to know how to slow traffic on their street. Ouellette noted that the speed limit is state-controlled, but the Police Chief can put in a recommendation to state.

Haskins of West Plain Street asked if speed bumps an option.

Ouellette noted there is a traffic calming process that can be gone through to request speed bumps.

Ouellette added that if the grassy area between the sidewalk and grass is three feet wide or less, it will be difficult to maintain and grow grass and trees.

Jonathan Fiske 468 Old CT Path – Noted that the erosion at the outlet of the existing drain is extensive, and it needs to be addressed.

Abdella announced that the public hearing has concluded at 8:28 PM, and noted that additional comments can be submitted via email to the Board and the Director.

### **Water Bill Abatement Request – 201 Oxbow Road**

Susan Wagner appeared before the Board to discuss her recent water bill. She explained the nature of her concern - that the water bill is greater than 8 months, causing a portion of her usage to be billed for water at a higher tier rate.

Abdella asked Wagner to clarify what she is requesting for relief.

Wagner noted that she would like to be billed for what her usage was estimated to be at six, rather than eight, months.

Ouellette discussed that status of her bill and options to amend bill.

Abdella made a motion to void the current invoice, reissue an invoice for 2300 units, and move balance of 800 units forward to next invoice period. Mishara 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

**Water Division – Discussion on Water Billing – Extent of Bills with Greater Than Six Months of Charges; Root Cause and Corrective Action; Long Term Option Discussion.**

Abdella requested that issue be moved to another meeting when Mike Lowery is present.

Ouellette noted that the Water Department is working to address the issue with the extended water billing cycle.

Ouellette suggested to the Board the option of doing town-wide readings in April and November to address the issue of extended billing cycles.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the possibility of changing software programs used for water billing.

Ouellette discussed with the Board various issues relating to meter reading.

**Board Members Reports, Concerns, and Updates**

Goldsmith noted that Chapter 191 irrigation regulations are for residents – not businesses, and offered a proposed amendment to irrigation regulations to the Board.

The Board discussed potential changes to Chapter 191 irrigation regulation regarding future subdivisions in Wayland.

Abdella suggested that Goldsmith send his suggested amendments to the Board for review and discussion at a future meeting.

**Assignment / Discussion of Town Meeting Actions to Board Members**

Abdella discussed the status of the articles the Board of Public Works is sponsoring for Town Meeting.

The Board determined that Mike Lowery was best suited to address the transfer of Rocky Point parcel as well as changes to the rules regarding the conduct of dogs in town cemeteries.

Mishara suggested that the Conservation Committee take the lead in discussing the transfer station access road at Town Meeting.

Ouellette discussed the capital budget, and noted the vehicle plan has been presented, and doesn't anticipate any significant issues with the capital budget.

Abdella suggested that Ouellette review capital items, and report to the Board any items he may need Board support on.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the current status of water revenues.

### **Board Members Reports, Concerns, and Updates**

Abdella asked if a physical alteration permit will be issued for work to be conducted at the West Plain Street / Old Connecticut Path Intersection.

Ouellette responded that a changing of the roadway permit will be applied for. Ouellette added that he will meet with Town Counsel regarding the status of the project and determine if an agreement or permit is required.

Mishara noted that the Board of Selectmen have renegotiated the agreement with Danforth, and that the Board of Public Works still needs to review it.

Wegerbauer made a motion to adjourn.

Mishara 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM.