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# CITY OF DANBURY

155 DEER HILL AVENUE  
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

## COMMON COUNCIL

### REPORT

March 1, 2005

Mayor Mark D. Boughton  
Members of the Common Council

Re: **Notification Process Regarding Sewer Extension Projects**

The Common Council Committee appointed to review the notification process for sewer extension projects met at 8:25 P.M. on February 8, 2005 in Conference Room 3C. In attendance were committee members Nolan, Cavo and Visconti. Also in attendance were Director of Public Works William Buckley, Assistant Corporation Counsel Les Pinter, Council Members Saadi, Saracino, Steinerd and Urice, ex-officio as well as residents of Boulevard Drive.

Mr. Nolan asked Mr. Buckley to address this process. Mr. Buckley outlined how the City comes to the process of expanding our sewer system. Requests come from residents in the form of petitions to the Common Council. The Common Council can recommend that staff evaluate the request, report back, or conduct a mail survey. The policy has been established that if the Council felt it was in favor of moving a project to a mail survey, a preliminary assessment of cost using the formula in Chapter Sixteen of the Code of Ordinances was completed and mailed out to homeowners informing them of their share. He takes the results of the mail survey and forwards it to the Common Council for a public hearing. He comes up with an information sheet within sixty days. The information sheet was approved with a modification of the time limit rule. If a neighborhood applies for sewers and the surveys comes back negative results, that neighborhood cannot reapply for five years.

At the public hearing the Common Council hears comments and then meets as a committee of the whole that reports back to the Common Council at its next regular meeting. He then begins the design process if the project is authorized to go forward. He eventually comes to the Common Council for needed easements.

Mr. Visconti asked if this new system has been more efficient? Mr. Buckley said he has no complaints and wants to give the system a chance to catch up. Mr. Nolan stated that the process change was designed to reduce the time line

from the initial application to the final estimates because has gotten so elongated in the process that there were residents other than those that had been surveyed. The time between a petition getting to the Common Council and the mail survey to the residents could be as much as six years. The goal was to take the number of assessments and reduce it to zero.

Mr. Cavo made a motion to take no action on the sanitary sewer ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Visconti.

At this point Mr. Urice asked that the residents of Boulevard Drive be given an opportunity to speak to the process on their particular project. Mr. Nolan said he would allow this and several residents spoke to the issue of a pump station be built on the property of Mr. Levan. Several residents expressed their concerns that this decision was made without the knowledge or input of the residents. Other methods of installing the sewers were discussed and Mr. Buckley stated that he feels the pump station is the correct solution.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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VINCENT NOLAN, Chair

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JOSEPH CAVO

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FRED VISCONTI