

Members attending: **Monica McNally (Chair), Frank Adelman, Werner Domittner, Eric Golus, Lindsay Kelly, Rolf Obin, Richard Poli, Cecil Wade**
Members absent: **Elisabeth Bacon , Terrence Duffy, Sarah Haverstick, Patrick Keane,**
Others attending: **Ed Gentile, Director of Public Works**
Media / public access: **Meeting recorded by TV79.(<https://vimeo.com/386748519>)**
No other media and no public attendees.

Chairperson Monica McNally called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

She thanked the members for joining or re-joining the public works committee. She thanked the members for electing her as Chairperson, Rolf Obin as Vice-Chairman and Cecil Wade as Clerk.

Monica announced that there are now 12 members of PWC, therefore seven members constitute a quorum for a meeting. We will not meet without a quorum.

Each present member gave a short personal introduction.

Monica introduced Ed Gentile, Darien Director of Public Works to give an update.

Mr. Gentile talked about the following subjects:

1. **2020 Road Paving Plans.** Ed is at work on a draft schedule, but it is not yet available. It will probably be available in the June to July timeframe.

About 5 1/2 miles of paving repairs are planned for this year. The majority is where the gas and water companies have done trenching. The annual average of paving is about 4 miles. Darien has a total of 80 miles of road way, so it takes about 20 years for all the roads to be repaved. Paving will start in July to August to avoid interfering with school. The budgeting process is in progress, the budget will be available July 1.
2. **Town Hall Generator.** We have a \$275,000 qualified bid currently for installation of the new generator system. Public Works are working on phase one. There will be a Town Hall electricity shutdown on February 15 to allow wiring pre-work to be performed safely, and another shutdown in March to replace the electricity service feeds.
3. **Town Hall HVAC and Heating System** will be upgraded this year. It will move from an inefficient pneumatically-controlled system to computer-controlled. This work is planned to start in July
4. **Federal Realty Update** FR is obtaining permits from Planning and Zoning, Building and DPW. Work will be starting within weeks. Mr. Gentile will be meeting with the Federal Realty Construction Manager to map out plans for the development, including street closings/openings. The construction manager will be AP Construction, a local firm.
5. **Horizontal Grinder.** Mr. Gentile said that there was a demo about two months ago. The grinder accepts leaves, limbs, and logs up to 30 inches in diameter. We are currently spending about \$200,000 per year to remove this waste from the transfer station site. The goal is to produce mulch of a quality that will encourage people to come and get it, and take it away. Ed estimates the grinder has a payback period of about four years
6. **Personnel** for public works remains at 34 people.
7. **The Solar Panel Installations** are all up and running.

8. **Sidewalks:** In general there is about a \$200,000 capital request each year for sidewalk repair. Ed has been using the Pedestrian Infrastructure Advisory Committee report (PIAC) http://www.darienct.gov/filestorage/28565/31353/35935/47541/PIAC_Report_Dec._2015.pdf as a guide for pavement priorities. We currently have about 25 miles of existing sidewalk. Recent evaluation suggests what about \$3 million would be required for the entire replacement of the current sidewalks over a five-year period. It will take five years because we were limited in the amount of sidewalk that we can efficiently and effectively replace.

Motion: to approve the October 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes. Moved by Cecil Wade, Seconded by Richard Poli, and approved by 8—0 vote.

Other Business Monica and Jayme Stevenson met with the BYO group to discuss a potential styrene ban. Styrene is primarily used in food service as Styrofoam food containers. Monica anticipates that this ban will also be addressed at the state level as well. There was a lively discussion of the role of this committee in these deliberations.

Frank Edelman suggested that we should be addressing potential changes in infrastructure required to deal with the effects of climate-change/sea-level-rise.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Submitted by

Cecil Wade, Clerk RTM PWC