

**BOARD OF WARDEN & BURGESSES
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 26, 2014**

The Special Meeting of the Board of Warden & Burgesses held in the Griswold Town Hall Selectman's Conference Room, Second Floor on Thursday, August 26, 2014 was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Motion to appoint Leona Sharkey, Borough Secretary as Acting Clerk was made by Burgess Sharkey, second by Burgess Sorder. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

ROLL CALL:

Leona Sharkey, Acting Clerk read the roll call. Members present: Warden, Alan D. Geer, Burgesses Timothy Sharkey and Laurie Sorder. Absent: Burgesses, John Connelly and James Krueger, and Bailiff, William Czmyr. A quorum was determined.

ALSO PRESENT:

Todd Babbitt, Director – Town of Griswold Public Works Department and Jim Barnie.

NEW BUSINESS:

Quarterly meeting to discuss roads and street concerns within the Borough with the Public Works Director and First Selectman.

Warden Geer asked Mr. Babbitt if there are any projects that are going to be done in the Borough. Mr. Babbitt stated that they are going to put in new roads at Russell Street and a piece of Brown Avenue towards North Main Street direction, the rest of Mary Street, as part of it was already done by the condos and Anthony Street including sidewalk and reveal back.

Warden Geer asked if No Parking signs were going to be placed on School Street, as there are problems with people parking to the stop sign. Mr. Babbitt stated that the yellow curbing is painted, which indicates no parking and the Resident Troopers can enforce based on the curbing. Warden Geer stated that per a conversation with the Resident Trooper that they would prefer signs. Mr. Babbitt stated he will look to see what he has at the garage.

Mr. Babbitt stated that an additional parking lot is going to be created off of the existing nurses' building parking lot, which will be gravel and able to hold 50-60 cars. Mr. Babbitt also stated that this can be used for park events and be used for off-street parking during parking bans in the winter months and that signs will be placed clearly defining the use of the lot.

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Mr. Babbitt stated that last phase of projects will be to re-organize the rear parking lot at the town hall to allow for more parking.

Warden Geer stated that Chief Hanson of the Jewett City Fire Department has concerns about the end of Wilson Street that connects to East Main Street about it being difficult to get a fire truck out of that street. Mr. Babbitt and Burgess Sharkey both stated that the end of Wilson Street was widened back some time ago when there was work done on East Main Street to allow for the trucks to get through and neither Mr. Babbitt nor Burgess Sharkey feel there is an issue with that.

Warden Geer also stated that Chief Hanson is looking to get new No Parking signs for within the firehouse parking lot for the side where the multi-families are located because people from there are parking in the parking lot and the current signs are made out of plywood. Mr. Babbitt stated that they could purchase the signs as it is for the parking lot and not the road and that just the sign itself costs \$25.00. Burgess Sharkey and Warden Geer stated that due to the fact that they are inexpensive that it should be an expense that comes out of the Fire Department budget.

Mr. Babbitt stated that the Town is going to bid for a new road study. The road study also includes sign testing for proper dimensions, type and reflective quality, as well as sign inventory, which will all be done together at the same time. Mr. Babbitt stated that if the Board felt there was anything needed for the Borough that this would be the time to address it.

Mr. Babbitt stated that the Town was able to apply for and receive a grant for stop sign and stop bar replacements. Towns that have had a fatal accident are entitled to apply for this grant. All of the stop signs except 35 will be replaced, which is expected to start in the middle of September. Burgess Sorder asked if we need to replace all of them and Mr. Babbitt said yes because of the road study. He also stated that you have the option of having the people check the conditions of the signs, GPS locate all of them and evaluate the condition of the sidewalks at the same time.

Burgess Sharkey stated that a new pole was installed by the JCDPU and that in order to do this the sidewalk needed to be cut in order to place the pole. Burgess Sharkey wanted to know why the sidewalk was not fixed to its original state, and stated that instead it was filled and the curbing formed with hot patch. Burgess Sharkey stated that per the Borough Ordinance that all owners are responsible to repair, clean, maintain the sidewalk should they have one at their residence or business. Mr. Babbitt stated that if the Town Department does the work then they do it according to Town Code, but the job was being done as a courtesy to the DPU because they are a municipal department.

Discussion took place regarding the illegal business of repairing washing machines, driers, refrigerators, etc. on the corner of Dwyer Street and Mechanic Street. The gentleman was electrocuted as a result of repairing the equipment that apparently is owned by another company, possibly out of Coventry. Considering the situation and that the Fire Marshal, State Police, Building Inspector, and Borough Board were at the residence and no-one was on the same page as to how much time this man should be given to remove all of the equipment. It was decided that a cohesive plan of action should be created and followed for all the powers that be to follow should an incident like this occur again. Warden Geer stated that a State Trooper had been assigned to draft a warrant prior to this incident as it violates a State Statute and a message was left on the office phone today by a Trooper Foy? (Could not make out the name) stating that a

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warrant has been executed and was awaiting the judge's signature, and once it was signed, he would then follow up on the warrant. Warden Geer stated he is going to call to follow up on the status of the warrant.

Burgess Sharkey thanked Mr. Babbitt for having someone from the Public Works Department spray the weeds along the fence on Water Street. Burgess Sharkey asked if it had been cut down and Mr. Babbitt said no because he was told the Board was going to ask for an estimate on that service. Warden Geer stated they received an estimate of \$100.00 to weed whack the whole fence line. Mr. Babbitt stated that he would get the kid to do 2-3 feet on either side of the gates and in front of the gates, so the fire trucks can access the water if necessary.

Mr. Babbitt stated that he contacted Willimantic Waste in regards to an oil leak found on a few of the Borough streets, which were covered in speedy dry; however, Mr. Babbitt stated that normal protocol is that the company who creates the spill is supposed to contact the Public Works Department, put down speedy dry, let it soak up, and then sweep. The Building Inspector contacted the Health Department who stated that as long as it did not go in sewer grates it is fine.

Warden Geer stated that Trooper Chittick will be contacting Mr. Babbitt within the next 2 weeks to help put up the electrical speed recording sign.

Mr. Babbitt also stated that business parking signs will be placed on Main Street on the southbound side at 110 Main Street, as it was requested and it was approved by CT DOT; therefore, the signs have been ordered.

Discussion was held about scheduling the next quarterly meeting. Burgess Sharkey made a motion that Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. be scheduled for the next quarterly meeting in the Selectman's Conference Room, second by Burgess Sorder. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Burgess Sorder made motion to adjourn, second by Burgess Sharkey. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Meeting duly adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leona Sharkey, Acting Clerk

* September 2, 2014 Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m.