

PRESENT: Marshall, Cordeiro, Parella (arrived at 7:40 o'clock PM) and Barboza (arrived at 7:14 o'clock PM)

ABSENT: Herreshoff

ALSO PRESENT: Diane C. Mederos, Town Administrator
Kevin Aguiar, Project Manager, BETA Group

The Council met in special session on Wednesday evening, September 22, 2010, in the Town Hall, Council Chambers, beginning at 7:10 o'clock PM (a quorum was present at 7:14 o'clock PM with the arrival of Councilman Barboza), Council Chairman Marshall presiding:

1. Tanyard Brook Project

Council Chairman Marshall asked to know if the plans for the Phase I rehabilitation of Tanyard Brook could be made available on the Town's website with Mr. Aguiar responding that he could provide a PDF image of the plans.

It was agreed that Mr. Aguiar would provide the PDF file for the Clerk and that the Clerk will transmit same to the Webmaster for inclusion on the website.

Mr. Aguiar provided a brief recap of the Council's previous meetings regarding this project and explained that the design has been complete for some time.

(Councilman Barboza arrived at this point in the meeting 7:14 o'clock PM)

Mr. Aguiar added that the plan is to rehabilitate approximately fifteen hundred feet (1500') of the Tanyard Brook; from Walker's Cove to Garfield Avenue; this being the first phase of rehabilitating the Brook which runs further north to the reservoir on State Street.

Mr. Aguiar reported that the project has been approved by the State Department of Environmental Management (DEM) and the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC). He explained that the remaining State permit will come from the Department of Transportation (DOT) since the Brook crosses under Hope Street (RI Route 114) and that it will be necessary for that portion of the Street to be closed for approximately two (2) weeks with traffic detoured through an approved alternate route, particularly for the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority

(RIPTA) buses. He further reported that the DOT approval should be received shortly.

Mr. Aguiar further explained that the basic plan is to replace the existing deteriorated stone and corrugated steel culvert with a new 4 X 9 foot concrete box culvert. He added that the portion crossing Wood Street will consist of twin 3 X 6 foot box culverts since these must cross over an existing sewer line.

Mr. Aguiar explained that the initial plan was to bid the project in the fall of this year in order to allow time for the chosen contractor to prepare the various utility modifications prior to the installation of the culvert. It was noted that the State permits require that the wetland areas within the work area may be disturbed only during the period of time from July 1 until October 30. He added that the Town will likely choose not to work on the project during the Independence Day holiday period.

Mr. Aguiar informed the Council that he investigated its earlier request to build the project larger than that which will accommodate a ten (10) year storm and that the practical answer is that "we really can't." He explained that the elevations, existence of utilities, etc., have made additional capacity impossible and that the current design has not substantially changed since the earlier meeting with the Council with the exception of some changes to the relocation of utilities; these undertaken based upon information provided by the neighbors and the utility companies.

Councilman Barboza thanked Mr. Aguiar for a "thorough presentation" and explained that he was tardy due to another commitment on behalf of the Town.

Mr. Aguiar suggested that the project will still be bid this fall and that remaining were only some small details to the overall plan. He also informed the Council that he anticipates some "aggressive" bids and suggested that the project will be bid in late October with a required start date in March of 2011.

A discussion ensued regarding the proposal for detouring traffic from Hope Street during construction with Town Administrator Mederos asking to know if two (2) weeks will be necessary.

Mr. Aguiar replied that the plan expects two (2) weeks but it will be to the advantage of the contractor to finish the work

sooner since there are additional time-related costs associated with the street closure.

An unidentified member the audience asked to know why there might be construction in the spring since this is the rainy season with Mr. Aguiar responding that the initial work will involve the relocation of utilities and not the construction of the culvert which will likely take place in the drier months.

Another unidentified member of the audience asked to know which portion of Hope Street will be closed with Mr. Aguiar responding that this portion will be located on the portion of Hope Street nearest to Ferry Road. He added that the plan will allow access for residents, etc., and also that those residents who may be displaced from the use of their driveways will be provided with temporary parking areas.

Marshall Hapworth of 80 Wood Street asked to know if the culvert will be closed with Mr. Aguiar noting that the culvert north of Wood Street will be comprised of a sealed concrete box shape.

A discussion ensued regarding the type of access to the culvert for cleaning and maintenance with Mr. Aguiar responding that the plan will call for sealed "manholes."

Mr. Hapworth noted that the existing corrugated pipe culvert was severely worn and speculated that it would serve the Brook more effectively if it were not at all present.

Susan Church of 29 Garfield Avenue asked to know if the culvert will carry water only from the State Street reservoir with Mr. Aguiar responding that the culvert will carry water from the entire Tanyard Brook watershed which encompassed a large geographic area north of the proposed culvert.

The first unidentified member of the audience asked to know why the portion of the culvert south of Wood Street will remain partially open with Mr. Aguiar noting that this is an environmental requirement.

Councilwoman Parella arrived at this point in the meeting (7:40 o'clock PM).

Mr. Hapworth asked to know if the newly designed culvert will have a larger capacity with Mr. Aguiar responding affirmatively. He added that much of the existing culvert is in very poor condition especially that portion crossing Hope Street.

Another unidentified member of the audience asked why Constitution Street is considered for the proposed detour when Union Street is apparently wider.

Mr. Aguiar noted that the RIPTA buses must be able to negotiate turning within the detour and that Constitution Street was found to be acceptable for this. He added that he would ask the RIPTA officials to investigate the possibility of Union Street were this to be a superior option overall.

Mr. Aguiar also reported that some of the proposed work will also address some sewer line issues in the area with Mary Gaspar of 24 Garfield Avenue indicating that she was pleased to learn that sewer repairs will be addressed.

Mr. Aguiar clarified that the plans include the installation of under-drains to relieve storm water near some of the existing sewer lines.

Councilwoman Parella apologized for her tardiness due to work responsibilities and asked for a recap of the start date, etc. with Mr. Aguiar briefly recounting the proposed schedule.

Ms. Church asked to know how the new culvert will be joined to the existing culvert north of Garfield Avenue with Mr. Aguiar explaining that this will be accomplished via a concrete "collar."

Ms. Church asked to know if the culvert will be underground with Mr. Aguiar responding that the plan is to have the culvert underground.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know if it may be better to do a larger portion of the area near Garfield Avenue than what is planned with Mr. Aguiar responding that the bid will allow for a price for a linear foot of culvert so as to allow for a larger-scoped project were the funds to be available due to a favorable bid.

Ronald Blanchard of 75 Wood Street asked to know if plans were in place to have curb inlets on Wood Street with Mr. Aguiar responding that there is already an eighteen-inch (18") drainage line in the area containing curb inlets.

Mr. Blanchard asked to know if this line is tied-into the Brook with Mr. Aguiar responding that it is. He added that it may be possible to install additional catch basins in the future.

Council Chairman Marshall asked to know the plan to repair Wood Street after construction with Mr. Aguiar responding that the plan shows surface restoration and that there will be a curb-to-curb repaving completed in 2012.

Mr. Aguiar also described some of the extant sewer and other utility lines in the area and noted the challenges of the project in consideration of these.

Mr. Hapworth asked to know if there was any "wiggle room" in the bid proposal in order to accomplish additional work with Mr. Aguiar noting that this will depend upon the bids received.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know if the bid will include add-alternates with Mr. Aguiar noting that the bid will be designed to protect the interest of the Town and also to avoid expensive change-orders.

Councilwoman Parella suggested that the Town has "one shot" at the Tanyard Brook project and that the plan should be "perfect."

Mr. Aguiar noted that the plan is drawn at a maximum considering the various factors previously discussed.

Councilwoman Parella asked to know what might be done differently were more funds to become available with Mr. Aguiar responding that the additional funds would be best spent to bring the project further north.

A discussion ensued regarding the extant gas main with Mr. Aguiar explaining that this is a cast-iron pipe that will need replacement according to National Grid and that this must be completed at the Town's expense since the Town will be disturbing the ground nearby the pipe; this pipe being susceptible to fracture especially at its joints.

Mr. Aguiar explained that National Grid has been very cooperative regarding this project by providing information, etc., but that they will require that this pipe must be replaced as part of the project.

Councilwoman Parella suggested that the matter might be brought up with officials of National Grid with Town Administrator Mederos noting that it would make sense to do so.

Councilman Cordeiro asked to know if a low bid would guarantee that additional work will be accomplished with Mr. Aguiar

explaining that the Town should be careful not to over-expend when there may be change orders not initially apparent.

Mrs. Gaspar noted that there is a catch basin near 3 Woodlawn Avenue that has never been cleaned.

Town Administrator Mederos agreed to discuss this matter with Public Works Director Serbst.

Council Chairman Marshall thanked the various attendees for their participation this evening.

(Add item)

2. Berta Raposo for St. Elizabeth's Church/Santo Cristo Committee, 577 Wood Street - request for a One-day Dancing and Entertainment License for September 26, 2010
 - a. Berta Raposo for St. Elizabeth Church/Santo Cristo Committee, 577 Wood Street re Class F Intoxicating Beverage License petition for September 26, 2010

Council Chairman Marshall noted his request to add the above item to this evening's agenda.

Barboza/Parella - Voted unanimously to grant this license subject to conformance to all laws and ordinances and payment of all applicable fees, taxes, and levies.

There being no further business, upon a motion by Councilman Barboza, seconded by Councilwoman Parella and voted unanimously, the Chairman declared this meeting to be adjourned at 8:10 o'clock PM.

Louis P. Cirillo, CMC, Council Clerk