

~AD HOC REPORT~
Request for Sewer ~ Johnson Drive Area
Thursday, September 13, 2007

25

Hon. Mark D. Boughton, Mayor
Common Council Members

Chairman Charles Trombetta called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 13, 2007, in the Caucus Room, 3rd Floor, Danbury City Hall, 155 Deer Hill Avenue. Present was Committee member Robert Riley. Ex Officio members: Gregg W. Seabury, Philip Curran and Mary Teicholz. Also present were Director of Public Works Antonio Iadarola, and City Engineer Farid Khouri. In addition, the following individuals were present but not identified at the beginning of the meeting: Tom Gillespie (4 Johnson Drive), Vincente De Paula (10 Johnson Drive), Janet Albanesi (8 Johnson Drive), Peter DiCesare (12 Johnson Drive), Susan Johnson (112 E. Pembroke Road-Johnson Drive), Francine Quinn (2 Johnson Drive), Jim & Faye Cawley (5 Johnson Drive), Norman Cutler (7 Pembroke Terrace), and Mr. Fagnaseo (5 Pembroke Terrace). Other individuals arrived while the meeting was being conducted but not identified.

Chairman Trombetta explained the purpose of the evening's meeting was to consider a request for sewers for the Johnson Drive Area.

Chairman Trombetta asked Antonio Iadarola to provide everyone with some background regarding the request before the Committee. Mr. Iadarola explained that before the Committee was a petition for an assessment project. Currently, the Engineering Department is working on 42 similar projects that vary in complexity. The desired outcome of the evening's meeting would be to authorize the Engineering Department to proceed with the preliminary engineering and perform a mail survey to determine how many residents desire the sewer extension and how many do not wish to have the sewer extension. The Common Council would then conduct a Public Hearing, the results would be reviewed, and then the Council would vote on whether or not it would become an assessment project. It is a lengthy process, but the Johnson Drive Area project does not appear to be complicated. There is a 10-inch sewer that runs down Route 37 which the Johnson Drive Area has the ability to connect to. It is the most feasible and economic connection. Because the properties are elevated, the connection should be easy. Mr. Iadarola did not foresee any major engineering issues arising. However, he noted the formalities that needed to be accomplished prior to proceeding with the project. Councilman Riley made note that the Planning Commission approved the project. Resident Francine Quinn noted that the odd numbered homes were not included because they abut Route 37 and currently have the option for sewer hook up which would be a cheaper alternative for those homeowners. Ms. Quinn did not want the fact of the odd numbered homes current option for hook up to affect the proposed project for the even numbered homes. Mr. Iadarola noted a future project wherein Route 37 would be widened and some retaining walls installed which would make it more difficult for certain homes to hook up to the Route 37 sewer line. An unidentified man noted his desire to connect to Route 37 as the plumbing in his home is located to the rear of his home. In order for him to hook up with Johnson Drive, he would have to relocate the plumbing in his home. Mr. Iadarola informed everyone that he would discuss the project with the state in light of the possible connection issues to Route 37 for some of the residents. They may have no other alternative but to connect to Johnson Drive should the state not allow the residents to hook up to the Route 37 line. An unidentified man asked what the timeframe was for the project. Mr. Iadarola reiterated the 42 projects that are currently slated and was unable to provide an answer. While the project is easier than some currently scheduled, Mr. Iadarola explained the complications that would occur should projects be taken out of the order they have been scheduled. The unidentified man asked if there was anything that could be done as a community to expedite the process. Mr. Iadarola noted that the residents have the option to have the connections made through private means and the City's department would assist in any way possible. The end result is the same minus the City's involvement. The only foreseeable problem would be getting everyone's cooperation in the neighborhood and sales of homes during

the project. Should it be a City project, once the Common Council approves the project, then a lien notice is placed on the property which is transferred from owner to owner to make them aware of an upcoming expense they would be required to pay for.

A motion was made by Councilman Riley and seconded by Chairman Trombetta that the Committee recommends to the Common Council that they approve the request for sewers for the Johnson Drive area and allow the Engineering Department to perform a preliminary mail survey to gain input from the residents. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Riley and seconded by Chairman Trombetta. The motion carried unanimously at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Trombetta, Chairman

Robert Riley