

~AD HOC REPORT~
Grandview Drive Addresses
Reference #8 – January 2008

Chairman Robert Riley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 29, 2008, in Room 3C, 3rd Floor, Danbury City Hall, 155 Deer Hill Avenue. Present were Committee members James Johnson and Warren Levy. Ex Officio members: Gregg Seabury and Colleen Stanley. Also present were Corporation Counsel Laszlo L. Pinter, Planning Assistant JoAnne Read, Planning Director Dennis Elpern, 911 Coordinator of the Fire Department Pat Sniffin and interested citizens/residents.

Chairman Riley introduced everyone in the room. Chairman Riley explained *the purpose of the evening's meeting was to consider renumbering the Grandview Drive Addresses.*

Chairman Riley reminded everyone present that the recommendation made by the Committee to the Common Council was merely a recommendation—the Common Council will make the final decision at their next meeting.

Chairman Riley opened up the evening's meeting by asking JoAnne Read to provide everyone with some background regarding the request before the Committee. There are new lots on Grandview Drive. The Postmaster has pointed out the ongoing problems with mail deliveries. There are serious problems with 911 calls as the drivers are unable to locate residences quickly and efficiently. The numbering is not sequential. The 911 system indicates where the call is coming from but some of the addresses are not accurate. The best plan of attack is to conduct a one-time renumbering of all the addresses as laid out in the proposal given to the Committee. Chairman Riley opened up the floor to Pat Sniffin. While there will be a temporary inconvenience to the residents in changing documentation to reflect their new address, Mr. Sniffin reiterated the urgency in correcting the numbering issue from an emergency response perspective.

Chairman Riley opened up the floor to the public for comments. Edward Balzarini of 3 Grandview Drive opposed the changes noting the tremendous expense and inconvenience in contacting and updating the records of the various establishments that will need to occur. He pointed out that such action would be acceptable should the choice have been his to move from one home to another. Ms. Read advised the residents that her office will provide them with a letter on the City's letterhead which will explain the change. Elizabeth Hill has been living at 16 Grandview Drive for 52 years suggested providing the new lots with a gang mailbox system and assign letters to them. She opposed the change and said it was not fair. Ms. Read explained that the Postal Service does not like to use letters in addresses as the computers cannot read them and mail is often lost. Deborah Isaacson of 7 Grandview Drive asked how services such as MapQuest would be notified/updated. Ms. Read explained that she sent MapQuest an email and they advised her that their system is updated quarterly and follows the tax assessor's records. Councilwoman Stanley pointed out that neighbors should be looking out for one another and their safety should take priority over being inconvenienced. Councilman Johnson pointed out that for 34 years, he has been involved in fire service—16 of those years were spent as a line officer. The most frightening experience is when a line officer arrives in an area and finds that houses are not numbered sequentially. He was in favor of the change and saw it as a positive change. He reminded everyone how imperative it is for emergency personnel to find the individual in need as quickly as possible. Councilman Seabury explained that he chaired a Committee which had to make a decision regarding the renaming of the roads (Point Driftwood area). One of the residents present at the meeting expressed his anger that he had two heart attacks and the EMS was unable to locate him. Chairman Seabury was in favor of the change.

Councilman Riley advised everyone that they would have another opportunity to voice their concerns at the Common Council meeting—the Committee was merely making their recommendation to the Council.

A motion was made by Councilman Johnson and seconded by Councilman Levy that the Committee recommends to the Common Council that they approve the proposed changes to the Grandview Drive mailing addresses as outlined by JoAnne Read.

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Levy and seconded by Councilman Johnson. The motion carried unanimously at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Riley, Chairman

Warren Levy

James Johnson

AH