



**TOWN OF HAMDEN  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

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**FARMINGTON CANAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes: The Farmington Canal Commission,** Town of Hamden held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2011 in the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Barbara Gigliotti, Johanna Becker, Mike Johnson, David Schaefer, Kathy Larson, Bill Horowitz

Commissioners Absent: Steve Humes, Peter Haller, Malachi Blandon

1. Review Minutes of October 4, 2011

**Ms. Larson made a motion to approve the minutes of October 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Horowitz seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

Mr. Kops reported that the Skiff Street Pedestrian Underpass is officially opened. There are still some details to be taken care of. There is some water coming in between the box culverts. The weather has not been cooperating, but hopefully this will be taken care of soon. Re-grading is required behind the wing walls to remove the depression, but the soil can't be stabilized until Spring. There is some paving to be done on the shoulder of Skiff Street on the north side where the wing walls are. Calking and filling of the seams responsible for the leakage will be taken care of once it is dry. We are still waiting for the recording device, so we are temporarily using other material.

Mr. Schaefer mentioned that at the last meeting Mr. Kops reported that we were still waiting for a pole to be delivered. Mr. Kops reported that a temporary pole has been moved to the permanent pole location and then the permanent pole is installed, we will take the temporary pole down. There is a structure in the Government Center upper parking lot with some sophisticated computer equipment in it, and that is where the temporary equipment is and where the permanent equipment will be located. The recording equipment is in there. If there is an issue, police will have to come to the shed to view the episode. There will be screens at the Police Department. The monitor will be on all the time and will light up if there is motion. The call boxes are working and go to the emergency line where 911 numbers go. It will light up as the Skiff Street tunnel. Lights are on 24/7. Mr. Kops assumes that this will be added to the Town's electric bill. Call boxes are the kind that you just push button, and the police will come on.

Mr. Schaefer commented that the painted rocks on front of the tunnel look great. Several commissioners agreed.

Mr. Kops reported that the tunnel opening was reasonably well attended. The State politicians that came were pleased with the way the tunnel turned out.

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

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

Mr. Kops reported that the stop light is in at Westwoods Road and turn lanes are marked. The area between the old and new roads has been seeded. Mr. Hoyt cut an opening in his fence so you can go through from the parking lot to the trail. Mr. Horowitz asked about plans for the new piece of land. Mr. Kops said the parcel is now owned by the state. We have talked about trying to use part of it for parking for the trail. Mr. Hoyt has to put a sign there and has to go for a variance from ZBA and request permission from the Legislative Council. There was discussion on parking availability.

There was discussion about weeding and cutting back on the southern portion of the trail. Also discussed was plowing the trail. Mr. Kops will check that with Mr. Cooper.

Mr. Schaefer went to a meeting in New Haven to learn of their trail plans. The trail is underground from Grove Street to the FBI building. From there it will be on the surface. They talked about all kinds of ideas, including an underground museum. Pedestrians will be on a raised platform and bikes will go in the middle. Pedestrians will be able to read information along the way. The trail will connect to the Arts Plaza on Audubon Street. They are still planning and will be for another two years or so. Milone & MacBroom is

working with the city planner. The trail will go to Olive to Water to Frontage Road and will have many challenging surface crossings.

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

5. Phase III Update (Connolly Parkway to New Haven Line)  
Bill Horowitz asked if we would have any money left after the tunnel is paid for. The contingency might have some money left, but money for consulting work is in question. Mr. Horowitz said if there is any money left, he has some ideas for access, etc. Mr. Kops said we don't actually get the money, we get reimbursements.

Mr. Kops said the first reimbursement request went in the day the check was issued to the contractor was reimbursed in two weeks. The second one took a month, and none of the others have been reimbursed to date. The Town has borrowing authority to get the bills paid.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

Review meeting calendar for 2012

There was discussion on the proposed 2012 meeting schedule. **Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the meeting schedule for 2012. Ms. Becker seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

Commissioners agreed that the new signs and cones at the street crossings look great.

There still needs to be some improvements in the Westwoods Road area. There are plans for landscaping for the triangle.

8. Adjournment

**Ms. Becker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Gerry Tobin, Clerk of the Commission