

RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 9:52 am, Aug 29, 2022



Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting

August 22, 2022
4:00 P.M.

The minutes reflect motions and a summary of the discussion. Refer to the attached link for the recording of this meeting:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4ZpzIL_T5M

Jean Speck, Rufus deRham and Glenn Sanchez.

Also present: Darlene Brady, Mike Doherty, Ruth Epstein, Chris Garrity, Mike Gawel, John Grant, Lynn Harrington, Donna Hayes, Rob Hayes, Leila Hawkins, Alice Hicks, John Johnson, Caitlyn Lynch, Justin Money, Jack Nelson, Rick Osborne, Elissa Potts, Michael Reynolds, Wes Wyrick, Lisa Wolak and Lynn Worthington.

Call to order:

Jean Speck called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Jean Speck made a motion to approve the Bos Regular meeting minutes of August 4, 2022, as submitted. Glenn Sanchez seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Public Comment of agenda items:

None.

Correspondence:

- August 10, 2022 Email from Mike Gawel "Granite curbing."
 - Mike Doherty's written response attached.
- August 10, 2022 Email from Elissa Potts, "Streetscape Communication."
 - Jean Speck committed to sending out a weekly streetscape status report on Fridays.
 - Jean Speck's written response attached.
- August 1, 2022 Letter from State of CT, "EM-VER-068-220627 – Cello Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless notice of intent to modify an existing telecommunication facility located at 136 Bulls Bridge Road, Connecticut

- August 20, 2022 Email from Justin Money, "Further concerns about the construction Kent CT."
 - Jean Speck's written response attached.
- August 19, 2022 Email from Elissa Potts. "I am so disappointed."
- August 20, 2022 Email from Mike Gawel, "Streetscape Project."
- August 21, 2022 Email from Chris Harrington, "Sidewalk construction."
 - Jean Speck's written response attached.

Tax Refunds:

None.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer did not attend the meeting and did not provide a report.

Accept and possibly act on the recommendation from Streetscape Committee, request change order to include cradling the curbing in concrete:

The Town of Kent Streetscape Building Sub-committee made the following motion at its August 12, 2022 meeting, minutes attached:

Mr. Gawel moved that the Committee recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they request a change order issued by SLR Consulting requiring the curbing to be fully cradled in concrete, as discussed at this meeting.

Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Jean Speck:

- Covered under written correspondences.

Mike Gawel:

- State statute, does not say anything against a concrete cradle.
- Requested, in writing, where it states that "we" can't cradle the concrete.

Accept and act on the recommendation from the P&Z Inland Wetlands Hiring subcommittee to hire the new Land Use Administrator:

Rufus deRham made the following motion:

To hire Tia Kern as the Land Use Administrator, effective on or about September 6, 2022, based on a 35-hour work week with an annual salary of \$81,000 and an additional immediate increase of \$1,000 per year upon successful achievement of the CAZEO certification. This increase is in addition to any budgeted subsequent salary increases.

Glenn Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jean Speck requested a letter of resignation from current Land Use Administrator Donna Hayes.

BOE request for a School Resource Office – update:

Jean Speck:

- Recapped the request made by the BoE to the BoF, to request \$143,00 be put toward the initial year for the SRO.
- No motion was made by the BoF to approve the BoE's request.
- Will follow up with Randy tomorrow to reword the motion for the hearing and subsequent referendum.
- Will prepare a power point with the information received from Trooper L for the Town meeting.

COVID -19 pandemic update:

Jean Speck:

- Numbers are not bad
- Home test results do not get reported to the state.
- Selectman's Office has home test kits and masks.

Deputy Emergency Management Director job description:

Jean Speck:

- Sent the job description to DEMHS for review.

Emergency Management Director job description:

Jean Speck:

- Sent the job description to DEMHS for review.

EV Charging Station:

Jean Speck:

- Waiting to hear back from Eversource.

Flag policy update:

Jean Speck:

- Fallen through the cracks, will pull it back out.

Main Street Traffic and Noise report – update:

Jean Speck:

- Received a call from DOT requesting basic information.
- Could be four to five months before we receive a response.

Policy and Procedure Manual – update:

Jean Speck:

- Contacted Employment Lawyer Mike Rose on the instruction of CIRMA and Town Attorney recommendation, to provide a dollar amount to take us through a review of the manual.
- Hope to hear something back next week.

Review and possible approval of the Community Resilience Building Workshop Summary Finding report:

Glenn Sanchez:

- Had questions regarding establishing emergency management as a formal department and creating a fulltime position.

Jean Speck:

- Anticipate the report to be back with correction next week for approval at the next BoS meeting.
- The emergency management information came from the Hazardous Mitigation Plan.
- This is a document not a plan.
- This report is not for planning or operational purposes.
- This report is really a high-level wish list.

Salary review - Management review:

Jean Speck:

- Nothing to report.
- Can ask Mike Rose for input.
- Needs to send current COG salary survey to board members.

Streetscape update:

Justin Money:

- Discussed in more detail the contents of his August 20, 2022 email (attached).
- Expressed concern with the design issues.
- Concerned with the design of the granite curbing installation:
 - Poor compaction.
 - Inadequate installation of concrete holding the granite curbing in place.
 - The granite being installed is 15-17", the granite in the plans is 18", that means less granite in the ground.
 - Dissatisfied with the interface of the granite installed.
- Concerned with the use of straight curbing cut down to short sections to make a polygonal curve.

Mike Doherty:

- Reiterated his response to Justin's email, which he did respond to in writing (attached).
- Curbing being put in on a radius that calls for a radius curving, that curbing will be ripped out.
- That will be corrected.

Swift House: ADA Checklist for existing Facilities review:

Jean Speck:

- I am going to meet with John Worthington this week.
- We will have a number or a prioritized list.

Town Hall large meeting room video conference system update:

Written report attached.

BOS Subcommittee Reports:

ARPA Needs Assessment Committee:

Jean Speck:

- Will confirm with ARPA Chairman Connie Manes to disband the sub-committee as they have met their charge.

Rufus deRham:

- Requested a bi-weekly ARPA report from the treasurer.

Affordable Housing Plan Steering Committee:

Jean Speck:

- Affordable Housing plan is currently out.
- The committee will review the survey results.

Broadband Working Group:

Jean Speck:

- No further updates.
- COG is going to take this from the regional perspective.

Kent Sustainability Team:

Jean Speck:

- Meeting in the next couple of weeks.
- Working on different action items.

KVFD/Ambulance staffing subcommittee:

Jean Speck:

- The group has not met in a couple of months.
- Bonnie looking to getting a meeting on the docket for the next couple of weeks.

Main Street Noise and Traffic Committee:

Glenn Sanchez:

- Next meeting September 1st.
- Have been focusing on enforcement.
- A lot of questions about the current trooper have been answered in the presentation for the proposed SRO.
- Second report to the BoS soon.

Streetscape Building Committee:

Jean Speck:

- Already discussed.

Swift House Task Force:

Jean Speck:

- Survey is out.

Glenn Sanchez:

- Good that Jean is going to meet with John Worthington.
- At the last SHTF meeting some frustration about where to go from here.

Selectmen's Reports:

Glenn Sanchez:

- Status of the rooster situation?

Jean Speck:

- No information on the status of the rooster situation.
- The Lindsey's have declined to be members of the Veteran's Memorial Advisory Committee.
- Authorized and oversee three highway employees to block North Kent (this side), North Kent Road (off Skiff Mt. Road) and River Road on the weekends.

Public Comment:

Donna Hayes:

- Status of the rooster situation?
- Asked that the Land Use office be kept in the loop, as people are asking if there will be a change to the regulations.
- Affordable Housing plan will be presented at the September 8, 2022 Planning and Zoning meeting.
- Overtime for the highway department to block the roads on the weekends
 - Where is the money budgeted?
 - Why is CERT not being utilized?
- Status of flag pole?

Jean Speck removed the flag pole from the agenda because it is a budget item and should be talked about at budget season.

Adjourn:

Jean Speck made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 p.m. Glenn Sanchez seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Joyce Kearns

Joyce Kearns

Administrative Assistant

These are draft minutes and the Board of Selectmen at the subsequent meeting may make corrections. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval.

RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 11:18 am, Aug 17, 2022



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Special Meeting Agenda
August 22, 2022 4:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89791736233>
Meeting ID: 897 9173 6233
One tap mobile: +16465588656,,89791736233# US (New York)

Supporting documentation for this meeting:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/108HdMPQviyfufBQA3TI-f6hoyog4oCtn>

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - 2.1. August 4, 2022. Regular Meeting
3. Public Comment of agenda items.
4. Correspondence
 - 4.1. August 10, 2022 Email from Mike Gawel "Granite curbing."
 - 4.2. August 10, 2022 Email from Elissa Potts, "Streetscape Communication."
August 12, 2022 Email from Jean Speck, "Streetscape Communication."
 - 4.3. August 1, 2022 Letter from State of CT, "EM-VER-068-220627 – Cello Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless notice of intent to modify an existing telecommunication facility located at 136 Bulls Bridge Road, Connecticut
5. Tax Refunds
6. Treasurer's Report
7. New Business
 - 7.1. Accept and possibly act on the recommendation from Streetscape Committee, request change order to include cradling the curbing in concrete.
 - 7.2. Accept and act on the recommendation from the P&Z Inland Wetlands Hiring subcommittee to hire the new Land Use Administrator.
8. Old Business
 - 8.1. BOE request for a School Resource Office – update.
 - 8.2. COVID -19 pandemic update.
 - 8.3. Deputy Emergency Management Director job description.
 - 8.4. Emergency Management Director job description.
 - 8.5. EV Charging Station.

- 8.6. Flag policy update.
- 8.7. Main Street Traffic and Noise report – update.
- 8.8. Policy and Procedure Manual – update.
- 8.9. Review and possible approval of the Community Resilience Building Workshop Summary Finding report.
- 8.10. Salary review - Management review.
- 8.11. Streetscape update.
- 8.12. Swift House: ADA Checklist for existing Facilities review.
- 8.13. Town Hall large meeting room video conference system update.
- 9. BOS Subcommittee Reports
 - 9.1. ARPA Needs Assessment Committee.
 - 9.2. Affordable Housing Plan Steering Committee.
 - 9.3. Broadband Working Group.
 - 9.4. Kent Sustainability Team.
 - 9.5. KVFD/Ambulance staffing subcommittee.
 - 9.6. Main Street Noise and Traffic Committee.
 - 9.7. Streetscape Building Committee.
 - 9.8. Swift House Task Force.
- 10. Selectmen's Reports.
- 11. Public Comment
- 12. Adjourn



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Fwd: Granite curbing

1 message

Mike Gawel <mikegawel@gmail.com>

Wed, Aug 10, 2022 at 11:22 AM

To: Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mike Gawel <mikegawel@gmail.com>**Date:** August 10, 2022 at 8:44:31 AM EDT**To:** Jean Speck <firstselectman@townofkentct.org>, Rufus de Rham <bigrufus3343@yahoo.com>, Glen Sanchez <Glennsanchez@townofkentct.org>, Jack <jacknelson@concordenviro.com>, John Johnson <john.adele@charter.net>, Ed Matson <ematson@townofkentct.org>, Rick Osborne <publicworks@townofkentct.org>, Mike Doherty <MDoherty@mminc.com>**Cc:** Mike Gawel <mikegawel@gmail.com>**Subject:** Granite curbing

Good morning all, just when you all thought you might have been rid of me. Fooled you 🤪.

Over the last three days I have taken a look at the curbing being placed on Bridge Street. I'm wondering where the heck our \$200,000.00 engineer is or has been. Justin Money, a local quality mason has looked also and has my same concerns.

First, it sure does not look like there is proper compaction beneath the curbing. Not only is it soft in many places, but I could put my entire hand under a couple of places.

Second, for my entire construction career, it's been my understanding that the granite should be placed IN concrete. The granite in place only has concrete next to it. Just random blotches on the road side and some of it has very little continuous on the sidewalk side.

Third, since aesthetics seems to be the driving feature here, I would think that the installers would at least try and match up the top width of the granite. At least per section. The top of the granite pieces vary quite a bit and there is no way to hide that with the finished product.

Fourth, I noticed that the places where they have placed process, (item 4), proper compaction was not done there either. I'm hoping the engineer will make them dig it down and compact in layers.

Question: what are they backfilling with on the road side? If it is with process, the random blobs of concrete will affect the proper compaction.

In conclusion, I would stop the work and make the engineer sign off on the work. Regardless, I would make them take it out and fix it.

Respectfully,
Mike Gawel

Sent from my iPhone

Good morning all, just when you all thought you might have been rid of me. Fooled you 😊.

Over the last three days I have taken a look at the curbing being placed on Bridge Street. I'm wondering where the heck our \$200,000.00 engineer is or has been. Justin Money, a local quality mason has looked also and has my same concerns.

First, it sure does not look like there is proper compaction beneath the curbing. Not only is it soft in many places, but I could put my entire hand under a couple of places. I was on site Monday and told Mather and their subcontractor as they began the curb installation that all curbing had to be on plate compacted base material. I will make sure all parties are again aware of this requirement and it is adhered to throughout construction.

Second, for my entire construction career, it's been my understanding that the granite should be placed IN concrete. The granite in place only has concrete next to it. Just random blotches on the road side and some of it has very little continuous on the sidewalk side. Granite curbing can be installed on only compacted process base or on concrete, but concrete is not a necessity. The installation detail was revised to include continuous concrete at the back of the curb a min of 5" depth and at all joints. This was done to ensure the pavement repair can accommodate the full 9" of asphalt in the road at the front side of the curbing. The DOT standard detail only calls for concrete at the joints. I have laid granite curb in the past with only concrete at the joints and have had no issues a decade or more later.

Third, since aesthetics seems to be the driving feature here, I would think that the installers would at least try and match up the top width of the granite. At least per section. The top of the granite pieces vary quite a bit and there is no way to hide that with the finished product. This has also been stated previously and we will make sure Mather does the best job possible to keep similar widths of curb abutting each other. That being said the curbing does have deviations that will result in some pieces not matching exactly in width at times. Again, this will be limited to the extent possible. We have inspected the first load of granite delivered and gave a report of findings to the contractor to make them aware of issues in size deviations that are either acceptable or not. Also included was any chipping or cracking deemed structurally or cosmetically an issue that will not be allowed to be installed.

Fourth, I noticed that the places where they have placed process, (item 4), proper compaction was not done there either. I'm hoping the engineer will make them dig it down and compact in layers. **We will review with the contractor and have any soft or improper areas remedied.**

Question: what are they backfilling with on the road side? If it is with process, the random blobs of concrete will affect the proper compaction. **There will be process base and 9" asphalt on the roadside - 6" of HMA S1.0 and 3" of HMA S0.375 will be installed as the pavement repair. If the concrete installed is too high or wide it will be sawcut and removed. This is standard detail/practice that should not cause any issues.**

In conclusion, I would stop the work and make the engineer sign off on the work. Regardless, I would make them take it out and fix it.



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Streetscape Communication

1 message

Elissa Potts <elissa@fifendrum.com>
 To: Selectmen@townofkentct.org
 Cc: john johnson <john.adele@charter.net>

Fri, Aug 12, 2022 at 3:32 PM

Kent Selectman's Office

Kent Green

Kent, CT 06757

Dear Jean

I am writing to you as the owner of 3 businesses, (Fife 'n Drum Restaurant, Inn and Gift Shop), a Kent taxpayer and a past President of the Kent Chamber of Commerce.

With the Streetscape Project at last underway, I am strongly asking you to improve your method of communication with the business community, the Rte 7 "in town" residents and the Kent Community at large.

When I wrote to you on August 1, 2022, I expressed how furious and disappointed I was that there had been no "heads up" regarding the curb cuts... Your newsletter, explaining the mornings events, arrived after 3:00 in the afternoon, well after they had finished for the day. As a business owner, I personally thought it should have been sent the week before, well in advance to keep us informed.

I can not urge you enough to send out a series of timely newsletters.

The first one needs to "clearly" outline the scope of this project. Because we do not have a local newspaper, and with many new residents, you need to re inform the all residents, especially those who are unaware of this project. While I know things can change at a moments notice, the business community needs to be informed about the details and the timeline.

Then, a daily newsletter should be sent at days end or the first thing the next morning informing everyone what was accomplished that day and the plan for the next day.

We know this project has been 14 years in the making, and while we are all thrilled it is happening, the fact remains this could have been completed by now had not "personalities" derailed the project. That being said, as businesses have begun to operate again to provide Kent with a strong "Main Street" retail trade, your office needs to be sensitive to the retail community and keep them informed. Your office owes that to all of us. I hope you have noticed the shrinking retail trade in town, the empty spaces...it's not the Kent of 10 years ago. So the ones remaining, need to be informed.

We are about to encounter |

-Very limited parking

-Excessive road dust in our business and on our buildings

And if it ever rains...mud

-The excessive dust ...will it impact the air conditioning or HVAC systems?

-Weekend traffic, which many of us rely on, will certainly change during this construction

-Leaf Peeping season, usually a business surge that gets us through the winter months, will most likely change this year due to the excessively hot summer

General questions that need to be addressed:

-Directional signs for parking are needed throughout town...**where will parking be?**

-Will both side of Rte 7 be done simultaneously ?

- Will you be the contact person should something happen or will it be the foreman...his name and phone number should be accessible.
- Are the specs for this project available at the Town Hall?

I am sorry to be the one to write, but because I am one of the most visible business, I am constantly asked what ...what ...and more what!

I thought if I reached out to you with the above thoughts and questions, we could simplify both our jobs.
Elissa

--

Elissa G T Potts |
Fife 'n Drum Restaurant and Inn |
P O Box 188 |
53 N Main Street |
Kent, CT 06757 |
860.927.3509 |
Restaurant is Closed Tuesday |
Inn Open 7 Days, Call ahead for Tuesday |
www.fifendrum.com |
www.kentct.com



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Re: Streetscape Communication

1 message

Jean Conlon Speck <firstselectman@townofkentct.org>

Fri, Aug 12, 2022 at 4:35 PM

To: Elissa Potts <elissa@fifendrum.com>

Cc: Selectmen@townofkentct.org, john johnson <john.adele@charter.net>

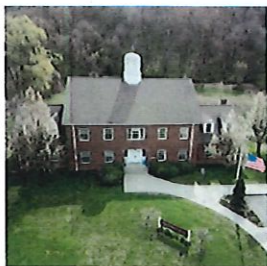
Hi Elissa,

I'm glad you stopped by this afternoon so we could chat in person. As I mentioned, my plan is to send out updates each Friday, with as much "look ahead" information as possible. Due to the Streetscape meeting earlier today, I'm awaiting updated info from the project manager as to the plan for next week. Updates will go out via the town list serv, get posted to the Town fb page, cross-posted to the Kent Community fb page, and the town website. If there are 'just-in-time' updates, I'll do my very best to send them out quickly as well.

I'll also reiterate my contact info and please encourage folks with questions to call me - I'm sorry you've been burdened with being the answer grape!

Have a great weekend!

Stay well,
jean

**Jean Speck (she, her, hers)**

First Selectman, Town of Kent

860.927.4627 | firstselectman@townofkentct.org | www.townofkentct.org[41 Kent Green Boulevard](#)

PO Box 678

Kent, CT | 06757

[Click here to schedule a meeting with me!](#)

Save ink cartridges from extinction - please think twice before printing.

If you received this email in error, please notify us immediately by sending an e-mail or by calling.

[Create your own email signature](#)

On Fri, Aug 12, 2022 at 3:33 PM Elissa Potts <elissa@fifendrum.com> wrote:
Kent Selectman's Office



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 1, 2022

Denise Sabo
Northeast Site Solutions
54 Main Street, Unit 3
Sturbridge, MA 01566-1359
denise@northeastsitesolutions.com

RE: **EM-VER-068-220627** - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless notice of intent to modify an existing telecommunications facility located at 136 Bulls Bridge Road, Kent, Connecticut.

Dear Ms. Sabo:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) hereby acknowledges your notice to modify this existing telecommunications facility, pursuant to Section 16-50j-73 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies with the following conditions:

1. Prior to Verizon's antenna installation, antenna mount modifications shall be installed in accordance with the Mount Analysis prepared by Maser Consulting dated June 13, 2022 and stamped and signed by Derek Hartzell;
2. Within 45 days following completion of equipment installation, Verizon shall provide documentation certified by a Professional Engineer that its installation complied with the recommendations of the Mount Analysis;
3. Any deviation from the proposed modification as specified in this notice and supporting materials submitted to the Council shall render this acknowledgement invalid;
4. Any material changes to this modification as proposed shall require the filing of a new notice with the Council;
5. The Council shall be notified in writing at least two weeks prior to the commencement of site construction activities;
6. Within 45 days after completion of construction, the Council shall be notified in writing that construction has been completed;
7. Deployment of any 5G services must comply with FCC and FAA guidance relative to air navigation, as applicable;
8. Any nonfunctioning antenna and associated antenna mounting equipment, or other equipment at this facility owned and operated by Verizon shall be removed within 60 days of the date the antenna or equipment ceased to function;
9. The validity of this action shall expire one year from the date of this letter; and

10. The applicant may file a request for an extension of time beyond the one year deadline provided that such request is submitted to the Council not less than 60 days prior to the expiration.

The proposed modifications including the placement of all necessary equipment and shelters within the tower compound are to be implemented as specified here and in your notice dated June 22, 2022. The modifications are in compliance with the exception criteria in Section 16-50j-72 (b) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies as changes to an existing facility site that would not increase tower height, extend the boundaries of the tower site by any dimension, increase noise levels at the tower site boundary by six decibels or more, and increase the total radio frequencies electromagnetic radiation power density measured at the tower site boundary to or above the standards adopted by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to Section 704 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and by the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 22a-162. This facility has also been carefully modeled to ensure that radio frequency emissions are conservatively below state and federal standards applicable to the frequencies now used on this tower.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council. Please be advised that the validity of this action shall expire one year from the date of this letter. Any additional change to this facility will require explicit notice to this agency pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 16-50j-73. Such notice shall include all relevant information regarding the proposed change with cumulative worst-case modeling of radio frequency exposure at the closest point of uncontrolled access to the tower base, consistent with Federal Communications Commission, Office of Engineering and Technology, Bulletin 65. Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/MP/emr

c: The Honorable Jean C. Speck, First Selectman, Town of Kent (firstselectman@townofkentct.org)

2



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Further Concerns about the sidewalk Construction Kent, CT

1 message

justin money <irishrockart@hotmail.com>

Sat, Aug 20, 2022 at 6:45 AM

To: "selectmen@townofkentct.org" <selectmen@townofkentct.org>

[Get Outlook for Android](#)

M. Doherty, Board of Selectmen, M. Gawel, J. Nelson, whom it may concern, in addition to the previous issues I raised about the sidewalk construction, I wish to draw your attention to the issues below.

I refer to the *initial* detail "straight granite stone curbing" from the drawings dated Jan 24th 2022 and to a *subsequent* detail drawing "curved and straight granite curbing" (**misdated** Jan 24th 2022).

Jean Speck has informed me that there has been no change of order.

Please find attached initial detail "straight granite stone curbing, subsequent detail "curved and straight granite curbing".

1/ The installed curbing is 5" x 15"-17" not 5" x 18" as in the initial detail. This is why the DOT is not allowing continuous concrete along the sides as shown in the initial detail (to support the shorter curbing the concrete would have to be too high on the street side to leave space for the asphalt paving).

2/The top 5" of the back are shown as "sawn" in the initial detail and "clean" in the subsequent detail. I interpret "clean" to mean ground down so there are no protrusions.

Both details show a "breaker bond material" between the edge of the concrete sidewalk and the edge of the curbing.

In the installation to date, there is no sawn edge, no effort has been made to grind the top 5" of the curbing "clean", nor is there any " breaker bond material" (there is plastic sheeting which is not thick enough to do anything).

This omission is important because when the concrete sidewalk heaves and then settles during the freeze thaw cycle it needs to move up and down independently of the curbing. If the concrete is poured against the rough back of the curb without a space, the concrete, being the softer material, will crack and spall as it moves up and down.

We should insist on this detail going forward and remedy the failure to include it to date by having the contractors cut a 3/8" wide kerf 6" deep between the edge of the concrete sidewalk and the curb so they are physically separated.

3/ The initial detail shows a 1/2" radius rounded edge on the street face (the curved curbing shows a 2" radius). In the installation done to date, there is a barely perceptible "buzz edge".

The 1/2" radius isn't just for aesthetics, it is to stop vehicle tires being cut by the sharp edge of the granite. They can still grind this edge into a 1/2" radius.

4/ The top surface of the granite curbing is shown on both the initial and subsequent detail as "thermal". The installed granite has a sawn top surface. A surface left sawn is very slippery when wet. A thermal surface is rough like sand paper with good traction. This presents safety and liability issues for the town. They can still thermalize the top surface.

On all the above points we are getting an inferior product. I don't understand why the contractors are not constructing the sidewalks as they have been contracted to do.

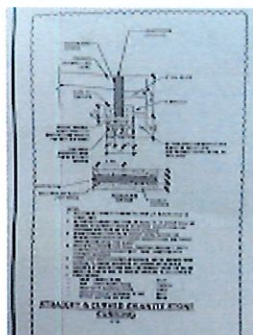
In the event of a change being necessary, it should have been approved by the committee. Instead, we are finding out after construction.

Justin Money

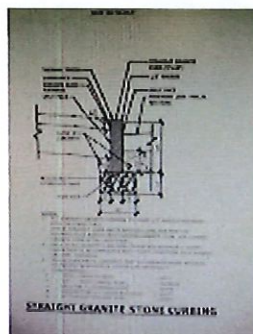
Ph/text 860 2946971

irishrockart@hotmail.com

2 attachments



0819220718.jpg
4302K



0810221844.jpg
7332K



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Re: Further Concerns about the sidewalk Constrution Kent, CT

1 message

Jean Conlon Speck <firstselectman@townofkentct.org>

Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 1:10 PM

To: justin money <irishrockart@hotmail.com>

Cc: "selectmen@townofkentct.org" <selectmen@townofkentct.org>, "Michael T. Doherty" <mtdoherty@slrconsulting.com>, Mike Gawel <mikegawel@gmail.com>, NELSON, JACK <jacknelson@concordenviro.com>

Good afternoon Justin,

See the below response from Mike Doherty at SLR to your email on August 20. In your original email, you addressed Mike Gawel, Mike Doherty and Jack Nelson, but did not include those email addresses. I'm ccing them in this response for visibility.

There have been approved changes to the project documents including during the bid period and after the contract was awarded to the current contractor. This includes a change order for granite curb to be supplied from North Carolina. The town board approved a change order to source the curbing from NC Granite to allow the project to begin this construction season. Due to the local New England suppliers backing out of the project it is likely that no work would have started in 2022. The town was presented an alternate that met the requirements of compressive strength, absorption, and other ASTM testing to ensure the structural qualities of the granite were sufficient. Other design details were not able to be met from the alternate supplier including the thermal top. The product has been used elsewhere including recently in Salisbury, CT which was installed by the current contractor.

1. The height of the curb has nothing to do with CTDOT not allowing a deviation from their standard granite curb installation detail.
2. See response above related to approved design modifications. The plastic keeps each material from having surface to surface contact which provides the bond breaker between the two.
3. See response above related to approved design modifications. The design detail related to varying nosing radii were what kept the granite suppliers from initially providing any pricing for bidders. SLR spoke to the suppliers during the bid period and due to the demand and limited supply at the time they refused to provide the modifications that in past years were accommodated. These changes were made during bidding. The sheet you reference was superseded in a bid addendum dated correctly (in the Revision block of the titleblock) 02/23/2022.

If the town would like to achieve a greater radius on the nosing of the curb, a kerf cut at the back of the curb, or a thermal finish on top a directive will have to be approved and a price request presented to the contractor. Since the contractor is performing the work per the current contract there is no guarantee they will agree to take on the extra task(s).

**Jean Speck (she, her, hers)**

First Selectman, Town of Kent

860.927.4627 | firstselectman@townofkentct.org | www.townofkentct.org

41 Kent Green Boulevard

PO Box 678

Kent, CT | 06757





Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

I am so disappointed

1 message

Elissa Potts <elissa@fifendrum.com>

Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 11:26 PM

To: Selectmen@townofkentct.org

Cc: Zoning Donna Hayes <landuseadmin@townofkentct.org>

Jean

Why do you continually not follow through???

I sent you an email last Wed 8/10. I saw you in your office on Thurs 8/11 when you said you would get an email out to the community on Fri 8/12.

Nothing

On Tues 8/16, you and I both talked to the foreman and YOU said you were going to your desk and get something out that afternoon.

Nothing

You said the Forman reports to you daily...well then cut and past what he says and send it out.

Tonight I see an email from your office about a survey for the Swift House and NO info on the Streetscape project.

What is going on??? I personally do not care how busy you are...this is your job. You have used the busy excuse so many times you should be embarrassed. I'm busy too, but when I say I am going to do something, I follow through.

I have nothing against you personally...but it seems to me you are overwhelmed. You do have an assistant correct??? I am certain she could help with some of your correspondence.

I am tired of you keeping the Kent community in the dark.

This is not professional.

Elissa

Elissa G T Potts

Fife 'n Drum Restaurant and Inn

Fife 'n Drum Gift Shop

53 N Main St

P O Box 188

Kent, CT 06757

Restaurant 860-927-3509

Mobile 203-313-2626

Gift Shop 860-926-3618

www.fifendrum.com



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Re: Streetscape Project

1 message

Mike Gawel <mikegawel@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 20, 2022 at 2:56 PM

To: firstselectman@townofkentct.org

Cc: Jack <jacknelson@concordenviro.com>, justin money <irishrockart@hotmail.com>, John Johnson <john.adele@charter.net>, Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>, Rick Osborne <publicworks@townofkentct.org>, Ed Matson <edmatson1@aol.com>, Bruce Adams <adamsfam47@gmail.com>, Mike Doherty <mdoherty@mminc.com>, Rufus de Rham <bigrufus3343@yahoo.com>, Glen Sanchez <glennsanchez@townofkentct.org>

Wow!!! Wow!!! Wow!!! Eye on the prize? Legitimate concerns from no less than three construction veterans is considered "negative nellies". Now I'm disgusted in the way this town is being run. The prize is nothing if done to the lowest end of any scale.

It is difficult to say end with "respectfully". So I'll just sign off.

Mike Gawel

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 20, 2022, at 1:44 PM, Kent First Selectman <firstselectman@townofkentct.org> wrote:



STREETSCAPE PROJECT UPDATE

Beginning this week, we will be sending out weekly updates on the Streetscape Project construction. We are formatting them simply so the community can have an "at-a-glance" view to the progress.

A few items worth noting:

- *Please be patient* - the team from Mather understands that this is a disruption to the village and they are working hard to get this job completed.
- Mather plans to move along in small sections as they move toward the center of town so as to minimize the disruption and keep as few parking spaces closed at a time.
- Special thanks to John Casey for allowing the contractor use of the southern part of the Kent Green for staging of materials and equipment.
- Mather now has two teams: a Demo Team and a Finish Team. The Demo Team first excavates the asphalt and old base underneath, and the Finish Team then comes in and preps the new base, sets the curbing and pours the concrete.

Finally, I need to ask you all a big favor. There is a lot of chatter out on social media about the project, and everyone wants information immediately. This project has been well over a decade in the making - please let's keep our eye on the prize, which is that by late fall, we

will have the safest and most amazing sidewalks. This is an incredibly large, complex project that will have a positive impact on our town and it's important not to get lost in the rhetoric of a few 'negative nellies'.

August 22 - September 2

Two Week Look Ahead

- **Bridge Street | South Side:**
 - The Finish Team plans to have sidewalks finished to the intersection by end of the week.
- **Bridge Street | North Side:**
 - Demo work will begin middle of next week.
- **North Main Street | East Side:**
 - Demo Team will continue southward to the railroad tracks, followed by Finish Team next week to install curbing and concrete

What's Been Done

- **Bridge Street | South Side:**
 - Demo Team has completed work
 - Finish Team is installing granite curbing and concrete has begun to be poured. The Finish Team plans to have sidewalks finished to the intersection by middle of next week.
- **North Main Street | East Side:**
 - Demo Team has begun and will continue southward to the railroad tracks. Finish Team will follow.
- **North Main Street | West Side**
 - Tree removal: 2 trees/shrub at St. Andrews; 1 tree at Chestnut Woodworking.

Additional Information

- The east side of Bridge Street should be finished by the opening day of KCS on August 29th.
- Schedule information shared is always subject to change due to weather, etc.
- This project is on the State highway and as such, the project must meet State DOT specifications. Part of those requirements include repaving the roadway a certain number of feet. As such, you will see some repaving.
- On any tree removals that had to take place, Bruce Bennett, Town Tree Warden, is working with property owners on replacement of the trees.

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You can also join the Town of Kent's Newsletter listserv via text by simply texting
"KENT" to 42828.

visit our website: www.townofkentct.org

Town of Kent | PO Box 678, Kent, CT 06757

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Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Sidewalk Construction

1 message

Chris Harrington <south7electric@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 21, 2022 at 11:07 AM

To: selectmen@townofkentct.org

Hello all,

I am writing as a concerned citizen of our town or as our first selectmen would like to call us, negative nellies!

It's nice to see this project moving along so quickly but I am concerned that the engineering firm we are paying a premium to, for inspections, is not living up to the contract they have taken on.

It is my understanding that they did not know marble curbing was set and concrete for the side walks poured on Bridge Street. This means no inspections were done for this portion of the project. Do we get a reduction in the premium we are paying since the inspections were not done there? Hopefully we will not have any issues in the near future with that portion of the sidewalk. Is there any recourse for the town if we do have issues in the near future?

Thanks for your time, as always.

Chris, Negative Nelly, Harrington

Sent from my iPad



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Re: Sidewalk Construction

1 message

Jean Conlon Speck <firstselectman@townofkentct.org>

Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 12:41 PM

To: Chris Harrington <south7electric@gmail.com>

Cc: Glenn Sanchez <Glennsanchez@townofkentct.org>, Rufus DeRham <Rufuspderham@townofkentct.org>, Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Hi Chris,

I spoke with Mike Doherty from SLR.

SLR Consulting has been on site full time for all concrete sidewalk pours. There was a limited section of granite curbing installed on Bridge St. without an inspector on site. The sections were subsequently visually inspected prior to any backfilling and minor concerns addressed with the contractor.

Our contract with SLR is for a budgeted amount and is only billed for time when SLR has staff on site or performing work related to the construction inspection. The town does not necessarily end up paying the total budgeted amount, but that depends largely on construction timelines and issues encountered during installation.

SLR has an excellent reputation, has been a long-term partner with the Town on the Streetscape project, and is committed to overseeing this phase of work for a quality outcome beneficial to the town and satisfactory to the town's vision. They have done many projects of this size, including the sidewalks in Salisbury. (one clarification, the sidewalks are granite, not marble)

Thank you,

Jean

**Jean Speck (she, her, hers)**

First Selectman, Town of Kent

860.927.4627 | firstselectman@townofkentct.org | www.townofkentct.org

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RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 2:49 pm, Aug 18, 2022



Draft Minutes

Town of Kent Streetscape Building Sub-Committee
Special Meeting at Town Hall
Friday August 12, 2022
12:00 P.M.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Gawel at 12:15 PM.
Members in attendance: Mike Gawel, Jack Nelson, Rick Osborne, John Johnson.
Also in attendance: Jean Speck, Joyce Kearns, Justin Money, Mike Doherty of SLR Consulting.

Discussion and possible action regarding the Streetscape project

Mr. Gawel, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Money expressed concern about several issues with the construction of sidewalks to date (south side of Bridge Street):

1. Was SLR's inspection engineer present during the work that had been done?
2. Voids of up to 2-3 inches were observed under curbing that had been placed.
3. Concrete reinforcement (blobs) of concrete at joints of curbing only, rather than wrapping the curbing in a bed of concrete that would then "cradle" the curbing.
4. Compaction of material both under curbing and the backfill material behind the curbing- was it compacted in lifts or as one full layer of backfill?
5. Mr. Gawel expressed concern that the width of curbing was not consistent at joints.

Mr. Doherty said that the work had progressed faster than expected (faster than they had been informed), so SLR's inspector had not been present for most of the work so far. SLR had only expected demolition work to be done so far.

Mr. Doherty said that compaction testing could be done on the backfill material currently in place.

These are draft minutes. Corrections may be made at subsequent meetings. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections or approval of these minutes.

Mr. Doherty said that CT DOT accepts the concrete reinforcement of curbing at the joints only. He also said that the original plans had called for concrete in front and back of the curbing, but not as a cradle under the curbing, but that the specs had been changed for bidding. He said that he would expect that fully cradling the concrete would cost more, and that he could write specifications and request a change order from Mather Corporation to fully cradle the curbing in concrete (front, back, and 3-1/2" underneath). Mr. Gawel, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Money all expressed the opinion that fully bedding the curbing in concrete might require more material (concrete) but that it would actually save labor during the installation.

Mr. Gawel moved that the Committee recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they request a change order be issued by SLR Consulting requiring the curbing to be fully cradled in concrete, as discussed at this meeting.

Mr. Johnson seconded.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. Speck gave Mr. Doherty verbal permission to begin drafting the change order.

Next Step

Mr. Gawel will take the Committee's recommendations to the Board of Selectmen's meeting next Thursday.

Next meeting date and time

No additional meeting was scheduled at this time.

Adjournment

Mr. Gawel adjourned the meeting. at 1:00.

Submitted by John Johnson, Secretary

These are draft minutes. Corrections may be made at subsequent meetings. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections or approval of these minutes.



TOWN OF KENT LAND USE OFFICE

August 18, 2022

To: The Board of Selectmen

From: Donna M. Hayes
Land Use Administrator

Donna M. Hayes

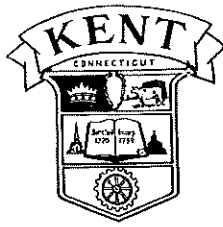
Re: Land Use Administrator Position

At last night's special meeting of the Hiring Sub-Committee, Ms. Werner made the following motion:

Ms. Werner moved to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the hiring of Ms. Tai Kern as the Land Use Administrator, effective on or about September 6, 2022, based on a 35-hour work week with an annual salary of \$81,000 and an additional immediate increase of \$1,000 per year upon successful achievement of the CAZEO certification. This increase is in addition to any budgeted subsequent salary increases.

Ms. Kern is a past employee of the Town of Kent previously holding the position of Part-Time Land Use Clerk for 4 years. Since leaving her employ with the Town, she has held the position of Land Use Inspector/Enforcement Officer for the Town of Southbury and was recently promoted to the position of Land Use Director. Ms. Kern has her inland wetland agent certification and has passed the modules for her Certified Zoning Enforcement Officer (CZEO) designation but still needs one year of actual zoning enforcement experience before she is awarded the Connecticut Association Zoning Enforcement Officer (CAZEO) certification. In addition to her studies for her CAZEO certification, Ms. Kern has also been attending classes for her American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) certification. Based on her past work with the Town of Kent and her most recent work experience, the Hiring Sub-Committee believes she will be a valuable asset to the Town and will be able to fulfill the position of Land Use Administrator with minimal training.

For your convenience I have included Ms. Kern's official offer letter to this memo.



TOWN OF KENT

August 23, 2022

Ms. Tai Kern
109 Lake Drive
Bethlehem, CT 06751

Dear Tai,

The Board of Selectmen, the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Inland/Wetland Commission are pleased to extend an offer of employment as the Land Use Administrator for the Town of Kent. This is a full-time, salaried position based on thirty-five (35) hours per week. Your hire date will be on or about September 6, 2022.

Your annual salary will be \$81,000 with the understanding that you will receive an immediate increase of \$1,000 per year upon your successful certification by the Connecticut Association of Zoning Enforcement Officers. This increase is in addition to any budgeted salary increases.

In this position you will report to the Chairmen of the Kent Planning and Zoning Commission and the Kent Inland Wetlands Commission for the day-to-day operation of the department and to the Board of Selectmen with oversight by the First Selectman for human resource issues and policies and procedures generally applicable to Town of Kent employees. Attached is a copy of the current job description. Your employment is subject to and governed by all regulations, policies, and procedures generally applicable to the Town of Kent employees and they may be amended from time to time. The first ninety calendar days of your employment are an introductory period during which your work and performance will be reviewed. Both the employee and employer can use this period to make certain that the requirements of the position can be met. During this period either party can decide that this may not be the best arrangement and part amicably.

We are pleased that you will be returning to the Town of Kent Land Use Office and look forward to working with you. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jean Conlon-Speck
First Selectman



To: Board of Selectmen

From: Joyce Kearns

Date: August 15, 2022

Re: Large Meeting Video Conferencing System Update

As of Monday, August 15, 2022 the status of the large meeting room video conferencing system is as follows:

- The equipment has been ordered and delivered to Yuca Tech.
- The televisions and cart will be purchased by Yuca Tech this week.
- The electrician is scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2022.
- Yuca Tech will start the install within a few days of the electricians completing their work.