

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MUNICIPAL PLANNING & PROPERTIES COMMITTEE MEETING
April 17, 2023**

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https://hamden.zoom.us/rec/play/CoS5lnATg4U5k5svJAGOG5m7cBy-vKtOHnd1UKnhx9KMa358y3-TDbd0bRzUdOBsqsdYJOs9aK_-3YOj.ytCnJEDUglu7y3v9?canPlayFromShare=true&from=share_recording_detail&continueMode=true&componentName=rec-play&originRequestUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fhamden.zoom.us%2Frec%2Fshare%2FEuJqzdUHOecHajdMNb_F2-GirxTbnjG4zqy6NPiExoiAS-Ylfdggiw7ASbRKUpB3.WiL79nUVEp4JEmMd

(Time Code 02:07:21)

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A meeting of the Municipal Planning & Properties Committee was held on Monday, April 17, 2023. This was a hybrid meeting held both in person and electronically via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 9:07 PM by Chair, Abdul Osmanu.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Abdul Osmanu, Chair; Adrian Webber, Kristen Zaehringer, Bob Anthony

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ted Stevens, Sarah Gallagher, Cory O'Brien

Public Input: None

The following items were addressed:

1. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden to acquire by sale or eminent domain certain properties in the vicinity of 233 Skiff Street owned by the Regional Water Authority

--Moved by Ms. Zaehringer and seconded by Mr. Webber. DISCUSSION: Assistant Town Attorney Brendan Sharkey explained this was a request made by the Regional Water Authority. When the State of Connecticut completed the Skiff Street Bridge Replacement Project, certain pieces of property surrounding that bridge were not properly conveyed to the Town and Regional Water Authority retained ownership. One of these areas is the sidewalk along the south side of Skiff Street from the bridge itself to a certain point in front of 233 Skiff Street and also an easement area for a drainage pipe that comes down off of Skiff Street to the Mill River. Mr. Sharkey said the Town should own the sidewalk and take responsibility for it as well as the area where the drainage is needed. The Regional Water Authority asked the Town to take this by eminent domain because the property's classification as a Class 1 Watershed area does not allow them to convey it. The State Health Department will not allow a conveyance of any Class 1 Watershed land and the RWA asked the Town to take it so they could be relieved of the liability and other obligations.

Mr. Anthony asked about the liability involved and the building. Mr. Sharkey explained we would not acquire all of 233 Skiff Street. We would acquire the sidewalk along the south side of Skiff Street and the easement for repair purposes for the drainage pipe. We would not acquire the house or the land with the house on it. We would incur the liability for the sidewalk and we need the easement so we can repair the drainage pipe if needed. Mr. Anthony asked if this is good for the Town. Mr. Sharkey said yes in that it removes ambiguities about liability/responsibility and it is a favor for RWA who is a good neighbor who partners with us, and going forward this will help in terms of addressing the “eyesore” (the house).

A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
Rose Lion, Secretary
for Abdul Osmanu, Chair