

APPROVED AS AMENDED: May 2, 2016

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

WORK SESSION

March 21, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: President Geevers called the meeting to order at 7:58 p.m.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

This is to advise that the notice requirement provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" has been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given and transmitted to The Times and Princeton Packet; filed with the Clerk of the Municipality; and posted in the West Windsor Township Municipal Building at North Post and Clarksville Roads on March 11, 2016.

ATTENDEES: President: Geevers; Vice President: Marathe; Council: Hamilton, Mendonez, Miller; Business Administrator: Schmid; Township Clerk: Young; Township Engineer: Guzik; Police: Sgt. Mohr; Princeton Junction Volunteer Fire Company Chief: Mangone; West Windsor Volunteer Fire Company Chief: Rubinstein

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Babu Veeregowda, 33 West Kincaid Drive, spoke in favor of the road diet for Canal Pointe Boulevard.

Mr. Clark Greyhosky, 7 Thorngate Court, explained why he is opposed to a road diet for Canal Pointe Boulevard.

Mr. Bo Jonsson, 17 Kensington Court, advised that he is in favor of the road diet. He noted that 72% of the attendees at the meeting held last year were in favor of the road diet.

Mr. Ted Strem-pack, 16 Kensington Court, noted that speed is an issue and he is in favor of the three lane road diet.

Ms. Miren Libano, 3 Trumbull Court, urged for a reduction in the speed limit and volume of traffic on Canal Pointe Boulevard.

Mr. Paul Luksa, 6 Trumbull Court, supports the road diet because of the recommendations from the Burns Group.

Mr. Ted Whitby, 11 Piedmont Drive, supports the road diet for bike and pedestrian safety.

Mr. Ron Burick, 17 Carlyle Court, noted that he was not in favor of the road diet. He advised that the road does need to be repaired and repaved. Mr. Burick suggested that controls be initiated to reduce speed on Canal Pointe Boulevard.

Mr. Kelvin Werth, 1 Courtney Drive, supports the traffic calming features for Canal Pointe Boulevard.

Mr. David Wolfe, 1 Thorngate Court, noted that he was in favor of the road diet and suggested that Administration follow the advice of the Burns Group.

Ms. Virginia Manzari, 28 Berkshire Drive, advised that reducing the number of lanes will not reduce the speed or encourage pedestrians to utilize the road. She spoke about other alternatives for review before making a decision.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, opposed the road diet option and outlined his reasons.

Ms. Donna Lucarelli, 45 Galston Drive, spoke about the danger of both the traffic and speeds on Canal Pointe Boulevard. She noted that she is against the road diet plan.

Mr. David Robinson, 28 Dorset Drive, spoke about the need for road repairs.

Mr. Jim Caserta, 204 Salem Court, Apt. 8, offered suggestions to improve safety on Canal Pointe Boulevard.

#### Canal Point Boulevard Road Improvement Presentation

Mr. Kaiser of Burns Engineering spoke about the following items related to Canal Pointe Boulevard:

- Outlined the intersections in the plan
- Noted the various road conditions including the zoning along the boulevard
- Three highest volume intersections: Alexander Road, Carnegie Center Boulevard and Meadow Road

- Reviewed roadway operations and the delays
- Spoke about the speed and accident history
- Outlined bike and pedestrian activity
- Spoke of the future growth
- Recommended the "road diet" and reviewed the features of the plan

Chief Tony Mangone of the Princeton Junction Volunteer Fire Company and Chief Larry Rubinstein of the West Windsor Volunteer Fire Company both spoke about their concerns with the proposed "road diet".

Chief Mangone explained the importance of public safety and how vehicles should yield to emergency vehicles. He advised that an emergency vehicle cannot stop or turn as easily as a car. Chief Mangone noted that Canal Pointe Boulevard is used to get to accidents on Route 1 when there is heavy congestion. He commented on speed bumps not being a favorable option as compared to traffic signals for a more efficient speed calming device. Chief Mangone advised that he is not showing support for either plan.

Chief Rubinstein noted that nothing in the study addresses emergency vehicles. He referenced instances where road diets caused driver and emergency vehicle issues. Chief Rubinstein noted the importance of educating drivers and the residents on how to pull off to the right of the road to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

Mr. Kaiser agreed that educating drivers of the rules of the road could be done by placing information on the Township website or using public service announcements.

Council addressed questions.

Sergeant Mohr explained that the number of lanes on the road does not matter if a person does not know what to do if an emergency vehicle is approaching. He noted his concerns that once the roadway is repaved drivers will increase their speed. Sergeant Mohr advised that the safety benefits of the road diet will outweigh other concerns.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- New Jersey Transit and WWP School buses
- Road side space for vehicles to pull over for Police and emergency vehicles
- Village Road's raised medians and the four foot bike lanes
- Speed/traffic calming devices for Canal Pointe Boulevard including speed surveys, traffic signals and flashing pedestrian beacons
- Implementation schedule of project
- Costs for road repairs
- Request for proposals for the design work

Mr. Guzik outlined the potential project schedule:

- Award Professional Services Agreement in April for engineering and survey work
- Ninety-day performance period
- Construction contract in fall and work can begin pending weather conditions

Mr. Guzik recommended not making plan changes once a decision has been made on whether to institute the road diet or keep the existing four lanes.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Andrew Kulley, 6 Jill Drive, suggested Council defer to the experts for the traffic recommendation. He spoke about long standing policies of the Township and the various committees that have worked to affirm the policies.

Mr. Dan Fabrizio, 8 Exeter Court, noted that he is not in favor of the road diet and suggested that other options be explored for the road.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, made suggestions for paving the road and continuing to keep it four lanes.

Mr. Clark Greyhosky, 7 Thorngate Court, spoke about the volume of traffic on the road, the inability to get out of the development at certain times of the day, and addressed other concerns with traffic congestion.

Mr. Paul Luksa, 6 Trumbull Court, suggested Administration compare actual data by reviewing the number of accidents there were on Village Road prior to installing the medians.

Mr. Jerry Foster, 15 Suffolk Lane, spoke about the Township's complete streets policy which takes into consideration all the different users of the roadways. He advised that the road diet is a good solution.

Mr. Mike Tas, 17 Millbrook Road, noted that he is thankful that Village Road is only two lanes because it keeps the speed under control.

Ms. Miller advised that New Village Road had not been opened to through traffic prior to installation of the medians.

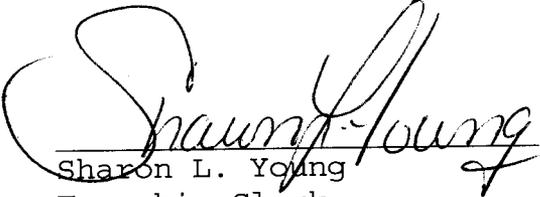
Council addressed additional questions to Mr. Guzik.

President Geevers asked Council to direct further questions to Administration. She advised that Administration will be getting recommendations to Council in early spring.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Mendonez  
Second: Miller  
VV: All approved

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 p.m.

  
Sharon L. Young  
Township Clerk  
West Windsor Township

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