

**Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, April 30, 2026**  
**7:30 p.m.,**  
**Town Hall**  
**104 North King Street**

**Committee Members Present:** Mayor James Gatz (JG), Town Councilor Linus Bicker (LB)

**Committee Members Absent:** Town Councilor Carrie Blessing (CB)

**Staff in Attendance:** Gino Sisco (GS) – Town Administrator

**In audience:** Elise Baach (EB), Marcy Bartlett (MB), Jim Auxer (JA), Steve Pearson (SP) via Zoom, Harriet Pearson (HP) via Zoom

1. **Call to Order:** JG called the meeting to order at 7:31pm
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Changes were proposed to March 30, 2026, Meeting Minutes prior to approval. Corrections were made LB motioned to accept and JG seconded it was approved unanimously.
3. **Public Comment:** EB made public comments about the Town ensuring that it receives input from a broad portion of the community. She stated that the stakeholders are the residents and businesses closest to the Market House. She specifically identified two nearby residents and stated that they had not been contacted about the Market House project. She wanted to confirm the Town will contact all stakeholders. JA discussed how traffic will be impacted in the area around the Market House.
4. **Ongoing Business:**
  - a. Green Infrastructure /Storm Water Improvement Projects – Status
    - i. JG discussed the project at the “paper” street of Church St. and West High St.
      1. Discussed that there are resident comments that the “paper” street is a stormwater project and will not become a park, just greenspace for stormwater control.
      2. Residents let the Town know that they would like to retain access to the space for their use.
      3. The previous grant can be used for this project. This is for engineering and design.
  - b. Congressionally Directed Funding Applications – Status
    - i. Rilet Moore’s Office declined to provide any support.
  - c. Proposed Community Composting Project, Survey – Status
    - i. Discussion of project.
    - ii. Survey that is ready to be released.
    - iii. MB presented the survey and discussed the composting project.

- iv. Staff are to assist with survey compilation, and volunteers are to assist with pilot program implementation.
      - v. Discussed how a grant will be paying for buckets and some supplies.
    - d. Market House Plaza Project and Area Traffic Study, Planning for May Public Input Session – Status
      - i. JG discussed working with a volunteer to assist with a public meeting to receive community input.
      - ii. Tentatively planned community event for May 21, 22, or 23, at the Community Club.
      - iii. A discussion ensued about some of the benefits and negatives of the project.
    - e. Sidewalk and Façade Grant Programs – Status
      - i. No new information.
    - f. Artistic Bench Project – Status
      - i. Two benches are ready in the next few weeks, and one artist is ready to paint.
      - ii. Will select a second artist for the second bench.
      - iii. There was a quick discussion of other benches in Town that are private and some that may be Town-owned, as well as potential locations.
    - g. Collaboration with State Highway Department – Status
      - i. JG stated that the PATH project is moving forward with an anticipated completion date in July 2027.
    - h. Mill Street Property – Status
      - i. Last trailer has been removed, and grass is mowed and set for the next phase.
- 5. **Member Comments:**
  - a. LB discussed tree wells along Princess and German streets.
- 6. **Chair Comments:**
  - a. JG stated that the sidewalk streetscape project should incorporate a broader project that includes new water pipes that are required to be replaced by 2037.
- 7. **Next Meeting Date:** May 25, 2026
- 8. **Adjournment:** At 8:08pm JG moved to adjourn and LB second - unanimous