

1. Call to Order

The Chester Main Street Project Committee held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut. Chairman Joplin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Seating of Members

Members in attendance were Michael Joplin, Charlene Janecek, John Divis, Steven Tiezzi and Chuck Mueller (arrived during culvert discussion). Brian Kent, Gary Giroux and First Selectman Meehan were also present.

3. Receive inspection report from Gary Giroux for culvert

Gary Giroux noted there are issues with voids under the culvert. The culvert itself is rusting. The paved asphalt invert is in various stages of disrepair and missing. The asphalt coating on the inside is 50 to 60% gone and rusting. He noted the key issue is there are two sections at the invert where water is getting in and flowing. We don't know how deep it goes on one side. Where the drain pipe comes in from up the hill, that was a structure constructed where the arch pipe went into the concrete structure and another piece was added. There are a lot of issues in that area and water flowing out on the upstream side. Approximately 50% of the culvert has a hollow sound on the outside. Gary noted the bottom line is that it has to be fixed and the only way is to pull it out. His recommendation would be to replace it with a similar type structure.

Steven Tiezzi asked how this can be replaced without changing horizontal and vertical lines. Gary noted horizontal doesn't change. Right now the cover over the culvert is short by about one foot. He indicated if it is replaced with a corrugated metal pipe, the roadbed would be raised about 6". Steven asked if it had to be moved if it was raised. Gary replied it could be put back in the same place. Gary noted if the roadway is kept at 28 feet wide, it would have to stay pretty much where it is. If it goes up 6", it would affect the adjacent properties. There is also the issue of a gravity sewer that cannot be moved. The force main can be moved. The box culvert would be laid almost directly on top of the sewer pipe.

Ed Meehan noted he would like to see the engineer design a squash pipe corrugated culvert with not more than a 6" cover.

Gary felt it could be replaced with a hydrologically equivalent structure under the squash pipe that will continue to function as it does today and within design guidelines of the State DEEP, etc. The roadway would have to be raised but will have a minimal effect on the properties.

Chairman Joplin and Ed Meehan agreed one of the governing factors here is minimal impact to properties to the north which is the same as not raising the roadbed. Ed reviewed the conditions pertaining to the adjacent properties. There was discussion regarding utility poles.

Chairman Joplin asked how long it would take Gary to spec the culvert. Gary worked on this for a few minutes (while members discussed the next agenda item) and then reviewed the sidewalks, grading and drainage.

Motion made and seconded to replace the culvert with a squash pipe with the increase in the elevation of the roadbed to be approximately 6" and minimizing impact to adjoining properties to the extent possible. Unanimously approved. Motion Carried.

4. Report from Brian Kent re lighting in Laurel Hill Cemetery

Brian Kent reviewed lighting in the Cemetery parking lot. The lights were originally designed at 12 feet high. There was objection from the Committee that was too high and they would be a nuisance to neighbors. The pole was lowered to 8 feet. They did a photometric analysis. Brian reviewed the spread noting the fixtures would be outfitted with a glare sheet. No light would go toward the Lloyd residence. He reviewed the intensity of the lights and the foot candle. The lower the pole the less opportunity for the light to spread as far. There is a bright light immediately at the light and it then tapers off. Brian noted the current lighting in the parking lot is very dark. He reiterated the closer to the ground, the less light spread. He felt this would be sufficient lighting for the parking lot and overlapping coverage was not necessary.

Brian reviewed the cost of the fixtures. Each lantern with LED equipment is \$2,340. The modified post is \$975. The concrete base is \$700. Total \$4,015 for each fixture including wiring and any other equipment required. The cost difference from the original light was about \$1215. Steven suggested maybe using a cast iron straight pole and the

concrete base could be set wherever based on the grades. It could be a straight piece of steel painted black. Brian agreed that would save some money. He also noted there would probably have to be an adapter at the top. He also reviewed the point of attachment.

Chuck Mueller asked how much savings there would be with the shoe box fixture. Brian noted he had not done a cost analysis on the shoe box fixture. Mueller asked if the shoe box fixture would be more effective given the number of 4 fixtures. Kent replied yes as the shoe box fixture is much larger surface area. Its a rectangle and contains more LED's. Brian noted he could do another analysis but the reason they made it shorter was there was objection to the higher light.

Steven noted having a light pole at 8 feet high is pretty impractical. Brian reiterated he was authorized at the last Committee meeting to design a light in this fashion.

Brian noted his recommendation from the beginning was to use a taller fixture, but he was instructed to lower the pole by this Committee and that's what he did. In his professional opinion he felt this would be sufficient lighting for this parking lot.

Chuck Mueller noted the most important thing is to have effective lighting both for the parking lot and the neighbors and that's what should be done. He noted he loved the Scofield and Period Lighting but those can't be used everywhere.

Chairman Joplin asked if the shoe box fixture could be kept from shining light into neighbors residences. The reply was yes. Brian reviewed the shoe box fixture in more detail.

Chuck suggested not making a decision on lighting without more Committee members present. Chairman Joplin noted this needs to be moved forward. Bid documents need to be ready by mid-February. Chuck noted selection of a light fixture should not delay the progress of bid drawings. He felt this was an important and emotional decision and everyone should be present.

Brian noted he could provide an alternative drawing of a shoe box fixture and the Committee could compare the two.

Motion made and seconded to move forward with the lighting in Laurel Hill Cemetery as presented by Brian Kent. Unanimously approved. Motion Carried.

5. Report re restoration of grass strip on north side of street

Gary reviewed the location of the grass strip. He noted the horizontal line would be set based upon the north curb line and the profile of the road would be set based on the top of curb elevation.

Motion made and seconded to keep existing grassy strip from just shy of School Lane to the Peck house on the north side. Unanimously approved. Motion Carried.

6. Other Business, if any

Ed Meehan noted he received an email from Al Bisacky referencing ADA code. He also contacted D.O.T. who indicated they would like to see 4 feet and even 5 feet. The other thing is with a 36" sidewalk there has to be refuge areas for bypass every 200 feet. Joplin noted right now it is 4 feet.

Ed Meehan reviewed time line noting we are getting precariously close to the \$200,000 STEAP Grant under contract now. He briefly reviewed project costs and monies available. He noted with the Town Meeting approval he can now do the resolution for the \$780,000. Gary felt bid documents could be ready to go March 1st. Chairman Joplin noted construction should start April 15th. Gary noted the project has been cut to 2/3's of what it was. The culvert work can't start until June 1st. Ed noted he would like to see start date of May 1st at the latest. It was agreed bid documents should be ready by March 1st as well as approved by D.O.T. Final plans should be done by February 2nd.

The next Committee Meeting will be January 13, 2015. Ed reviewed meeting dates for the Boards of Selectmen and Finance and a Town Meeting in January.

Ed Meehan briefly reviewed the Main Street Bridge Replacement Project. He noted some waivers have been requested from DEEP. He also reviewed the most recent rendering of the project.

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7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith R. Brown". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary