

# **Willington Parks and Recreation Commission**

---

Town Offices, 40 Old Farms Road, Willington, Connecticut 06279 (860) 487-3108

Committee Minutes

Zoom Meeting / Special Meeting

August 8th, 2022

**Attending Members:** Joe Colangelo, Mike Pinatti, Rocco Petrella, Mike Iacampo, Stuart Fisher and Ed Taiman were in attendance.

**Attending Non-Members:** Alan Humphrey, Willington Parks and Recreation director was in attendance as well as Rick and Colleen Peck.

## **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04PM.

## **II. WAREHOUSE DISCUSSION:**

There was not an agenda item allowed for General Discussion, but Rick and Colleen Peck asked if they could provide some insight and we invited them to speak.

Rick Peck, who lives on Route 74 suggested that he was against the building of the truck depot/warehouse on Route 32. He felt too much traffic would occur on Route 74 and 32 for inbound trucks from Rhode Island. He felt that the present traffic is difficult to deal with as intersections driven on by 18 wheelers on 74 and 32 are presently too small and not adjusted properly for large vehicles. Rick suggested we need more traffic lights for safety. The present flow of traffic in town includes the Fed Ex trucks, school buses, campers, standard car traffic, and traffic from the two truck stops in town along the highway. The math he came up with was that we would see up to one vehicle every 18-20 seconds on our roads. Colleen Peck was worried that the additional traffic on route 32 may impede the Fire Department response time on route 32. Mr. and Mrs. Peck use the RRAC walking path on a regular basis and are worried that access to the park may be difficult due to the additional traffic which has been reported as up to [900] trucks per day.

Ed Taiman suggested that Route 32 probably can't be widened and that this will certainly be an issue with the large number of trucks the warehouse would bring. He feels that the traffic coming off the highway now to Route 32 eastbound at exit 70 can sometimes back up by enough vehicles to make getting off the highway dangerous. Certainly, the addition of [900] more vehicles per day will force traffic to stop on the highway as it tries to access the exit.

Mike Pinatti suggested that complaints about the new truck warehouse be sent to Mike D'Amato.

Ed Taiman lives near the proposed truck warehouse location. As a member of the WPRC who helped to develop the RRAC he is opposed to the probable addition of large amounts of traffic, pollution, and other problems that [900] tractor trailers would bring to our town, especially their impact on the RRAC which is on Route 32 near the proposed truck warehouse location. He feels the additional taxes paid by the developer and business that would be the truck warehouse would not justify the difficulties this will create.

Following this discussion, a vote by members was made and all members in attendance voted to oppose the truck warehouse.

### **III. ARPA DISCUSSION:**

The Parks and Recreation Department has been approved for the requested money to develop more lighting at the park and to repair our drainage issue. The town granted additional money as a buffer for any unforeseen issues in the excavation process. Alan Humphrey suggested that the ARPA funding may be available at the end of August 2022 and that we should start the process of developing an RFP. Karl Asimovic would create the RFP and blueprint for the ARPA project and will be contacted by Stuart Fisher of the WPRC, and Alan Humphrey our Recreation Director, asking to enter into an agreement to provide the work, and a description of what his scope would be.

### **IV. ADJOURNMENT:**

Ed Taiman motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Mike Iacampo. The meeting adjourned at 7:45PM. The next meeting is scheduled for August 29th at 7:00PM as a ZOOM meeting.

Respectfully submitted 8-15-22

Joseph C. Colangelo

RECEIVED  
WILLINGTON, CT.

2022 AUG 25 A 10:32

  
TOWN CLERK