

**East Haddam Village Revitalization Committee**  
**6-27-18**  
**Minutes**

Members Present; William Gerrish (chair), Mark Walter, Bob Casner, Jim Curtin, Randy Dill, Will Brady (arrived at 7:40 pm)

Audience: Ed Blaschik, Rob Smith, Susan Link, Hilvie Aitter

Guests: State of Connecticut DOT Bureau of Engineering and Construction, Rabih M. Barakat, P.E. Transportation Principal Engineer Bridge Design 860-594-3208 [Rabih.Barakat@ct.gov](mailto:Rabih.Barakat@ct.gov)  
Theodore H. Nezames, P.E. Manager of Bridges Office of Engineering 860-594-3272  
[Theodore.Nezames@ct.gov](mailto:Theodore.Nezames@ct.gov)

**Call to order 7:30 pm**

**Agenda Approval:** Motion made by B. Casner; Seconded by J. Curtin. Motion approved unanimously

M. Walter arrived at 7:32 and was seated as a full voting member in place of M. Kolek

**Approval of Minutes (April 25<sup>th</sup> 2018):** Motion made by R. Dill; Seconded by J. Curtin. Motion passed with four yes; one abstention (M. Walter).

**Selectman Report**

R. Smith stated that samples for environmental testing on the Old Town garage were taken. Results are due back within a couple weeks.

**DOT Presentation**

W. Gerrish stated that R. Smith invited T. Nezames and R. Barakat from the Connecticut Department of Transportation to discuss the lifespan of the Goodspeed Bridge as well as the role of the DOT in development of the village.

Mr. Nezames and Mr. Barakat stated that plans are underway for rehabilitation work to the Goodspeed Bridge. The project is expected to begin in April of 2019 and require two seasons, running from April to December 1<sup>st</sup>. Traffic will be managed by alternating access from each side of the river across one lane.

The town is applying for a sidewalk grant to coincide with work done to the bridge. The application is due by mid-July. An award is expected by late fall to mid-winter of 2019-2020. Funds must be obligated by the end of FY 2020. If this grant is approved, improvements to the bridge will allow it to handle the extra weight of the sidewalk and the sidewalk installation.

Mr. Nezames and Mr. Barakat said that under the state's "Let's Go CT" Transportation Plan, there are no plans to replace the bridge. Current efforts are designed to extend the useful life of the bridge through the next 30-year planning cycle. During this time frame, the bridge will be routinely monitored, and any repairs implemented as needed. There are no plans to replace the Goodspeed Bridge.

The DOT representatives stated that the town should start planning and be ready to design and build approaches to bridge sidewalks on the East Haddam side.

#### Town Village

Mr. Nezames and Mr. Barakat explained that since the road going through the Village is a State road, DOT approval would be needed for proposed changes to the road associated with development in the Village. They said the DOT prefers a “town approach” to such proposals. They suggested that the Lower River COG should be consulted to explore funding options such as the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LoTCIP), a DOT program that provides state funds to qualified applicants for roadway improvements.

W. Gerrish asked the committee for agenda items for future meetings and for thoughts on the role of the committee. Suggestions included:

- Invite Historic District Commission
- Review environmental test results
- Review committee charge
- Review results from Plan of Conservation and Development questionnaire specific to the Village
- Develop recommendations and submit to the Board of Selectmen.

#### **Adjournment 9:20 p.m.**

W. Brady made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by B. Casner. Motion passed unanimously