

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 4, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: John Ignieri, Chairman (7:20 p. m.); Richard Bonenfant; Faye Bowman; Tom Livingston; Eloisa Melendez (7:20 p. m.); Michelle Maggio (7:11 p. m.); Michael Corsello (7:20 p. m.)

STAFF: Bruce Chimento, Director, Lisa Burns, Principal Engineer; Paul Sotnik, Senior Civil Engineer

OTHERS: Doug Hempstead; Matthew Geanacopoulos, DOT Division of Rights of Way; Deborah Goldstein, Third Taxing District Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Livingston called the meeting to order at 7:00 p. m., and announced that all members would soon be present.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Diane Cece came forward in opposition to the fourth item on the agenda - the “Master Municipal Agreement for Right-of-Way Projects.” She stated that there was no background material presented on the item. Ms. Burns stated that it is not usual practice to include contracts in the agenda. Ms. Cece stated that during the last Public Works Committee meeting, rules were suspended to include approval of a sole source bid. She said it is a disservice to the public to add items unless it is unavoidable. Mr. Bonenfant stated that the item added was for the purchase of road salt, and there is only one vendor on the market that provides that particular product.

Ms. Maggio entered the meeting at 7:11 p. m.

Ms. Deborah Goldstein came forward to state that the contract for Right-of-Way Projects should be included in the agenda. She stated that rights-of way approvals are one of the most effective tools a municipality has to negotiate with the state.

PUBLIC HEARING (STREET ABANDONMENT)

Public hearing to hear the Freeholder’s Report and any Public comment on said Report for the abandonment/discontinuance of a portion of Bates Court as depicted on a map on file in the Department of Public Works for a fee of \$14,400.00.

No member of the public came forward to speak.

PUBLIC HEARING (PARCEL SALE)

Public Hearing to Public Hearing to consider the sale of the excess City-Owned property located at 1 Bates Court (Tax Lot 2-53-5-0 EXCESS PARCEL) as depicted on a map on file in the Department of Public Works to the abutting property owner or its affiliate for the appraised value of \$35,900.00. (7:15 P.M.)

No member of the public came forward to speak.

Chairman Igneri, Ms. Melendez, and Mr. Corsello, entered the meeting at 7:20 p. m.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve the Minutes of the Public Works Committee Meeting of Tuesday, September 6, 2016

**** MS. BOWMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2016.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE AND ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPROVAL/AUTHORIZATION

Schedule a Public Hearing of Necessity for the abandonment/discontinuance of a portion of Hanford Place along the northern boundary of the Hanford Place Right-of-Way at 13 Day Street (Tax Lot 2-58-46-0) as depicted on a map on file in the Department of Public Works dated September 12, 2016. The Public Hearing of Necessity shall be conducted in order to hear all parties interested in commenting on the necessity of the proposed abandonment and to take such action on said application for abandonment that the Committee may deem advisable. The Public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 7:00 P. M. in Room 231, 2nd floor in Norwalk City Hall, 125 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT.

Mr. Chimento stated that the piece of property is 92 square feet and is being moved from the City right-of-way to another city owned property.

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING OF NECESSITY FOR THE ABANDONMENT/DISCONTINUANCE OF A PORTION OF HANFORD PLACE ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE HANFORD PLACE RIGHT-OF-WAY AT 13 DAY STREET (TAX LOT 2-58-46-0) AS DEPICTED ON A MAP ON FILE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 2016. THE PUBLIC HEARING OF NECESSITY SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ORDER TO HEAR ALL PARTIES INTERESTED IN COMMENTING ON THE NECESSITY OF THE PROPOSED ABANDONMENT AND TO TAKE SUCH ACTION ON SAID APPLICATION FOR ABANDONMENT THAT THE COMMITTEE MAY DEEM**

ADVISABLE. THE PUBLIC HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016 AT 7:00 P. M. IN ROOM 231, 2ND FLOOR IN NORWALK CITY HALL, 125 EAST AVENUE, NORWALK, CT.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE DISCONTINUANCE AND ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF BATES COURT AS DEPICTED ON A MAP ON FILE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS A FEE OF \$14,400.00 SUBJECT TO A GENERAL UTILITY EASEMENT.**

Mr. Bonenfant stated developers should be paying more than the bottom price for the portion of Bates Court, because it is worth more than that.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. BENENFANT.)**

**** MS. MELENDEZ MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL NECESSARY OR DESIRED DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FINALIZATION OF THE DISCONTINUANCE AND RELEASE OF THE CITY'S INTERESTS IN THE DISCONTINUED ROADWAY, INCLUDING A GENERAL RELEASE TO RELEASE ANY INTERESTS THAT THE CITY MAY HAVE IN THE PROPERTY COMPRISING THE ABANDONED PORTION OF BATES COURT AS DEPICTED ON A MAP ON FILE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR A FEE OF \$14,400.00.**

Ms. Bowman stated that the parcel does not have an ID. Ms. Chimento stated that going forward it takes on the number of the parcel it becomes a part of.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. BONENFANT.)**

**** MR. IGNARI MOVED TO RESOLVE THAT THE HONORABLE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ENTITLED "MASTER MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PROJECTS" WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LETTER DATED JUNE 27, 2014.**

Ms. Burns stated that this resolution only applies to city managed projects. If there are projects that the city does not wish to enter with the state, this would not force the city to do so. The Walk Bridge does not fall under this agreement, and the next project that would likely fall under it is the James Street Bridge.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH TWO VOTES IN OPPOSITION (MS. MAGGIO AND MR. BONENFANT) AND ONE ABSTENTION (MS. BOWMAN.)**

**** MS. MELENDEZ MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO EXECUTE CHANGE ORDERS WITH DEERING CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR**

PROJECT PM2015-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$390,000.00

**ACCOUNT NO: 0916 5010 5777 C0516 BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCOUNT
0917 5010 5777 C0516 BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCOUNT**

Mr. Chimento stated that this authorization allows the Department of Public Works contract to be utilized for the paving of school parking lots.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A TEMPORARY ACCESS EASEMENT/CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT AT1 MONROE STREET WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR STATE PROJECT #301-072 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAP ON FILE WITH THE CITY OF NORWALK DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SUBJECT TO CONSTRUCTION OF AN APPROXIMATE 10-SPACE PARKING LOT AT AN ADJOINING LOCATION AT NO COST TO THE CITY OF NORWALK.**

Ms. Burns stated that the DOT was going to use eminent domain to take the parking spots, but that after negotiations, they will put in nine additional parking spots at Monroe Street opposite the entrance to South Norwalk Train Station.. Ms. Bowman stated that this project is part of the project on the other side of the bridge, and that residents in the neighborhood are not being treated fairly. Initially, the project was to take two to three months, but it will end up taking 2-3 years.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH TWO VOTES IN OPPOSITION (MS. BOWMAN AND MS. MAGGIO) AND ONE ABSTENTION (MS. MELENDEZ.)**

**** MR. CORSELLO MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL NECESSARY OR DESIRED DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FINALIZATION OF THE DISCONTINUANCE AND RELEASE OF THE CITY'S INTERESTS IN THE EXISTING 15 FOOT STORM SEWER EASEMENT LOCATED ON 13 DAY STREET (TAX LOT 2-58-46-0) AS DEPICTED ON A MAP ON FILE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 2016, INCLUDING A GENERAL RELEASE TO RELEASE ANY INTERESTS THAT THE CITY MAY HAVE IN THE EASEMENT.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

Discuss the sale of the excess City-Owned property located at 1 Bates Court (Tax Lot 2-53-5-0 EXCESS PARCEL).

Mr. Chimento stated that by having a public hearing before this Public Works Committee, the requirement is fulfilled, but the Land Use Committee can have one as well.

**** CHAIRMAN IGNERI MOVED TO REFER THE DISCUSSION OF THE SALE OF THE EXCESS CITY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1 BATES COURT (TAX LOT 2-53-5-0 EXCESS PARCEL).**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

East Avenue Railroad Station Commuter Parking Lot

Ms. Burns stated that the Department of Public Works has been shoveling snow and removing weeds at this location. The plan is to add more than thirty parking spots, then it will become a staging area for bridge work, and then it will become a permanent lot. Ms. Melendez stated that the lot cannot stay the way it is now, with people parking haphazardly.

Construction Inspection for SoNo Collection

Ms. Burns stated that we are currently negotiating with a firm called RBA.

Update to Chapter 96: Excavation & Encroachments in Public Streets & Grounds

We have clean up language we need to do to Chapter 96. Ms. Melendez stated that everyone from the Public Works Committee needs to be at the next Ordinance Committee Meeting before sending the ordinance to Common Council.

Walk Bridge Construction: Public Comment Period Extended & New Public Hearing Date to be scheduled

Ms. Burns stated that as many people as possible should be encouraged to comment on the Walk Bridge construction. Public comment can be submitted at WalkBridgeCT.com. Mr. Chimento stated that he has requested resources from the state to help with the work that his department is doing related to the Walk Bridge. It has a large impact on how much time his staff has to complete other projects.

Perry Avenue Bridge Construction Status

Ms. Burns stated that Perry Avenue will be closed for the next two weekends and opened back up during the week between.

Wall Street CTDOT Project #102-333 Construction Status

Ms. Burns stated that the Wall Street Tunnel is closed now, but will be opening on Sunday night.

Permit Engineer (Filled) & Assistant Civil Engineer (Advertised)

Ms. Burns announced that the Permit Engineer and Assistant Civil Engineer positions have been filled.

City of Norwalk

Public Works Committee

October 4, 2016

Page 5 of 6

**** CHAIRMAN IGNARI MOVED TO ADD GROWTHCT.COM DISCUSSION ITEM TO THE AGENDA**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Chris Sachinelli came forward to propose providing Norwalk with a 24X7 chat box to deliver customer service. Chairman Igneri stated that he would refer Mr. Sachinelli to the Office of Economic Development.

Monthly Solid Waste Report – August 2016

Mr. Chimento submitted the report.

Project Status Report

Mr. Chimento submitted the report.

Customer Service Report – September 2016

Mr. Chimento submitted the report.

Correspondence

Mr. Chimento submitted the report.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

No upcoming projects were brought forward.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, November 1, 2016
7:00 p. m.
Room 231, Norwalk City Hall

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. BONENFANT MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Blaney
Telesco Secretarial Services
City of Norwalk
Public Works Committee
October 4, 2016
Page 6 of 6