



Scott D. Jackson
Mayor

TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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FARMINGTON CANAL COMMISSION

Minutes: The Farmington Canal Commission, Town of Hamden held an informal session on Thursday, June 9, 2011, due to the lack of a quorum. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Mike Johnson, Barbara Gigliotti, Bill Horowitz, Johanna Becker

Commissioners Absent: David Schaefer, Peter Haller, Steve Humes, Malachi Blandon

Others in Attendance: Assistant Town Planner Dan Kops
Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

1. Review Minutes of May 5, 2011 & April 14, 2011
Postponed to the July meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

2. Phase I Update (Mt. Sanford Road to Todd Street)

3. Phase IIA Update (Todd Street to Hamden Hills Drive)

4. Phase IIB Update (Hamden Hills Drive to Connolly Parkway)

5. Phase III Update (Connolly Parkway to New Haven Line)

6. Old Business

7. New Business

Mr. Kops advised the commission that bids for the tunnel project were opened on 5/19. Guerera was the low bidder at \$995,000 not including the contingency. Four companies bid, one of which was Fucci, and they asked that their bid be withdrawn. The Town did not withdraw their

bid because the request was not made in an official letter. Their bid was about \$50,000 higher than the low bidder. Mr. Kops thinks it was because of the penalties involved.

Milone & MacBroom, Mr. Cumpstone and Mr. Kops met with Guerera and Milone & MacBroom is familiar with Guerera. Everything had to be approved by the DOT, and they granted us permission to award the contract to Guerera.

The cost stated in the Town/State Agreement based on Milone & MacBroom and the DOT's estimate was \$1,222,000. The cost based on Milone & MacBroom and Guerra brings the total to \$1,148,000, which includes inspection services which is \$54,000 and 10% contingency. This is what we have been budgeting. The Town's portion is about \$323,000. The total amount is what the DOT expected. Mr. Kops mailed the contract this afternoon.

Mr. Kops said there is a list of what we need to do to close the road in August before school starts. Site preparation will start in July.

Mr. Kops said the biggest time constraint is that the box culverts take 6-8 weeks to manufacture. Guerra has met with United Illuminating and there are some utility issues to work out with UI and with RWA. The crane required to drop the box culvert in will be a problem with the overhead wires. It will be worked out, but UI will have to put up some new poles to reroute the wires temporarily. At the moment we are on schedule. We are not doing the sidewalk over the bridge because of the cost. DOT has accepted the project without the sidewalk. We will fund money in the future to do the sidewalk.

Mutual Housing, the new artists' studios and apartments on Dixwell is moving along. One building is occupied. The good news is they are wrapping up. The bad news is they were approved back in 2006, we built Phase III, and they a beautiful fence that goes right up to their driveway. They had permission to cross the trail to get to the parking lot behind the project. The fence totally blocks the site line to the left. Mutual Housing is responsible for safety measures, and Public Works will remove a section of fence.

The Town has received approval to use LoCIP funds to install crosswalks, and stop/pedestrian signs for every street the trail crosses from Cheshire to New Haven.

The fence at Mather Street was covered with graffiti, and the side facing the condos was taken care of. Last weekend, interns/fellows, commissioners, Mayor Jackson and his family, and other Town employees joined Pepsi employees to paint over the graffiti on the fence.

Maintenance for the Trail

Mr. Kops requested LoCIP funds to use for the trail. Maintenance work cannot be paid for with LoCIP funds, but improvements to the trail can be funded by LoCIP. Additional drainage will be placed in the area north of Sherman Avenue. There was discussion on the spur trail behind Middle School will connect to the trail and come out to Dixwell Avenue.

Mr. Kops reported that Mr. Davies checked with the Farmington Canal Rails to Trails Association and the Board met and agreed to accept targeted donations for trail maintenance on the Hamden portion of the trail.

Mr. Horowitz reported that the portion of the New Haven trail that was closed is now being reopened. He also mentioned that Yale is building new residential colleges at a cost of about 1.4 billion dollars in the area between Prospect, Sachem and the cemetery.

Ms. Becker asked if the driveway on the right after the overpass on Sherman is for a proposed hotel. Mr. Kops said there are proposals for a hotel at 55 Westwoods Road and at 660 Sherman Avenue (past Cascade) but nothing is happening with either of them.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Clerk of the Commission