

CITY OF NORWALK
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**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
JULY 6, 2021**

ATTENDANCE: George Tsiranides, Chairman; Barbara Smyth; Tom Livingston; Manny Langella; Darlene Young

STAFF: Anthony Carr, Chief of Operations and Public Works; Vanessa Valadares, Principal Engineer; Chris Torre, Superintendent of Operations; Paul Sotnik, Senior Civil Engineer; Drew Berndlmaier, Senior Civil Engineer; Daniel Stanton, Senior Civil Engineer; Jessica Paladino, Waste Systems Manager

OTHER: David Heuvelman, Common Council Member

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

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Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Monique Cipriano at to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

Chairman Tsiranides called to order the Public Works Committee meeting on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. He stated that the meeting is being done by video conference. He announced all the Committee Members by name and each member responded for attendance. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC INPUT

Public input (Guests at Committee meetings may speak to any item on the agenda. Comments shall be limited to no more than three (3) minutes per speaker.)

Mr. Tsiranides opened public input and went over the public input item on the agenda. He informed all of those signed up to speak to keep their comments to three (3) minutes or under. He asked if there was anyone that wanted to speak.

Mr. Oduro replied there was a phone number ending 1537 and asked if they would like to make a comment to hit *9 to raise their hand. No hand was raised. There were no inquiries from the Department of Public Works or any of the Council Members.

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021.

Mr. Livingston stated on page four (4), paragraph three (3) under Tree Operations, Ms. Shanahan’s name was misspelled. The sentence should read “Mr. Livingston thanked Councilwoman Shanahan, Mr. Carr, Mr. Torre and DPW Staff for making this happen.” There were no other corrections.

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM
**MS. YOUNG ABSTAINED
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ONE (1)
ABSTANSTION AND CORRECTION**

2A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2020, AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND M. RONDANO, INC. FOR PROJECT DRG2020-1 ON-CALL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS. THE AMENDMENT IS TO EXTEND THE AGREEMENT FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR AT A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$1,002,036.00 WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL TERM FOR ONE (1) YEAR.

**ACCOUNT NO. 09 21 4027 5777 C0302
 09 22 4027 5777 C0302
 09 21 4021 5777 C0021
 09 22 4021 5777 C0021
 09 20 4027 5777 C0643
 09 21 4027 5777 C0643
 09 22 4027 5777 C0643
 09 06 4021 5777 C0315**

2B. AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS, TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT WITH M. RONDANO, INC. FOR PROJECT DRG2020-1 ON-CALL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$100,203.60.

**ACCOUNT NO. 09 21 4027 5777 C0302
09 22 4027 5777 C0302
09 21 4021 5777 C0021
09 22 4021 5777 C0021
09 20 4027 5777 C0643
09 21 4027 5777 C0643
09 22 4027 5777 C0463
09 06 4021 5777 C0315**

Mr. Carr reported on this. He stated that it was a previously approved contract for on-call drainage services for storm sewer improvements that are completed in advance of the paving. This contract has been in place for a year. The Assistant Civil Engineer, Mario Pizighelli, has explained the benefits of having this business contract in his memorandum in the packet. M. Rondano has done exceptional work, in a timely manner and has been very responsive. He said they have been able to get more streets paved because the storm sewer issues that they encountered were addressed prior to paving. He said this is just an extension to the contract that was already approved.

Chairman Tsiranides stated that they seem to be happy with M. Rondano and they have not had any problems, issues, or complaints.

****MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- 3A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH SEALCOATING INC., DBA INDUS, FOR PROJECT PM2021-3, CRACK SEAL AT VARIOUS LOCATION, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$300,720.00.**

**ACCOUNT NO. 09 21 4021 5777 C0021
09 22 4021 5777 C0021**

- 3B. AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS, TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON CONTRACT WITH SEALCOATING, INC., DBA INDUS, FOR PROJECT PM2021-3, CRACK SEAL AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,072.00.**

**ACCOUNT NO. 09 21 4021 5777 C0021
09 22 4021 5777 C0021**

Mr. Carr reported on this. He said they have worked with this contractor before, and they have been very responsive. The point of crack ceiling is part of the pavement management program, and this is considered a pavement preservation technique. It is supposed to stop the roads from becoming to the point where you need to mill and pave or even until you need full reconstruction, so it is not a rehabilitation or reconstruction technique, but it is preservation. Mr. Carr continued saying the reason you want to treat the cracks in the road is because water could get in the base of the road through the cracks and then there can be problems below the pavement which could lead to sediment and additional cracking. Another reason is due to the UV rays from the sun, if left, exposed the cracks would usually run a long way in the pavement but if you go inside the crack, the vertical surface could degrade from the UV sun rays and ultimately spread or cause more widespread cracking.

Mr. Livingston wanted to know how the program works.

Mr. Carr said the purpose of crack sealing is basically applying a liquid tar when the pavement first shows signs of distress. You can not crack seal on pavements that have a lot of little cracks often referred as alligator cracking. That can be caused from moisture buildup or water intrusion, and it basically moves the dirt around under the ground which makes the base unstable. Crack sealing keeps the roads at a high pci (pavement condition index) which buys you time with the road. He explained the process from crack sealing to reclaiming the road.

Mr. Livingston thanked Mr. Carr.

Mr. Berndlmaier stated that the ideal time to crack seal is when the roads are like five (5) years of age, and they would never repave a road that is only five (5) years old. He said as soon as they see the signs of distress in the road, they take care of it.

Ms. Valadares added that the roads that they are crack sealing are not from the paving list. She said they are only doing maintenance to the road so there will not be any erosion. The roads will still get paved in the future.

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- 4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH ATANE, FOR PROJECT DPW2021-2, MATERIAL TESTING, FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR, BILLABLE ON A UNIT PRICE BASIS, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000.00, WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR TWO (2) ADDITIONAL TERMS OF ONE (1) YEAR EACH.**

ACCOUNT NO.	09 21 4021 5777 C0021	09 22 4021 5777 C0021
	09 21 4021 5777 C0234	09 22 4021 5777 C0234
	09 21 4021 5777 C0302	09 22 4021 5777 C0302
	09 21 4021 5777 C0315	09 22 4021 5777 C0315
	09 21 4021 5777 C0318	09 22 4021 5777 C0318
	09 21 4021 5777 C0503	09 22 4021 5777 C0503
	09 21 4021 5777 C0440	09 22 4021 5777 C0440
	09 21 4021 5777 C0471	09 22 4021 5777 C0471
	09 21 6030 5777 C0365	09 22 6030 5777 C0365

Ms. Valadares reported on this. She said they decided to put this out to bid because they have a lot of projects that need testing. They listed every test they believe they would need to test during construction for different projects such as paving, sidewalks, and bridges. She explained how one (1) base bid could have one (1) value and the contract bid be higher. The reason for that was because they listed some tests that they know they will need to test and so the contractor's all bid on them as the base bid. She said they are only paying for the test they order as a unit price and nothing more.

Ms. Young asked what they are testing for and are the test in a specific part of town.

Ms. Valadares answered the tests are not regional but based on the project. She gave an example. She said they feel more comfortable having their own company test rather than the contractor's.

Ms. Young said that in South Norwalk and maybe even other areas, could be considered brownfields or know that type of industry that is in the area that could have contaminated soil or other types of things.

Ms. Valadares said they like to test during the design period so they can address any issues because the costs associated with those materials to get rid off is extremely expensive and they need to know about that before they put it out to bid. Once the contractor has the bid, the change order can be costly.

Mr. Carr said that this is not for environment services.

Ms. Young said that it could pop up, but it would be something that happens beforehand and if it does during this stage, that means it was missed.

Mr. Carr replied yes that was after the fact, either it was intentionally not investigated or because they have completed a phase one/phase two on the site. Phase one is a desktop analysis of a property and phase two is when you stick a machine in the ground and take a boring sample and they characterize the soil, and they test it for contaminates using testing methods from EPA and DEEP. He said it could be intentional or something that was unforeseen.

****MS. YOUNG MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- 5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT WITH PRIORITY LANDSCAPING, LLC, TO PROJECT DPW 2019-1, REMOVAL & DISPOSAL OF DEPOSITED SEDIMENT WITHIN THE WATERCOURSE, CONTRACT DATED NOVEMBER 22, 2019, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$175,000.00.**

**ACCOUNT NO. 09 18 4027 5777 C0440
 09 21 4021 5777 C0440
 09 22 4021 5777 C0440**

Mr. Carr reported on this. This is an amendment to an existing contract they currently have. They have successfully cleaned five (5) waterways and technically this is the sixth and is adjacent to Keeler Brook which was the fifth location. This will be an expansion of the current Army Corps and State DEEP Permit that they did not want to demobilize without cleaning because it was adjacent to the last and final project location, Keeler Brook. The location is 264 West Cedar. This is an expansion of the existing permit.

Ms. Valadares agreed and added that one (1) of the reasons they could not do this before is because it was not part of the original scope, and they didn't have the permit and now they do. They still have the contractor on site. Ms. Valadares said they identified the need to extend the scope, checked with DEEP to see if it could be allowed to permit as part of their

project and the answer was yes. They believe this is the cheapest way to continue the project by putting it in a change order. The Contractor is already on-site and know the ins and outs of the project and the residents in that area.

Chairman Tsiranides added that the residents on Keeler Brook are starting to see a difference over there with the water issues from the past. He said they are working in the right direction. He said he understands that it was hard to obtain all of those permits but he feels it is great that they have them and they are moving forward with this.

****MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. DISCUSS AND VOTE TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING TO INCREASE THE FEE FOR ACCEPTABLE SOLID WASTE FROM \$90/TON TO \$95/TON TO BE SET BY THE DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS FEE SCHEDULE. THE PUBLIC HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2021, AT 7:00 P.M. BY VIDEO CONFERENCE/TELECONFERENCE.

Mr. Carr reported on this. He said this is the second of two (2) public hearings. Last August 2020 there was a public hearing to increase their solid waste disposal fee from \$85 to \$90 per ton and this item is to consider scheduling a public hearing to increase the second phase of the solid waste disposal fee from \$90 to \$95 per ton. Last year they were charging the customer \$85 per ton to dispose of the solid waste and at the time the City was paying \$91 per ton then it went up to \$93 per ton and now effective July 1st of this year they are at \$95 per ton. He said they were losing money and didn't feel it was fair to jump from \$85 per ton to \$95 per ton and have a \$10 increase and so to alleviate the fiscal burden especially during covid, they agreed the best approach was to do it in two (2) phases by first increasing the fee that they are charging to customers by five (5) dollars in 2020 and the second phase would be in 2021, the second five (5) dollar increase. If this passes it would be \$95 per ton effective July 1st which is the price the City is paying for solid waste, for the disposal, hauling and transport. Mr. Carr said they would be breaking even for the department, for the City and they will not be making any money on this. He said it is just a pass-through cost.

Mr. Livingston asked what other municipalities are charging for this.

Mr. Carr said they were below at the time, Stamford and Greenwich are comparable if not more. He deferred this question to Mr. Torre or Ms. Paladino for more information.

Ms. Paladino replied that Stamford is at \$95, Greenwich is over \$100, Darien is at \$95. She said they are on par with the rest of the communities.

Chairman Tsiranides asked if this is still allowing for the first tonnage free for residents and that it would not be affected at all.

Ms. Paladino responded correct and the first tonnage free resets every July 1st.

Chairman Tsiranides stated that the Public Hearing will be set for August 3, 2021, and they are going to make sure that goes out in emails and on the City website.

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

7A. APPROVE THE USE OF WHITE BARNS LANE AS THE NAME OF THE PRIVATE STREETS WITHIN THE WHITE BARNS SUBDIVISION.

Mr. Carr stated that the City Ordinance Section 95 requires the Public Works Committee, Planning & Zoning Commission, and the full Common Council's approval of any public street names, however this item is a private street as confirmed by Planning and Zoning. The reason for this is to keep the process consistent and everything transparent and to ensure there are no errors or misspellings to naming any of those roads something that already exists or close to it which could be confusing for parcel delivery or residents. For visibility they are putting this before the Committee and Council but with the exclusion of having to go before Planning and Zoning. He said that is the only thing that is not going to be done. No intention of taking over the street. They are just trying to keep the process consistent and memorialize the street naming and avoid errors.

Mr. Sotnik added that the City gets involved with private streets portion strictly to make sure 911 services are effectively handled and there are no duplicates in the names.

Mr. Livingston said it looks like two (2) streets and asked if this was run by any of the emergency services just to make sure they are comfortable with it.

Mr. Sotnik responded that there are street forks and there is a sign in the drawing that says there will be street numbers on it, one (1) through seven (7) and eight (8) through 15. There is a blue sign right at the fork so there should be no confusion at all.

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

7B. APPROVE THE PROPOSED STREET ADDRESS NUMBERING MAP FOR THE HOUSES ON WHITE BARNS LANE WITHIN THE WHITE BARN SUBDIVISION.

Chairman Tsiranides stated that Mr. Sotnik answered the question of numbering already and asked if anyone had any other questions. He gave a brief example of another street in Norwalk that is very similar with the numbering. He understands that there has not been a problem. He asked Mr. Sotnik if the numbers will be marked to show which direction the numbers will be listed.

Mr. Sotnik answered yes. He said on the map there is a symbol for a blue sign that would go up that will have one (1) through seven (7) with a left arrow and eight (8) through 15 with a right arrow. They will have their own specific street address number that is labeled in red on the map.

****MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

8. APPROVE THE FOURTH TAXING DISTRICT PROPERTY EXTENSIONS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2020, AS PER THE LIST DATED JUNE 7, 2021.

Mr. Carr reported on this. He said this is the approval for the Fourth Taxing District property owners which is basically the sewer portion of the City. There are three (3) properties that are on the list to be added to the WPCA grand list of sewer connections. He said non-sewer properties are considered a Fifth Taxing District and that is a floating district meaning, as people become sewer, they come out of the fifth and then added to the fourth which is the entire sewer portion of the City.

Chairman Tsiranides reiterated that whenever a resident gets transitioned into sewer versus septic, they fall into the Fourth Taxing District.

****MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

A. DISCUSSION

1. PROJECT STATUS

a. SEDIMENT REMOVAL CONTRACT UPDATE

Mr. Carr commended his staff for all their hard work especially with the watercourse maintenance, between the permitting and the actual oversight of the construction. He said there were many challenges with the residents, some not so happy with the machines that were out there and having the disruption working there. He said that Ms. Valadares and Mr. Berndlmaier and all other engineers involved did a good job at resolving the issues, placating the residents, and working through the frustrations of them being there or maybe not believing that the fix would work. He said at the end of the day, they made everyone whole and estimated for total sediment removal of 3150 cubic yards and the actual number was 3143. Mr. Carr said it was a good effort overall and took a lot of coordination on the back end and they will be heading to the sixth location very soon.

Mr. Berndlmaier stated the only thing left outstanding from the original contract scope is the restoration of people's yards. He said there are a lot of people frustrated because their yards have not been restored. He said they are doing everything they can to get them done as quickly as possible. Fencing held them up because they had to order the replacement fence and with shipping/delivery it took some time. In some cases, they were not able to match the existing fence so for those residents they had to get a new fence. He said following the finishing of the fence installation they will be able to finish their plantings within all the properties that had plantings that were disrupted or destroyed. They have mapped out what needed to be restored and they are hoping that within the next three (3) weeks they will be close to 100% restored. He said that is perfect timing to get this other cleanup done that was not in the original scope.

b. DREAMY HOLLOW DRAINAGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

Mr. Carr gave a brief update. They have exceeded 60% design drawings. They plan to bid this project in the late Fall and hope to mobilize before the end of the year. They changed the title of this project to cover a more expansive area. It is not just Dreamy Hollow Estates; they are calling it the Dreamy Hollow/Betts Brook Pond Area. It is that whole area which is about

400 acres of drainage area. He said it discharges closer to the Friendly Pond North River Area. They recently had a meeting with the First Taxing District, and they must include and partner with them because part of the project will also include water main improvements and it is an opportunity for the First Taxing District to improve their water mains in that area. They are locating new drainage improvements and the City will absorb the costs because it is their improvement. He said they will be replacing the water mains in consultation with the First Taxing District but under their contract. They will also be working with WPCA and the Consultant, Woodard & Curran and they thought it would be a good opportunity to address a lot of the sanitary sewer defects in that area which result in overflows or reverse slope pipes. He said there are a lot of issues in that area because of the soil conditions. The scope expanded from a drainage improvement project to sanitary sewer and water main improvement project as well. Paving will be included in this project once all the utility work is finished. He said the consultant is doing a great job. The water main locations and the sanitary sewer locations are a direct result of the drainage improvements. He said all aspects had to be looked at separately, but the project should be done together. They prefer to have one (1) contract and one (1) contractor. Easements need to be acquired from two (2) or three (3) property owners in the Daphne/Honeysuckle area, so they are working on that. Mr. Carr thanked his staff again for all their hard work. He said they are waiting for comments from Woodard and Curran and the First Taxing District. They have made a lot of progress. He said this was a hot topic last year and it has taken them at least a year to get to where they are now.

Chairman Tsiranides thanked the Chief and his staff. He said he knows there is more work involved than just drainage, but he thinks the residents will be very happy with the added improvements that have been long overdue.

Common Council Member Heulevman asked if there had been any discussion about laying in electrical conduit and telecom conduit as well for potentially burying lines in those areas since they are digging under the idea of dig once, is that a possibility.

Mr. Carr responded that to his knowledge they have not explored that option. He said that would add significant cost to the project and probably must be done on a phase two (2). He said ideally, he would like to see those utilities underground, some would not be due to maintenance. However, due to cost, the answer at this time is not only no, because of cost.

Mr. Berndlmaier stated that it is also due to the available space. He said after reviewing the plans, there is very little room left under the roadway once there is a huge drainage box running down the middle of the road with two (2) sanitary sewers running on either side plus the water and any option of gas in the future.

Mr. Sotnik stated it is an extremely high-water table so putting utilities underground there could run the possibility of getting water into the utility lines and conduits that would be laid could really compound the cost to try and keep those dry as they would need to be because of the soil conditions in that area.

c. CURBS, SIDEWALKS AND PAVING

Mr. Stanton said that he is operating project RD2021-1 which is the curb and sidewalk program. Second Street is completed. They are finishing granite curbs and sidewalks in the Woodward Avenue Area, from Burritt to Meadow. He said Grasso Companies are on Buford

Street and in the process of finalizing the sidewalks and substantially the curbs are complete followed by topsoil and the establishment of grass. Finally, they are working on the Bartlett Manor Area, and they have been working on Gordon, Cavanagh, and Lake Street. The sidewalks are complete on the West Side of Bartlett Manor, and they are circling around. He said they work in one direction first so the residents can plan accordingly, especially with parking issues.

Chairman Tsiranides said that they are ahead of schedule with paving and sidewalks, and he has seen some of the work on Woodward Avenue and it looks fantastic.

Ms. Young commented that it looks great because the improvements were needed and necessary. She asked if she was correct to see that part of the street sidewalk was concrete and the other was asphalt.

Ms. Valadares responded and said that they follow the urban core. Within the urban core they are required to use concrete sidewalks and if they are beyond that the standard is to use asphalt. She said that unfortunately there are some streets that fall within two (2) zones, so they start with concrete where it is within the urban core limits then they must switch to asphalt.

Ms. Young asked if there is a way to change that process.

Ms. Valadares answered no. She said that process would have to begin with Planning and Zoning because it is not a DPW regulation. They try to follow everything that is on the historic district, urban core and all those processes begin with Planning and Zoning. There has been talk about changing that procedure or even implementing a third type of sidewalk that would be a hybrid between the asphalt and the concrete, but they are not there yet. Planning and Zoning would have to incorporate that first and define the zone areas for them and then they could apply a standard into that area.

Mr. Berndlmaier said they replace in kind so any place that they put an asphalt sidewalk is because there was always an asphalt sidewalk there.

Ms. Young said that she thinks the residents assumed that it would have been uniform down the street since it is one (1) continuous street (Woodward Avenue). She said at some point it breaks up from the cement or the concrete to the asphalt.

Ms. Valadares said that the homeowner is responsible to maintain the sidewalk so if they installed a concrete sidewalk out of the urban core and then something happens to that sidewalk, the homeowner will have the right to just go back by standard and put back asphalt. She said they do not want any mix and match, so they follow what they have already established so there are no second thoughts.

Ms. Young said that what was just explained would still have to go through Planning and Zoning. If it is concrete then you replace it with concrete, asphalt you put asphalt and it could also be corrected through that process. She said it looks great and she was just sharing and wanted to get some clarity on that.

Ms. Smyth said she has heard some of the same complaints from residents in that area. She said it is confusing to the residents. There were also questions in East Norwalk where some

of those streets are concrete and others asphalt. Unless you know where the urban core boundaries are it can get confusing. She said the new sidewalks on Woodward Avenue look great.

Mr. Berndlmaier said they have those mappings available. He said they may be posted online and if not, he will inquire in the office.

The Committee agreed that would be a good idea and helpful for residents to be able to see the mapping.

Chairman Tsiranides agreed with Ms. Valadares about it having to go through Planning and Zoning first and if that is something they decide to bring to them, they will need resident involvement.

Ms. Young said that is something they should do anyway because if there are other areas where that sort of two (2) types of sidewalks exists, maybe that is worth having a discussion with Planning and Zoning to look at how they could make that uniform and educate the public about that.

Mr. Carr said they should also consider, if they make it standard, concrete does add a significant cost to the project and not just for the City but also the residents. He said if a resident has an issue with the gas service, sewer service or water service that will be something that the costs would be placed on the homeowner to replace it back to concrete. Even when they pave and everything goes back to concrete, it is multiple times more expensive than asphalt. He said that asphalt is more forgiving and if there is an issue, it would be easier to maintain. He said that is something they should discuss with Planning and Zoning and bring that forward.

Ms. Young said it would be good to educate and make the information available to the residents so they can know why they do and why they make the choices that they made helps.

Mr. Carr said they will post the map for the residents. He said on Woodward Avenue the boundary happened to be Loudon, North of Loudon was concrete and South of Loudon was asphalt.

Mr. Berndlmaier corrected his early statement. He said where they replace in kind is outside of the urban boundary. Inside the urban boundary there is a standard they follow. If it is within the urban boundary or extensive business area, they must conform to that standard that is set.

Mr. Stanton said that the map is located on the website on the engineering page called land use classification map. He said they utilize that map to help with their determination.

Mr. Livingston asked if he could share the link with the Committee.

Mr. Stanton replied yes.

Ms. Young said that it looks beautiful and any improvements on sidewalks is great. She thanked them for all the work they have done.

B. TREE OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMMING

Mr. Carr reported on this. He said the attached reports will give a snapshot of what Operations is doing. He said they receive a lot of service requests. They are working on the tree canopy, and they understand the importance of the preservation and expansion of the tree canopy. There are requests for evaluations as well. Those requests come from the operations department or Ken Hughes, the licensed arborist. He said there are a lot of residents concerned about the safety and the health of the trees. They go out and assess if the trees are healthy or not, confirm if it is a City tree or private property which is the protocol they follow. He said this is more of the programmatic part that Mr. Sotnik is responsible for in Engineering. Operations is more responsible for the removal and maintenance, and they will liaison with Mr. Sotnik and Mr. Hughes, and they will make Mr. Torre away of certain things and work together. He said they do have a definitive role, so the reports do not include replanting, they are particularly geared to the operations of the Operations Division of Public Works. They addressed a lot of service requests that came in over the last few months.

Mr. Livingston thanked him for the report. He said it would be helpful to include the planting information. He understands that it is Summer and there is not a lot of planting right now. He asked if it is typical or average to have 54 trees removed in a month.

Mr. Carr said those removals were tagged based on the health assessment of the tree.

Mr. Livingston said he is not questioning if it was right or wrong. He wants to know if 54 is a typical number for one (1) month.

Mr. Carr responded that he has seen those numbers fluctuate.

Mr. Torre responded that it is not a typical number. He said they are still doing work from the storm in August, trees that were damaged and not down. He said some of those removals are just finishing removing a half down tree already.

Mr. Livingston asked what would be more typical.

Mr. Torre answered on average a tree a day. He said on a normal month it could be 30 to 35 trees.

Mr. Livingston asked if that is year-round.

Mr. Torre responded yes, weather permitting.

Mr. Livingston asked Mr. Sotnik if there were any trees planted.

Mr. Sotnik responded yes; they have planted 82 trees this past fiscal year.

Mr. Livingston asked for this month.

Mr. Sotnik responded they plant trees between April and early June. He said within that time period they planted 24 trees. There are two (2) planting seasons a year.

Mr. Livingston said it is a great report and asked if they could add that number as well.

Ms. Smyth thanked Mr. Torre for putting together the report. She said it is very detailed and helpful. She thinks it would be great to include the number of tree plantings.

Mr. Torre replied absolutely. He added that NCC does a lot of work with Erica Kipp and they plant trees, not through the Tree Alliance or Tree Advisory Committee, so it would be good to pull in some of these volunteer organizations that also plant trees and that number could be included in the report to depict the number of trees planted around the City through various groups and not just the City.

Mr. Sotnik said that Recreation and Parks planted over 50 trees this Spring. 40 of them were down at Calf Pasture Beach. He said including all the volunteer organizations, there are a lot of plantings happening around the City.

Chairman Tsiranides commented that is a good point. He said there are additional trees being planted outside of Public Works and asked Mr. Sotnik to add that information.

Mr. Sotnik said they are mapping the new trees that they began planting. He said 915 trees have been planted since 2005 and they are bringing that information into the GIS system. All that information will come together as well as locations to plant new trees.

C. MONTHLY SOLID WASTE REPORT –MAY 2021

Mr. Carr stated that the numbers are beginning to return to pre-pandemic volumes, but they are not there yet. The solid waste/msw numbers are still a little high compared to the same time last year and the recycling is up as well.

Ms. Paladino said the numbers are slightly higher than what they would typically see pre-pandemic, but they are leveling back out to a new normal.

Chairman Tsiranides asked if they are contributing that to people going back to work and being out and operating but some are still zooming is that related to the increase.

Ms. Paladino said that is part of it. The curbside collection numbers seem to be up and down each month. A lot of it is people cleaning out houses.

Common Council Heulevman asked about the composting program and if the numbers were available and the status of the program and is it gaining in popularity.

D. FOOD SCRAP DROP-OFF REPORT

Mr. Carr reported that since last April 2020, they have collected and disposed of approximately 53 tons of food scrap composting, but the number is below since the program launched in July of 2020, about 49 tons. The difference in that is the Sixth Taxing District was paying for the months of April, May, and June prior to it becoming City-wide so the City's budget and DPW's City-wide program began July 1, 2020. Since July 1, 2020, they have disposed of 49 tons. He asked Ms. Paladino to give the new numbers.

Ms. Paladino said the number since April is 58.8 tons and the number since July 1st is 54.7 tons, so the program is gaining popularity and is a hit with the residents.

Mr. Livingston asked if she could break out Rowayton from the Transfer Station and if Rowayton still has a bigger number.

Ms. Paladino said the percentage for Rowayton is higher. They have swapped out the containers for larger ones and those are getting consistently filled every month. She said those five (5) containers are filled every month where they have six (6) at the Transfer Station that are continuously being filled but those are smaller containers. They are 35 gallons compared to 65 gallons in Rowayton.

Mr. Livingston said he is curious to see the growth in the City's Transfer Station and he thinks it is great it is being rolled out there and it is being accepted. He would like to see how each site is doing.

Mr. Carr responded they will do a percentage split based on volume.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

ADJOURNMENT MS. YOUNG MOTIONED TO ADJOURN
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:16 P.M.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2021
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:00 P.M.
FOLLOWED BY REGULAR MEETING
LOCATION TBD