

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
March 28, 2017

PRESENT: Chairperson Mixon, Members Randolph, Hegy, Carroll

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Volkert, City Engineer Schall, Director of Community Development Drew

Chairperson Mixon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers of Hartford City Hall, 109 North Main Street.

Roll Call – All members of the Committee were present.

Public Comment Period – The owner of Second Chance Ventures who is redeveloping two properties in the downtown spoke in support of adding the South Main Street parking lot to the list of municipal lots that allow overnight parking for downtown residents. His properties will include residential apartments. He read a letter from downtown property owner Tom Wenzel in support of the proposal. Dave Morey, owner of 20-22 South Main Street, expressed concern that tenant parking could take up about ½ of the parking lot, which will leave very little space for customer parking.

2017 Construction Schedule – City Engineer Schall provided information on the major construction projects for 2017, and responded to questions.

MS4 General Permit – City Engineer Schall provided information on the 2016 annual report under MS4 General Permit, and responded to questions. The report outlines the storm water activities, programs, policies and ordinances followed by the City of Hartford in order to maintain compliance with minimum measures required under the permit.

Industrial Park / Truck Signage – A request was made to review the effectiveness of the Industrial Park/Truck Signs that were installed in 2016. The signs appeared to be somewhat effective after installation. However, as time has passed, it appears they are becoming less effective at reducing the number of trucks utilizing North Main Street. Staff has reviewed the signs and discussed several options for reducing the trucks utilizing North Main Street to get to the industrial park. The following options have been discussed:

- Adding flashing lights to the existing signs to increase visibility
- Changing the signs to a symbol and arrow for easier interpretation
- Restrict truck traffic in residential neighborhoods
- Try to get the various mapping applications to change the recommended route
- Increase efforts with the local industries to educate drivers about the preferred route

City Engineer Schall provided information on the options, including some of the challenges with each option. The Committee discussed the different options that were brought forward.

Public Works Committee (3/28/2017)

Tenant Parking – The owners of Second Chance Ventures are in the process of redeveloping the Hilt Building (10-14 South Main Street) and the Welsch Building (100-104 North Main Street). When complete, each building would have 5 high end apartments. Neither property has its own parking lot. They are seeking a change to Chapter 340 to add the South Main Street parking lot to the list of lots that allow overnight parking with a permit. This lot has 35 stalls and is located just south of the Pour House Bar. In order for the new apartments to be successful, convenient parking is needed. As a result, staff supports the proposed change. The Committee discussed this item. It was the consensus that more information be brought forward with the specifics for the parking lot.

Adjournment – MOTION by Alderperson Randolph, and seconded by Alderperson Carroll for adjournment. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Hetzel, City Clerk

LH:pb
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Compiled by Pat Borlen, Deputy Clerk