

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.

JOAN WILLIAMSON ALDERMANIC CHAMBERS

MINUTES

Alderman Ronald Sill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call

Present: Ronald Sill, Anthony Staffieri, Carmen DiCenso

Absent: Barbara L. DeGennaro (Excused)

Also Present: The Honorable Mayor Anita Dugatto
Alderman Thomas Donofrio
Alderman Joseph DiMartino
Anthony DeFala, Street Commissioner
Marc J. Garofalo, Town & City Clerk
Dr. Matthew Conway, Superintendent of Schools
Susan Cable, Interim Chief of Staff
Marjorie Shansky, Esq.
Alderman Stephen Iaccone (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)
Alderman Arthur Gerckens (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)
Thomas Welch, Corporation Counsel

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Sill said he would like to make one addition as 8a – Vendor Permit for Comcast Xfinity.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to add the vendor permit for Comcast Xfinity as 8a. for discussion/possible action. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Sill asked three times if anyone wished to speak during public portion. Hearing no requests the public portion was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS MEETING DATED DECEMBER 8, 2015

A MOTION was made by Mr. DiCenso with a second by Mr. Sill to approve the Minutes of the December 8, 2015 as presented. Mr. Staffieri abstained. **Motion carried.**

VENDOR LICENSE FOR HUMPTY DUMPTY ICE CREAM – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Mr. Sill noted that they have had a vendor license with the City for at least twenty years.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen the Vendor License for Humpty Dumpty Ice Cream. **Motion carried.**

VENDOR LICENSE FOR NICHOLS DOG HOUSE – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Mr. Staffieri questioned since this is on Route 34, which is a state road, is permission needed from the state. Mr. DiCenso said there was a question about whose property it was and it's city property so there's no problem.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Staffieri with a second by Mr. DiCenso to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen the Vendor License for Nichols Dog House. **Motion carried.**

VENDOR LICENSE FOR COMCAST XFINITY – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Mr. Sill said this is an addition to the agenda and it is for a vendor license for Comcast Xfinity to go door to door soliciting.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to bring the Vendor Permit License for Comcast Xfinity to go door to door soliciting to the full Board of Aldermen meeting. **Motion carried.**

STERLING OPERA HOUSE – AWARENESS STRATEGIES – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Terry Curtis informed the committee that he is not a local resident but has lived in Connecticut for the past thirteen years. He is a financial advisor with an emphasis on marketing and a client asked him to walk through the Sterling Opera House. Mr. Curtis said he is in total awe of the building but is heartbroken about the building's interior deterioration. He told the committee that he has been in touch with some local people who would like to establish a non-profit – not a large board – just a few to keep interest focused on the property. Mr. Curtis feels a smaller board would be more effective. The primary goal is to have the building operational. Some of their efforts would concentrate on the following:

- Build on the positives such as the exterior improvements and structural reports.
- Focus on grass roots fundraising and grants; sponsorships, legacy, as well as traditional fundraising with a goal toward creating an endowment fund.
- Work with the community to bring to pass a vision that it will support.
- Leverage the old city hall space with "arts" tenants to pay on-going expenses and revenue generating performances.
- Set up a non-profit with the sole purpose to focus on the Sterling.
- Long-term lease from the City to assure certain metrics are met.

- An option would be to have \$50,000 net raised in the first 12 months of operations and increase that by 10% each year.
- The first tenant would be secured within the first five years and have theater functional within ten years.

Mr. Staffieri said a 501(c) 3 would need to be created. He also noted that the offices could be used as costume rooms – you would need a lot of support space.

Mr. Curtis said an elevator would be needed in order to transport items to the stage.

Mr. Sill noted that this was one of Mr. Staffieri's projects. Mr. Staffieri informed the committee that Long Wharf Theater was once considering moving to Derby. There are always groups looking. Mr. Curtis said access and egress is also a major element that would need to be addressed. He said he would be able to have a Lease prepared in time for the next Board of Aldermen meeting. There is a lawyer who will be doing pro bono work. Mr. Sill said he would love to see something happen with the Sterling.

A MOTION was made by Mr. DiCenso with a second by Mr. Staffieri to bring the Sterling Opera House awareness strategies to the full Board of Aldermen for discussion purposes only. **Motion carried.**

SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY – INSTALLATION OF SENSUS TOWER ON COTTAGE STREET – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Beth Nesteriak from the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority is present to answer any all questions regarding this proposal. Ms. Nesteriak informed the committee that the SCCRW is getting ready to kick off their project, which would enable the SCCRW to read meter remotely, and this is a key element to the project – the installation of the M400 Base Station Outdoor Cabinet at the Derby Fire Hall Tower on Cottage Street. Mr. Sill asked if this would cause any interference. Ms. Nesteriak said they do not anticipate any interference. Mr. Sill questioned whether we would have to notify the residents in the area. Ms. Nesteriak said she doesn't think that would be necessary since it is already an existing tower.

Atty. Welch said it doesn't come into the jurisdiction of the Siting Council. He asked Ms. Nesteriak if a payment is made to the City for the use of the tower. Ms. Nesteriak said they can do the research on how much would be appropriate to pay for compensation.

A MOTION was made by Mr. DiCenso with a second by Mr. Staffieri to recommend for approval to the full Board of Aldermen the request from South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority to install a Sensus Tower on Cottage Street.

DERBY HIGH SCHOOL ADDRESS CHANGE FROM NUTMEG AVENUE TO CHATFIELD STREET – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Dr. Conway said it has been brought to his attention by the Director of Public Works and the Chief of Police that due to the way that a number of on-line mapping services work now (Google Maps, Map Quest) because the address of the high school and middle school is 8 Nutmeg and 10 Nutmeg it is routing people up Nutmeg as opposed to Chatfield. Neighbors have complained during the time that I have been here. Dr. Conway said they have informed their regular delivery services and buses that they are prohibited from using Nutmeg; however if you get a substitute delivery driver or bus driver might not know to use this route. It continues to be an issue. It's not the safest road to travel on. Kids are always walking on that road. He would suggest changing the address of the high school and middle school. The piece of road between Chatfield and Nutmeg is actually Board of Education property so it can be named something different. Dr. Conway said the problem with naming it something different – immediately people start talking about Raider Way or things like that – would be great but he doesn't know if that would correct the problem that we're trying to correct unless we name it Chatfield where then it would pick up Chatfield Street as opposed to Nutmeg. He said the Board of Education has been made aware of this and they are in favor of renaming it.

Mr. Sill said here have been complaints from the neighbors. Atty. Welch said is the usual process that the City Engineer would issue the number. It was noted that the City Engineer would issue the number. Dr. Conway said they don't understand how the schools received 8 and 10 since they are on different sides of the street. Mr. DeFala said he would suggest changing it to a Chatfield Street address.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Staffieri with a second by Mr. DiCenso to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen the approval to change the Derby High School and Derby Middle School addresses from Nutmeg Avenue to Chatfield Street. **Motion carried.**

CITY OF DERBY'S GREENWAY TRAIL – UPKEEP/PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE – DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Mr. DeFala said everyone should have a copy of his report. The Greenway Trail is a ten year old product and we have gotten our life out of it. It is not in good shape – it's dangerous and there have been some incidents on the Greenway. I have provided a cost estimate to replace using the same product. There is also a cost estimate using another product, which would give us a greater longevity. The price would be a 60% increase from the original product. The total price would be approximately \$250,000. He would recommend using the same product and establishing a fund for the yearly upkeep of this Greenway. It is a widely used facility – used by many people every day. Mr. DeFala said people lean against the rails and they just break. There is approximately three miles of fencing. He said Ms. Cable is looking for money for the trail. Mr. Sill asked if the replacement would be done all at the same time. Mr. DeFala said that would be his ideal plan. He said there are some areas that are worse than others. He referred everyone to the report that was generated by the Lower Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments that shows the traffic on the trail.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to bring the discussion of Derby's Greenway Trail's upkeep and preventative maintenance to the full Board of Aldermen.

DISCUSSION ON MOTION

Atty. Welch said we're bringing this to the full Board of Aldermen to seek grants. Mr. DeFala asked if Board of Aldermen permission is needed to seek grants. The answer was no. He said if we can't get grant money then we're going to have to look at possibly having it added to the Capital Plan. He said a fund needs to be set up separate from Public Works. If the fund is established it should be funded every year.

MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Patty Finn
Recording Secretary

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.