

Chester Main Street Project Committee

Regular Meeting, January 13, 2015

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1. Call to Order

The Chester Main Street Project Committee held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut. Chairman Joplin called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

2. Seating of Members

Members in attendance were Michael Joplin, Chuck Mueller and Leslie Strauss. First Selectman Ed Meehan and Brian Kent were also present.

5. Update on State DEEP Application for Main Street Bridge Replacement Project

First Selectman Meehan reported on the status of the Main Street Bridge Replacement Project. He noted the Project Engineer still indicates the project is on schedule for January 2016. They have filed all the permits with DEEP but have not had a response yet. They are asking for an advertising waiver and if granted, they will advertise in April. The contractor should be selected by the end of the fiscal year. Notice will be given to the selected contractor in July. They will start utility work in the fall. The road will be shut down in January. The objective is to get the project bid but not award until DEEP approvals are obtained. January 21 is the final design plan submission date. They are hopeful to hear from DEEP in April and can meet the schedule as presented.

4. Presentation by Brian Kent of Light Fixture for Laurel Hill Cemetery

Brian Kent reviewed cemetery lighting. He noted putting a glare shield on the back of the Scofield Retrofit Colonial Lantern would prevent any spill from going toward the Lloyd residence. He also noted the fixture itself casts a shadow. There is a bit of a dark spot right at the pole.

Brian noted the lights at the Town Hall are about 60 feet apart, the same as the cemetery. These would be considerably brighter and significantly more than what is at Town Hall. Brian stated his concern is the stubby pole. It doesn't look appropriate. He felt it would be objectionable. Kent recommended putting another foot on the pole bringing the fixture up higher. Chuck noted that would have a sense of glow about it. Brian noted there would be less glare.

Brian next reviewed the basic Shoebox EKG401 light that has 7 different distribution patterns. The one he proposed sends light out to the sides. He looked at two heights, a

10 foot and a 12 foot. The 10 foot pole has plenty of distribution. Brian reviewed the limit of measurable light at the edge of the parking lot. He suggested using 3 fixtures. Chuck Mueller agreed with 3 fixtures noting this is not a Home Depot or St. Joseph's Church. Brian indicated these lights are less expensive, \$1500 plus cost of the pole. Chairman Joplin noted that amounts to a \$5000 savings. Joplin noted he was concerned about the neighbor at the beginning of the driveway. Brian indicated these lights are fully cut off.

Leslie Strauss asked if the higher pole generates more spread. Brian replied yes. The lights all need to be the same height.

Chairman Joplin read into the record an email from Virgil Lloyd and a note from Charlene Janecek (both who could not attend this meeting) regarding lighting.

Chairman Joplin noted it is absolutely essential the cemetery be lit, but consideration should be given to shielding light from the Lloyd residence. He felt it would be much more protected with the Shoebox fixture than the Scofield fixture. Brian also felt 3 fixtures would be sufficient and there would be no dark spots. Chuck noted the Scofield fixtures are accent lights that should be part of a streetscape. They are not cost effective and more decorative. He indicated the Shoebox fixture would be a more controllable, predictable light.

Joplin reiterated using the Shoebox lighting will save about \$5000.

First Selectman Meehan noted the street lights should be on the street. The lights in the Maple Street Parking Lot are useless. We should be thinking about functional lights and keep the decorative lights where people will be shopping, walking, etc.

Leslie noted the lights are going in a parking lot, not the cemetery itself. Putting in expensive lighting will come back to haunt us. These lights will be 10 feet above grade.

Brian reviewed location of lights. He noted one should not be near the first 4 or 5 parking spaces because that's only 7 feet from the house and right outside the window. He also noted there could be an electrical access at the control panel for event purposes.

Chairman Joplin noted he would recommend the Shoebox and prefer the lower post. Brian stated the 10 foot post performs adequately. Chuck noted the inside of the Shoebox is controlled and throws light out. The Scofield is uncontrollable.

Leslie pointed out the location of the last light should stay where it is next to the last parking space.

It was the Committee's recommendation to the Selectmen to go with 3 Shoebox lights with 10 foot high posts. Brian felt the 3 would provide adequate lumination but he would verify that. First Selectman Meehan agreed the Shoebox light was the practical way to go.

3. Gary Giroux to report on progress re 100% plans ready last day of January
Chairman Joplin noted there will be a meeting on Thursday morning with Gary Giroux to review the plans. The 100% plans are to be done by the end of the month. Brian noted it was his understanding the plans would be at 50% on Thursday.

It was reiterated the 100% plans need to be done by the end of January in order to go to D.O.T. for review, Town Meeting and out to bid late February or early March. First Selectman Meehan noted this is an aggressive schedule but we need to stick with it. The start date is May 4th at the latest.

First Selectman Meehan noted the addendum has been executed. The schedule as discussed is part of the addendum. Gary's office is to prepare an easement for the triangle piece in the parking lot. He noted the project is estimated at \$875,000 with culvert replacement. With the addition of soft costs, its \$1,075,000 up to School Lane.

First Selectman Meehan reviewed the Connecticut Water Company project and any reimbursement that might be due the Town.

Leslie asked what kind of communication the Committee should be having with organizations for events. Meehan noted Memorial Day Parade is the big one. The contractor will have to keep the road open on weekends.

6. Other Business, if any

7. Bills for Payment – none.

8. Audience of Citizens – none.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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