Operations Committee - Board of Representatives

John Zelinsky, Jr., Vice Chair



Jonathan Jacobson, Chair

Committee Report

Date:Monday, August 26, 2019Time:7:00 p.m.Place:Republic Caucus Room, 4th Floor, Government Center, 888
Washington Boulevard

The Operations Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Jacobson, Vice Chair Zelinsky and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Lee, Mahoney and Watkins. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Coleman, Sherwood and Spadaccini. Also in attendance were Rep. Alice Liebson; Lou Casolo, Engineering Dept.; Tyler Theder, Regulatory and Compliance Officer; Ted Ferrarone, BLT; State Rep. David Michel; and members of the public.

Chair Jacobson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
¹ 1. O30.053	REVIEW; Electrical Expenditures of City Streetlights and Costs of Next Generation Replacement Lights. 07/03/19 – Submitted by Rep. Lee 07/30/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0	HELD
² 4. O30.056	REVIEW; Explosion at Wastewater Treatment Plant on August 1, 2019. 08/07/19 – Submitted by Rep. Sherwood	HELD
³ 3. <u>O30.055</u>	REVIEW; Potential Ordinance for Green Rooftops for New High Density and Commercial Construction Projects in Stamford. 08/07/19 – Submitted by Rep. Jacobson	REPORT MADE

¹ Video Time Stamp: 00:00:58

² Video Time Stamp: 00:01:40

³ Video Time Stamp: 00:04:17

- The BOR does not have the authority to create an ordinance such as this. This can only be done through the Planning and Zoning Board or another similar entity in the City.
- There are alternative methods through which this can be enforced.
- The green roof initiative is very important and perhaps a BOR resolution should be considered.
- There is presently a green roof at the Rogers International School.
- Green roofs prevent heat sinks from forming, which lead to electrical burnouts.
- Land Use Bureau Chief Ralph Blessing is working on a proposed ordinance to empower the BOR to enact an environmental impact rating system for all buildings.

REPORT MADE

 ⁴2. O30.054 REVIEW; The Adequacy and Maintenance Status of the Storm Water System in Light of Flooding Experienced During the Heavy Rainfalls in July.
08/07/19 – Submitted by Reps. Watkins & Michelson

- During heavy rain events there is flooding in Shippan and City-wide.
- Is the sewer infrastructure adequate for Stamford's current and future needs?
- Mr. Casolo and Mr. Theder are working to create a comprehensive City-wide drainage manual, which will assist in standardizing the rules of building permits.
- Between 7/1/18 6/30/19, 1900 catch basins were cleaned and inspected, with 3,600 tons of material removed.
- Street sweeping collects material before it reaches the catch basins. Last year approximately 11 million pounds of material combined from street sweeping and catch basin cleaning was prevented from going into the water.
- Upgrades to sewer systems are very disruptive to neighborhoods, and take a lot of time and money.
- Are the problems in Shippan due to old or undersized drainage systems?
- The drainage systems work fine in normal weather.
- Flooding under the train bridges is due to very low points and will require significant improvements.
- Residential permit applications are reviewed to see if they negatively impact the drainage system. A grade adjustment on a property cannot affect another property.
- The GIS department is working on updating the mapping of the City's sanitary system and drainage system. Mr. Theder uses this mapping system as a tool when there is a problem.

⁴ Video Time Stamp: 00:09:35

- A hydrolic study would be needed to determine the needs of the entire infrastructure of the City.
- After a storm the City should look at the areas that flooded and determine why it happened.
- Mr. Casolo will contact the CT DOT engineers doing the Atlantic Street project to determine how flooding will be prevented in the future, and get this information back to the Committee.
- ⁵5. O30.051 REVIEW; Pool of Water on Roadway Caused by BLT Construction at 39 Woodland Avenue. 07/03/19 – Submitted by Rep. Adams
 - Rep. Adams would like an immediate temporary fix, but the road is in need of a long term solution.
 - Mr. Casolo explained the <u>attached</u> diagrams and photos of the issues at 39 Woodland Avenue and 6 Woodland Avenue.
 - Mr. Casolo made a recommendation for a short term solution to install a drainage basin, and the City and BLT will share the cost, since there was a pre-existing condition, and it was made worse with BLT construction. BLT has agreed that is reasonable.
 - Quickest turnaround would be to have the Harbor Point civil designer make a design for the City to review, and perhaps the City would approve and reimburse the cost of using BLT contractors.
 - Mr. Ferrarone discussed the <u>attached</u> photos from Google maps, showing that Woodland Avenue had been a road in disrepair before BLT began work. He stated that he and the BLT team take offense that the agenda states this problem was "caused by BLT construction".

⁶6. O30.052 REVIEW; Water Running into 6 Woodland **REPORT MADE** Avenue due to Land Elevation by BLT. 07/03/19 – Submitted by Rep. Adams

Chair Jacobson turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Zelinsky and excused himself due to another commitment.

- Rep. Adams explained this is the area where Atlantic Street and Woodland Avenue was elevated. The elevation was done around 2011-2012. The committee referred to the <u>attached</u> photos and diagrams.
- Everything is pitched towards the street except the back of the sidewalk, which is why it affects this property.
- The simplest solution is to install a pipe and catch basin near the manhole, which would be on City property and it would catch some of the water before it gets into the yard.

⁵ Video Time Stamp: 01:02:35

⁶ Video Time Stamp: 01:23:40

• The residents have been dealing with this issue for almost eight years and would like to see a solution.

Vice Chair Zelinsky adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Jacobson, Chair

This meeting is on <u>video</u>.