

CITY OF NORWICH
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

To: City Clerk
From: Director of Public Works
File No.: PWD 120-18
Subject: **MINUTES OF PUBLIC WORKS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

The regular meeting of the Public Works and Capital Improvements Committee was held on Monday, August 20, 2018 in the conference room at Public Works Headquarters, 50 Clinton Avenue. Attendance was as follows:

Committee Members

Alderwoman Stacy Gould (Chair)
Public Works
Mayor Peter Nystrom
Engineer
Alderman Sam Browning (Absent)

Administration

Ryan E. Thompson, Director
Patrick J. McLaughlin, City

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
The meeting minutes of July 16, 2018 were approved.
(Motion: Gould Second: Nystrom)
3. **CITIZEN COMMENT:** None
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **Plaques and Monuments**
 - i. The Sikh monument proposal is awaiting input from other stakeholders. City legal counsel has approved its location. Mayor Nystrom indicated Mr. Nash is checking with the Rotary and so far has not heard any objection.
 - ii. Discussion about the plaque concerning President Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address. The plaque is about three feet tall and very heavy and should decide how to securely move it, display it and maintain safety for those around it.
 - B. **Public Works Projects Updates**
 - Pleasant Street Bridge is coming along. It will most likely not be open in time for the start of school. Buses do not go over that

bridge. Public Works will give a heads up to the Board of Education.

- Vehicle Wash Station is continuing and the Fuel Master Upgrade is in progress. PD should begin using it when it is finished in October and further discussion will continue on the possibility to opening its use to outside entities.
- Yantic Lane Culvert project is underway
- ADA entrance to 23 Union Street will be going out to bid soon
- Mahan Drive is complete. Rogers Road is almost complete and then paving work is to begin in the Laurel Hill Avenue area and Alice Street. Work will commence at Quarto Road after the sidewalks are finished and the Sholes Avenue area after the Pleasant Street bridge project is complete.
- Buckingham roof and gutter repairs will be performed by a company from New Haven who had a good bid, below budget.
- Reid & Hughes – Stabilization work almost complete. Roof complete.

C. 31 New London Turnpike

Review of conservation documents obtained by Stacy Gould from corporate counsel is interpreted as being for conservation without alterations to natural landscape and that mowing of the area other than roadside by the sign would be outside of the interests of conservation as intended. A possible gravel path in the future for recreational access will be re-visited. Another department is working on grants for walking paths, this may be available for this type of project as well.

5. New Business

There are evasive weeds in Spaulding Pond growing quickly and choking out the pond as well as causing fishing problems. Most of it is on the south side. It was also noted in other areas of the pond. It will need to be acted on sooner rather than later before it is an uncontrollable problem. Several options were discussed to include draining the pond to kill off the weeds during the winter. The downside is it is unknown how long it will take for the lake to return to normal depth levels. Physically pulling out the weeds is an option as well as using chemicals. Volunteer assistance would probably not be utilized since there is hazard of injury from sharp items and debris in the plants and requiring a lifeguard on duty for something that would take many people over many days to do.

Related discussion concerning removal of the roots from wisteria growing around the arches based on dam assessments. They will need to be removed from the ground. This is a popular feature at the park. Options like planting pots under the ground and even changing the plant were discussed but that the Advisory Board should have input on this.

6. Other Business

Tyler Lane is an accepted City Road after research by corporate counsel.

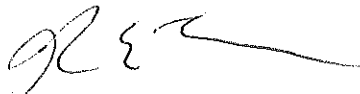
A wall in the rose garden is failing. Public Works will make the repairs. Those funds will be coming out of Public Work's budget but would like to see if the Advisory Board could contribute to some of its costs to lessen the burden.

The sign concerning the Botanical Gardens is to be taken down since it is a dissolved entity. Perhaps a new sign pointing to other areas of interest was suggested to be put in its place.

Discussion concerning a project at Brown Park with a proposed sitting area and pavers that are individually painted by persons in recovery at Howard Brown Park.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 by unanimous vote.
(Motion: Nystrom Second: Gould)



Ryan E. Thompson, PE, LS
Director of Public Works