

Albert LaValley, Chair Edward Moynihan, Vice Chair Adrian Angus Conor McCormack Brandon King

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

Remote participation only

available via WebEx online at https://cow.webex.com/meet/planningboardwebex and call-in number 1-844-621-3956 (Access Code: 2633 685 5101).

Board Members Present: Albert LaValley, Chair (Participated Remotely)

Brandon King (*Participated Remotely*) Adrian Angus (*Participated Remotely*)

Board Members Absent: Edward Moynihan, Vice Chair

Conor McCormack

Staff Present: Michelle Smith, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services (DPRS) (Participated

Remotely)

Olivia Holden, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services (DPRS) (Participated

Remotely)

Sean Quinlivan, Department of Public Works & Parks (DPW&P) (Participated Remotely) Matt Rabasco, Department of Public Works & Parks (DPW&P) (Participated Remotely)

Call to Order

Board Chair Albert LaValley called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

Other Business

15. Approval Not Required (ANR) Plans

- a. AN-2024-038 50 Barrows Road (Public)
- b. AN-2024-039 231 Mountain Street East (Public)
- c. AN-2024-043 3 Military Road (Public)

Olivia Holden of DPRS described the ANRs before the Board. Ms. Holden stated the ANR for 3 Military Road is not properly before the Board at this time.

On a motion by Mr. King seconded by Mr. Angus; the Board voted 3-0 to endorse the ANRs for items 1a-b.

16. Street Petitions

a. ST-2024-010 – Pocasset Avenue (Convert to Public)

Matt Rabasco of DPW described the street petition for public conversion of Pocasset Avenue and stated DPW has issued a priority level 3 recommendation.

Public Comment:

Richard Glasberg, Worcester resident, stated he submitted the petition for this item and that it had been submitted as a petition a long time ago but it expired and was previously assigned a priority 1 designation. Mr. Glasberg asked for an explanation as to why the priority level has changed and what the differences are between each priority level designation; Mr. LaValley stated he'll defer to DPW for an explanation on the priority levels and described how the municipal process works for street conversion petitions.

Michelle Smith of DPRS commented on the process and timeline for petitions of street conversions. She stated residents may also opt to privately fund a private street conversion.

Sean Quinlivan of DPW stated he doesn't have the exact priority conditions on hand at this moment and explained that priority recommendations are based off developed frontage, existing utilities, cost, and engineering difficulties. Mr. Quinlivan explained the existing conditions on Pocasset Avenue which led to their recommendation of a priority level 3 recommendation and invited Mr. Glasberg to contact his office to discuss further. Mr. Quinlivan stated he can't speak to the prior recommendation and noted that it was handled under an entirely different administration and things have changed considerably since then.

Mr. Glasberg stated the residents would pay for the cost of the street improvements via lump sum or through their property taxes, taking on the burden of the costs; Mr. Quinlivan confirmed that is correct, however, the city must front the money to do the construction first.

Mr. LaValley suggested that Mr. Glasberg contact the DPW office in the morning to discuss further; Mr. Quinlivan provided contact information to get in contact.

On a motion by Mr. King seconded by Mr. Angus, the Board voted 3-0 to close the public hearing.

On a motion Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Angus, the Board voted 3-0 to recommend in favor of DPW's priority level 3 recommendation.

17. Communications

No Discussion.

19. Board Policy and Procedures

No discussion.

20. Approval of Minutes

No discussion.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Angus, seconded by Mr. King, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:51pm.