

## Downtown Revitalization Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 19, 2012

5:30 p.m.

Newington Town Hall, Conference Room L-101

I. **Roll Call:** Chairman McBride, Mrs. Cohen, Mr. Marocchini and Mr. Bottalico

**Absent:** Mr. Castelle, Mr. Shields

**Others Present:** Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer and Stephen Woods, Mayor

II. **Minutes:**

February 13, 2012 – Mr. Bottalico motioned to accept, Mrs. Cohen second.

III. **Public Participation**

None

IV. **Market Square Project Update**

Mr. Greenlaw began the project update by answering questions from the previous month's meeting. The following is a listing of topics and related responses as they pertain to the above referenced:

- **Snow Removal** – Mr. Greenlaw reaffirmed that snow removal (walks and pavers including area in Town right of way) is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner per ordinance.
- **Trench Repair and Street Sweeping** – Mr. Greenlaw reported that the contractor was contacted and had expedited the repair of the failing trench patch. Additionally, the Town D.P.W. had swept the road as part of the normal sweeping campaign efforts.
- **Old Pavers** – park and Recreation was notified and picked up any additional (original – removed) stacked pavers on site. (These pavers can be stored and utilized for future maintenance repairs, etc.)
- **Handicap Parking** – Mr. Greenlaw explained that given the design limitations of road width, the A.D.A. required handicap parking space width and lane width, could not be achieved, therefore, the lane width was held. Additional handicap ramps at crosswalks were offered.
- **Street Lights (CL&P)** – D.P.W. has requested CL&P to turn off their street lights; we'll continue to monitor illumination. Additionally, it was mentioned that there is interest per Mayor Woods to explore the cost to remove (3) poles – (CL&P). A brief discussion ensued. There was mention of a cost estimate of \$10,000 - \$12,000 dollars to reset the poles via (SNET & CL&P). SNET/ATT is requiring a fee of \$189 for a complete comprehensive estimate. Commissioner Bottalico acknowledged the potential costs from past experience and talks with CL&P. The Committee agrees to pay the fee to AT&T for a comprehensive review of utility infrastructure as it relates to relocation and the cost thereof. Mr. Greenlaw revisited the scenario of installing the new parking signs on the new street lights. It was explained that Nunes Construction would still be reimbursed for the sign item per contract, but would only install the directional signs. There would be an additional fee to acquire brackets (painted approx. \$600) needed to attach the signs to the poles. Our D.P.W. traffic employee has researched and could install if need be.

Chairman McBride reiterated the benefit for removal is to reduce the amount of utility "clutter" obstructions in the snow shelf area of the walks. He additionally offered the idea of a field visit to better visualize the idea of sign removal within the streetscape.

Commissioner Bottalico raised question regarding sign detail as it related to the specified time to park: one hour vs. two hours.

Mayor Woods recommended the police department be consulted with (L.T.A.) regard to alterations to street signage. It's estimated/proposed 18 signs to be relocated to street lamps.

Commissioner Bottalico questioned responsibility of the business signs. Commissioner Marocchino stated that business sign would be addressed by the Economic Development Commission. After a brief discussion, it was proposed that a special meeting be held to address the items of signage and hydrant relocation specifically. A decision was made to meet April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at Market Square.

Mr. Greenlaw discussed that a meeting was scheduled for Friday March 23<sup>rd</sup> with Milone & MacBroom and Nunes Construction. The intent of the meeting is to discuss the timeline to complete the project, with operations commencing Monday, March 26, 2012. The discussion of liquidated damages would be continued at the manager's level (per Town Attorney recommendation) with emphasis on contractor returning and finishing the project.

Chairman McBride requested an update on the hydrant relocation. Mr. Greenlaw noted that the MDC is offering to replace/relocate the hydrants and perhaps a representative from MDC could meet on-site to discuss possible locations.

#### **V. Public Participation**

- Rose Lyons referenced the potential of lack of illumination (area #120 Market Square) when CL&P lights are removed coupled with tree foliage. Noted: people were locking bikes to poles. There was a concern with the anticipated return of traffic control provided by Nunes Construction. Additional concern was noted with the contingency money.
- There was general discussion by Committee. Resident/Business responsible per ordinance: reiterate per letter to owners and businesses.

#### **VI. Remarks by Committee Members**

Commissioner Cohen noted extra project monies return to Town revenue.  
Commissioner McBride reiterated special meeting date.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

Mrs. Cohen motioned to adjourn, second by Mr. Marocchini.

Submitted,

Christopher Greenlaw, P.E.  
Town Engineer

Town Clerk  
Town Website