

Chester Main Street Project Committee

Regular Meeting, January 28, 2020

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1. Call to Order

The Chester Main Street Project Committee held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 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, John Schroeder, Leslie Strauss, Charlene Janecek, Ed Meehan.

3. Review of State application and its progress, and review of overall Time line for 2020

Chairman Joplin noted he heard 3 or 4 days ago some were thinking this project was going to get delayed. Joplin noted there is no chance of this project getting delayed. He indicated any time you plan a project like this you can't start before March 15th. We are going ahead. He will be going to the next Merchants Meeting and tell them that. He indicated LOTCIP had its funding cut off a year and half ago and if we delay this year, there is no guarantee. Connecticut isn't in the greatest shape economically. This Committee has been working too hard to delay this. Yes, it will be hard on the merchants. Chairman Joplin reiterated he will attend the next Merchants Meeting. The start date will probably be the first two weeks in April.

Joplin noted the cement block construction to facilitate filling of the voids has started.

Chairman Joplin noted the town was waiting for the Project Authorization letter to advertise the project. The letter should come in either this afternoon or tomorrow morning. Once the project is advertised, final bids will be due in about 30 days. The State has to accept and authorize the low bidder.

There was discussion regarding hours of work. Leslie Strauss noted the contractor should provide various work schedules to see what is best for the merchants and to move the project along.

Committee members agreed with Chairman Joplin that this project will not be delayed.

4. Other Business, if any – none.

5. Bills for Payment – none.

6. Approval of Minutes – January 14, 2020 - tabled

7. Audience of Citizens

Susan Wright and Bill DeJonge were present. Susan Wright noted she had attended a Merchants Meeting and was told by First Selectwoman Gister that if it got too far along, the project might be delayed a year. She indicated it was her understanding there is a proposal for non-participating items (staircase) in the amount of \$125,000 that the State is not doing. She also noted part of the issue is communication.

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8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 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