



*Scott D. Jackson*  
Mayor

# TOWN OF HAMDEN

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Hamden Government Center  
2750 Dixwell Ave  
Hamden, CT 06518  
Tel: (203) 287-7100  
Fax: (203) 287-7101

### FARMINGTON CANAL COMMISSION

**Informal Notes:** The Farmington Canal Commission, Town of Hamden will hold a **Special Meeting on Thursday, November 4, 2010** at 7:30 p.m. in the **Mayor's Office Conference Room**, Hamden Government Center. The following issues will be discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: David Schaefer, Johanna Becker, Bill Horowitz

Commissioners Absent: Barbara Gigliotti (excused), Steve Humes, Peter Haller, Malachi Blandon, Mike Johnson

An informal discussion was held because a quorum was not available.

There was discussion on the selection process and the selection panel per the Status Update dated November 4, 2010 prepared by Dan Kops, Assistant Town Planner, a copy of which is attached.

Mr. Schaefer reported that Mr. Kops has been working very hard and has everything in place. Plans for the tunnel have been held up because of the sidewalk over the Skiff Street Bridge issue. DOT has some very stringent requirements if the Town wants to put in the sidewalk. DOT wants a new railing along both sides of the bridge and the Parkway beneath the bridge closed during sidewalk construction. They don't seem to care about a railing between the sidewalk and the traffic. This project is being done with Federal and Town money. There is no state money involved. Any modifications to the bridge will require that new railings be installed. Mr. Schaefer thinks we should go to Senator Crisco, who has been very supportive of this project, and ask the State to build the sidewalk. Last Spring the Town Engineer came to Dan Kops and asked if there was any way of adding in a sidewalk over the bridge, because DOT asked if that was a possibility. The replacement of the pin and hanger bridge has been removed from the state's list. Mr. Schaefer described the original plan for the trail if the pin and hanger bridge was going to be replaced.

Mr. Schaefer mentioned that a student from Hamden Hall came before the Traffic Commission asking that the speed be reduced on Skiff Street because of the schools in the immediate area. Mr. Schaefer wondered if a sidewalk along one side of the road would work.

Mr. Kops had a call from Neil Patel of DOT, after he wrote his status update. There are two main issues. The State used high priority funding to reimburse the Town at the beginning, and ran through all of that money before using the enhancement funds. When the bids came in lower the Town/State agreement was redone, and about \$1 million from the high priority funds were set aside. There is about \$200,000 left from Phase II, and the DOT is in the process now of scrounging money to help us do the sidewalk, according to Tom Burgess this morning.

Mr. Schaefer imagines the new congress putting a freeze on funding. He would like to go out to bid as soon as possible. Mr. Kops said Mr. Patel also brought up the water pipe. The design shows the Town has to expose 25 feet of water pipe. The RWA wants to replace it eventually, and Milone & MacBroom has a design for supporting the pipe during construction. During an inspection, the RWA said if the pipe moves more than ¼ inch it will break. To replace the pipe would cost about \$75,000. The estimate for supporting the pipe is \$100,000. DOT wants us to see about replacing the pipe during construction. DOT will find the money to pay for it. Mr. Kops was told not to send in the final plans on Monday, but to check with the RWA first. Mr. Kops will call on Friday and if he doesn't get through he will call Mr. Schaefer. The Town would pay 20% of the cost for the replacement of the water pipe.

Mr. Kops showed the Commissioners a drawing of a project on Sherman Avenue. Two warehouses are proposed. The grade of the access road is 17%, and a guard rail would be recommended because of trucks coming down the hill toward the trail.

Mr. Schaefer thanked Commissioners for coming. He feels it is very important for the Commission to hold its meetings. A lot of work gets done in the weeks before the meetings.

**The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerry Tobin, Clerk of the Commission