

TOWN OF CORNWALL
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for meeting held on:
Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024
Hybrid – In Person at Cornwall Library
& Remotely Via Zoom

Present

Selectmen

Others

- Gordon Ridgway, First Selectman
- Rocco Botto
- Jennifer Markow

Jane Hall, Administrative Assistant
 Press

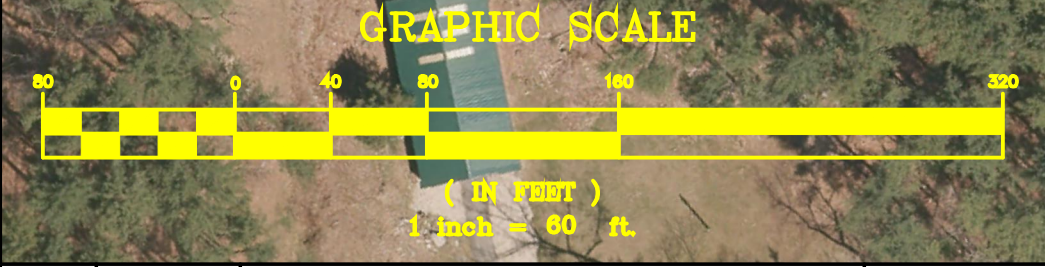
8 Total Attendees

Call to Order	7:30 pm
Approval of Minutes	<p><u>Motion:</u> Jennifer Markow – Made motion to approve the minutes from 11/19/2024 Rocco Botto – Seconded the motion Discussion – none Motion passed unanimously</p>
Communications / Announcements	<p>First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundbreaking ceremony on December 11th at 11:00am 349 Town Street for Potter Woods parcel for Cornwall Housing Corporation (attached) • It is snowing, town crew is out sanding now <p>Rocco Botto shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mohawk is opening on Friday • UCC craft fair this weekend
Additions to the Agenda	none
1.	<p><u>Cornwall Bridge Traffic Planning</u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary maps from WMC Engineers were presented for alternate designs to current triangle in Cornwall Bridge to try to slow traffic (attached) • Next meeting will be Tuesday 12/17 at 11:00 an at Chimney Rock Construction in Cornwall Bridge to discuss plans and give input <p>Discussion ensued on the various plans.</p>
2.	<p><u>Cream Hill Lake Study</u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received request (attached) from Heidi Cunnick, Chair of Conservation Commission – requesting approval for UCONN to do a water quality study at no charge at Cream Hill Lake – will publicize prior to UCONN coming to town (<i>Clerk addendum – study to be completed by State of Connecticut Office of Aquatic Invasive Species</i>) <p>Ivan Miller joined the conversation to discuss the need for the study and the need for the motorized boat to go into Cream Hill Lake. Discussion ensued on the study and town ordinance on motorized boats in the lake.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Gordon Ridgway – Made motion to endorse proposal to get another study of the lake this coming summer at no charge Jennifer Markow – Seconded the motion Discussion – none</p>

	Motion passed unanimously
3.	<p><u>Compost</u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to submitting a \$25,000 Materials Management Infrastructure Grant application to DEEP for food waste diversion / composting for engineering and construction costs - Discussion ensued on locations in town for composting, application and permitting process, grant opportunities, short-term and long-term solutions, education programs, and letters of support.
4.	<p><u>Request Ordinances – Speed & Trucks</u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received request (attached) from Barton Jones – asking the town to consider adopting an ordinance for speed cameras. <p>Discussion ensued on Kent’s progress with the speed cameras, Cornwall Bridge triangle traffic planning, and plan moving forward to do more research and monitor what happens in Kent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received request (attached) from Jason Sander – asking town to adopt ordinance that no large trucks can idle on residential streets from midnight to 6am. <p>Discussion ensued on Right to Farm, qualifications for an ordinance/town meeting, update from Dolan family. No action taken.</p>
5.	<p><u>Thanksgiving Food Distribution</u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 40 families were given food for thanksgiving, as well as the regular pantry pickup. • Thanks to all that donated food and those who helped with the distribution.
6.	<p><u>Burn Ban Off</u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burn ban has been cancelled, still dry out there – continue to follow protocols for open burning in town
7.	<p><u>West Cornwall Surveyors</u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveying has started on the West Cornwall wastewater program – surveyors have been out. Meeting next Monday at 5:00
8.	<p><u>Winter Preparedness / Storm Parking Ban</u> First Selectman Gordon Ridgway shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter parking pan reviewed and signed by Board of Selectmen (attached) – December 6th through March 30th
9.	<p><u>Public Comment</u> 3 public comments received</p>
	<p><u>Adjournment:</u> 8:20 pm</p> <p>Respectfully Submitted: Jane Hall, Administrative Assistant</p>



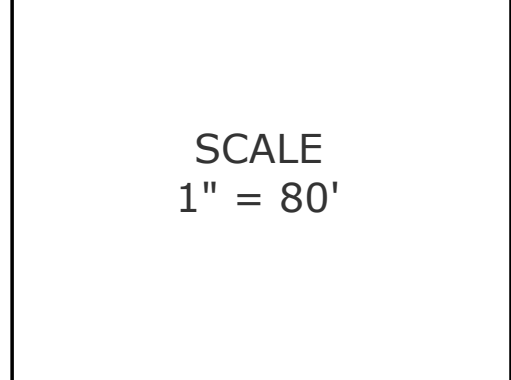
HIGHLIGHTS:
 -ELIMINATE 'Y' INTERSECTIONS AND POINTS OF CONFLICT
 -DEDICATED LEFT/RIGHT TURN LANES ON KENT ROAD S
 -DEDICATED RIGHT TURN ONLY LANE ADDED TO RT 7 TO TRAVEL SOUTH ON KENT ROAD S
 -MINIMIZE CURB CUTS
 -BOULEVARD/PLAZA ENTRANCE & EXIT AWAY FROM INTERSECTIONS
 -ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR EVENTS
 -MAINTAIN MAJORITY OF EXISTING GREEN & PRESERVE MOST TREES
 -PROVIDE SIDEWALK NETWORK & PEDESTRIAN SAFE ROUTE TO ACCESS GREEN WITH NO ROADWAY CROSSING
 -MAINTAIN EXISTING MID-BLOCK CROSSING AT MARKET
 -NEW ISLAND AND PARKING CONFIGURATION AT MARKET
 -PROVIDE NEW MID-BLOCK CROSSING TO BANK
 -MAINTAIN ACCESS TO DARK ENTRY ROAD



		SUPV.	S.R.M.
		DESIGN	R.E.B.
		DRAWN	R.E.B.
		CHECKED	S.R.M.
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE
		REVISIONS	11/22/24

**CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT
FOR DISCUSSION ONLY**

SCALE
1" = 80'



WENGELL, McDONNELL & COSTELLO
 87 HOLMES ROAD
 NEWINGTON, CT 06111
 (860) 667-9624

PREPARED FOR
 TOWN OF CORNWALL
 24 PINE STREET
 CORNWALL, CT 06753

CONCEPT LAYOUT 1 (EASTERN 'T') CORNWALL BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS CORNWALL, CT				SHEET	X
D	CORNWALL BRIDGE	CORNWALL_P0	XXXXX	REV.	OF
SIZE	PROJECT	FILE NAME	NUMBER	REV.	X



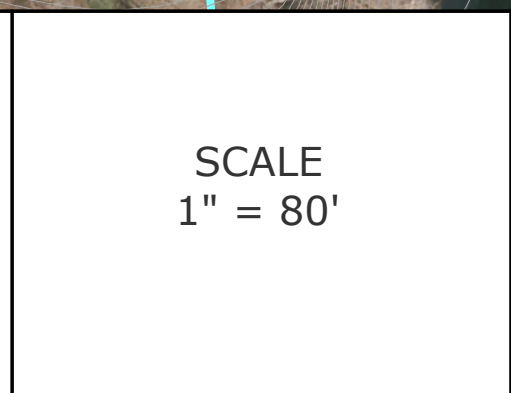
HIGHLIGHTS:

- ELIMINATE 'Y' INTERSECTIONS AND POINTS OF CONFLICT
- PROPOSED SIGNALIZED 4-WAY INTERSECTION
- DEDICATED LEFT TURN ONLY LANE ON RT4 TO TRAVEL SOUTH ON KENT ROAD S
- DEDICATED RIGHT TURN ONLY LANE ADDED TO RT 7 TO TRAVEL SOUTH ON KENT ROAD S
- MINIMIZE CURB CUTS
- BOULEVARD/PLAZA ENTRANCE & EXIT AWAY FROM INTERSECTIONS
- REALIGN BANK ENTRANCE AND PARKING
- ALIGN BOULEVARD AND BANK ENTRANCE
- ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR EVENTS
- MAINTAIN MAJORITY OF EXISTING GREEN & PRESERVE MOST TREES
- PROVIDE SIDEWALK NETWORK & PEDESTRIAN SAFE ROUTE TO ACCESS GREEN WITH NO ROADWAY CROSSING
- MAINTAIN EXISTING MID-BLOCK CROSSING AT MARKET
- NEW ISLAND AND PARKING CONFIGURATION AT MARKET
- PROVIDE NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING TO BANK AND BROOK ROAD AT SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION
- MAINTAIN ACCESS TO DARK ENTRY ROAD

		SUPV.	S.R.M.
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CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT
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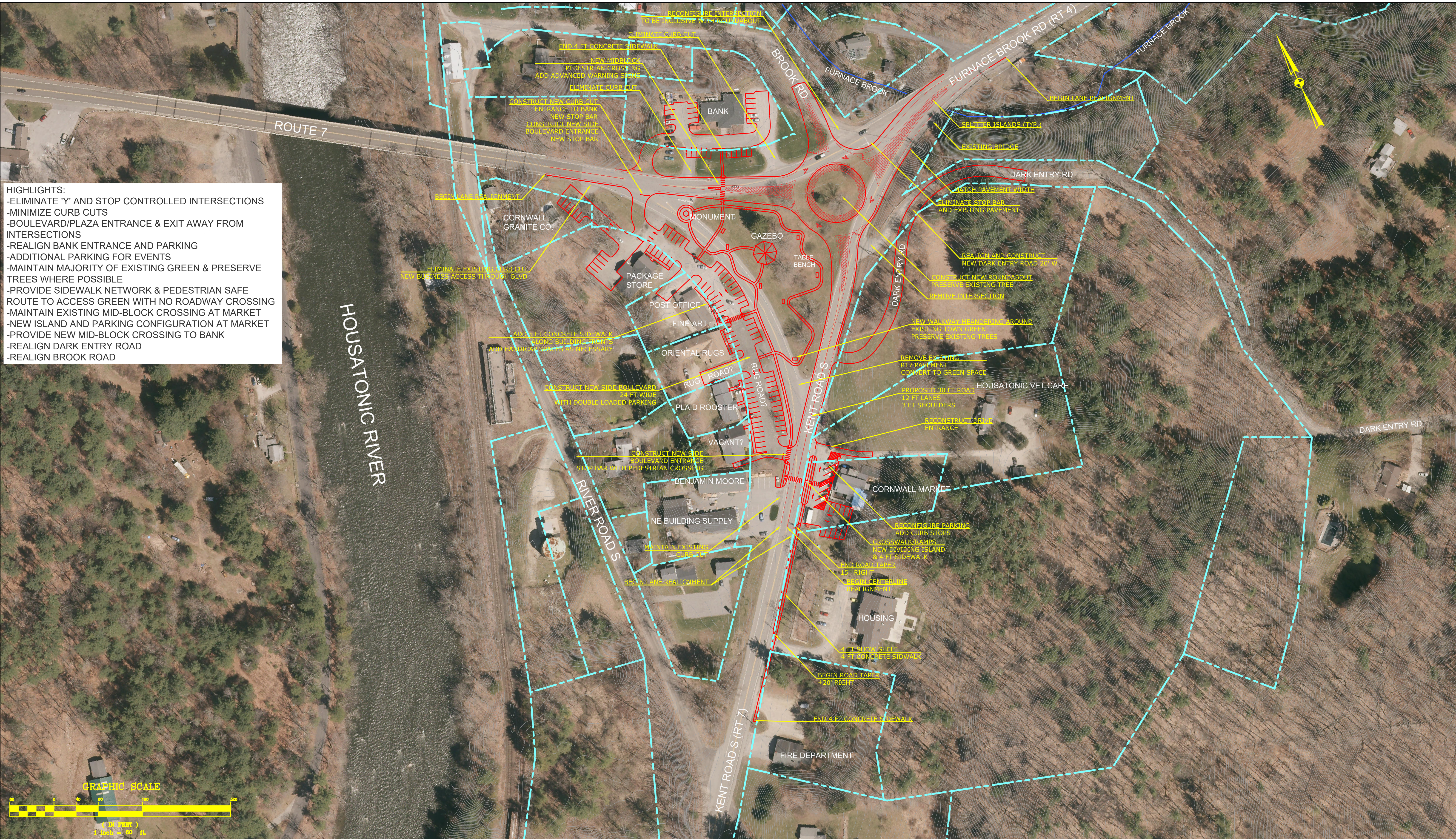
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CORNWALL, CT 06753

CONCEPT LAYOUT 1A (EASTERN 'T' SIGNALIZED) CORNWALL BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS CORNWALL, CT				SHEET	X
D	CORNWALL BRIDGE	CORNWALL_P0	XXXXX	REV.	OF
SIZE	PROJECT	FILE NAME	NUMBER	REV.	OF

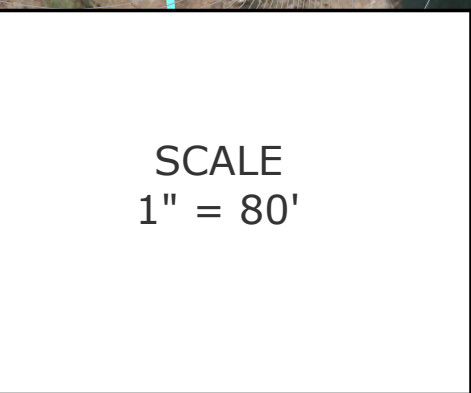


- HIGHLIGHTS:**
- ELIMINATE 'Y' AND STOP CONTROLLED INTERSECTIONS
 - MINIMIZE CURB CUTS
 - BOULEVARD/PLAZA ENTRANCE & EXIT AWAY FROM INTERSECTIONS
 - REALIGN BANK ENTRANCE AND PARKING
 - ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR EVENTS
 - MAINTAIN MAJORITY OF EXISTING GREEN & PRESERVE TREES WHERE POSSIBLE
 - PROVIDE SIDEWALK NETWORK & PEDESTRIAN SAFE ROUTE TO ACCESS GREEN WITH NO ROADWAY CROSSING
 - MAINTAIN EXISTING MID-BLOCK CROSSING AT MARKET
 - NEW ISLAND AND PARKING CONFIGURATION AT MARKET
 - PROVIDE NEW MID-BLOCK CROSSING TO BANK
 - REALIGN DARK ENTRY ROAD
 - REALIGN BROOK ROAD

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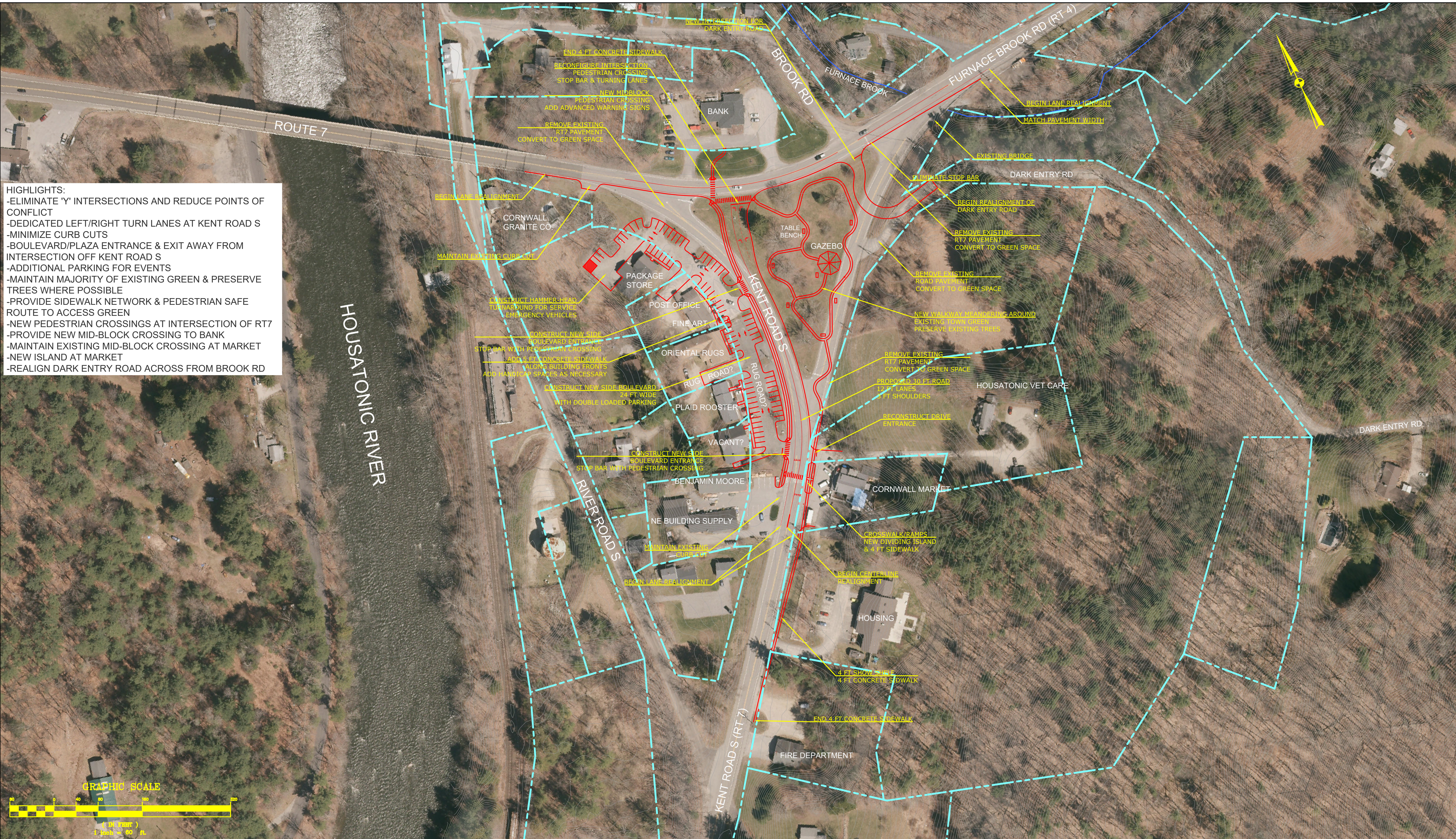
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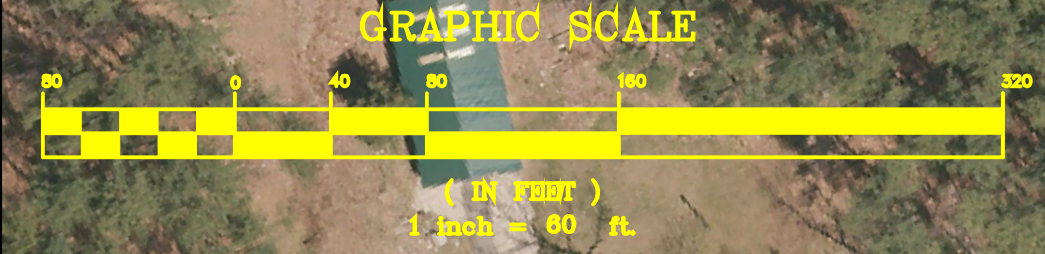
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CORNWALL, CT 06753

CONCEPT LAYOUT 2 (ROUNDBOUT) CORNWALL BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS CORNWALL, CT				SHEET	X
D	CORNWALL BRIDGE	CORNWALL_P	XXXXX	REV.	OF
SIZE	PROJECT	FILE NAME	NUMBER	REV.	X



- HIGHLIGHTS:**
- ELIMINATE 'Y' INTERSECTIONS AND REDUCE POINTS OF CONFLICT
 - DEDICATED LEFT/RIGHT TURN LANES AT KENT ROAD S
 - MINIMIZE CURB CUTS
 - BOULEVARD/PLAZA ENTRANCE & EXIT AWAY FROM INTERSECTION OFF KENT ROAD S
 - ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR EVENTS
 - MAINTAIN MAJORITY OF EXISTING GREEN & PRESERVE TREES WHERE POSSIBLE
 - PROVIDE SIDEWALK NETWORK & PEDESTRIAN SAFE ROUTE TO ACCESS GREEN
 - NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AT INTERSECTION OF RT7
 - PROVIDE NEW MID-BLOCK CROSSING TO BANK
 - MAINTAIN EXISTING MID-BLOCK CROSSING AT MARKET
 - NEW ISLAND AT MARKET
 - REALIGN DARK ENTRY ROAD ACROSS FROM BROOK RD



		SUPV.	S.R.M.
		DESIGN	R.E.B.
		DRAWN	R.E.B.
		CHECKED	S.R.M.
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE
		REVISIONS	11/22/24

CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT
FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

SCALE
1" = 80'

WMC
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

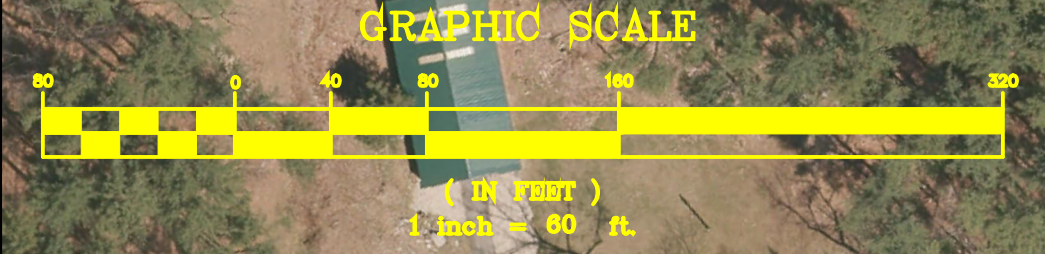
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CORNWALL, CT 06753

CONCEPT LAYOUT 3 (WESTERN 'T')				CORNWALL BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS		CORNWALL, CT	
D	CORNWALL BRIDGE	CORNWALL_P0	XXXXX	REV.	OF	SHEET	X
SIZE	PROJECT	FILE NAME	NUMBER	REV.	OF	SHEET	X



HIGHLIGHTS:
 -ELIMINATE 'Y' INTERSECTIONS AND REDUCE POINTS OF CONFLICT
 -DEDICATED LEFT/RIGHT TURN LANES AT KENT ROAD S
 -MINIMIZE CURB CUTS
 -BOULEVARD/PLAZA ENTRANCES & EXITS AWAY FROM INTERSECTION OFF KENT ROAD S & RT7
 -ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR EVENTS
 -MAINTAIN MAJORITY OF EXISTING GREEN & PRESERVE TREES WHERE POSSIBLE
 -PROVIDE SIDEWALK NETWORK & PEDESTRIAN SAFE ROUTE TO ACCESS GREEN
 -NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AT INTERSECTION OF RT7
 -PROVIDE NEW MID-BLOCK CROSSING TO BANK
 -MAINTAIN EXISTING MID-BLOCK CROSSING AT MARKET
 -NEW ISLAND AT MARKET
 -REALIGN DARK ENTRY ROAD ACROSS FROM BROOK RD



		SUPV.	S.R.M.
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CONCEPT LAYOUT 3A (WESTERN 'T' 3 WAY ACCESS)				SHEET X	
CORNWALL BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS				OF X	
CORNWALL, CT					
D	CORNWALL BRIDGE	CORNWALL_P3	XXXXX	REV.	
SIZE	PROJECT	FILE NAME	NUMBER	REV.	

Selectmen ..

From: H Cunnick <heidi.cunnick@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 23, 2024 12:19 PM
To: Lisa Keskinen; Robin Gray; Tony Scott; Deb Bennett; Kate freygang; Margie Purnell; Nancy Berry; richard griggs; Martin Chalk; Betty Spence; CHLA - Annie Kosciusko; Ted Schillinger; Ivan Miller; mitchpk01@gmail.com
Cc: Gordon Ridgway; Rocco Botto; Park Recreation
Subject: Fwd: Cream Hill Lake Survey Results

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Commissioners, Lake Task Force, and BoS,

Below is an email from Summer Weidman who mapped Cream Hill Lake for invasive species this past summer. The email includes a link to the results on our now official page on the [ct.gov](https://portal.ct.gov/caes/oais/c/cream-hill-lake-2024) OASIS (office of aquatic invasive species) site. Note the page indicates they were unable to gather transect and nutrient data. I can write Summer if she can come back and get the transect and nutrient data. *IF we think we can sell that into the town-folk so that no one gets upset.* I think it would be terrific to have this data from an official source. And it's **free while when the Lake Task Force does it, it's about \$300 for the labwork.** So if the BoS agree and are willing to support having Summer come back, I will reach out and ask her if she can try to get us back on the schedule for next summer. And this time I/we can make sure we prepare folks better about why this work is important.

Also, the report mentions *Phragmites* which is an issue and the conservation commission is working on a pilot program to try to reduce the population without herbicides. We don't want to replace our lovely cattails with phragmites. Phragmites support wildlife but create many issues, Cattails support more wildlife diversity than the phragmites, and keep a lower profile (better views) on the lakefront, don't disrupt the hydrology, and pose no fire risk the way *Phragmites* does.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all,

Heidi

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Weidman, Summer <Summer.Weidman@ct.gov>
Date: Fri, Nov 22, 2024 at 3:01 PM
Subject: Cream Hill Lake Survey Results
To: H Cunnick <heidi.cunnick@gmail.com>

Hi Heidi,

Hope things are well. Here are the results from our partial survey this year. Let me know if you have any questions. <https://portal.ct.gov/caes/oais/c/cream-hill-lake-2024>

Thanks,

Summer

Summer Weidman (née Stebbins), Research Technician II (she/her)

Office of Aquatic Invasive Species

Department of Environmental Science & Forestry

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

Phone: 203-974-8545

Web: <https://portal.ct.gov/caes-oais>

Email: summer.weidman@ct.gov

123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT 06511

Selectmen ..

From: Barton Jones <jones.barton@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 23, 2024 10:14 AM
To: Gordon Ridgway
Subject: Cornwall Needs Speed Cameras

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I urge the Cornwall Selectmen to consider adopting an ordinance for speed cameras like that being considered in Kent.

Speeding is an issue in West Cornwall, Cornwall Bridge and on Route 4 near Foote Fields.

It is time to make Cornwall a safer place.

Thank you

Bart Jones

Lakeville Journal Article November 21, 2024

KENT — A public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. on Nov. 22 for the adoption of a new traffic safety ordinance that would install two speed safety cameras along Route 7 to the north and south of downtown.

At the Tuesday, Nov. 12, special meeting of the board, the selectmen voted to approve edits made to the ordinance chapter, and move forward to a public hearing ahead of a town vote on Dec. 6. If the town votes the ordinance through, it will then be passed on to the state for approval of the location of the cameras.

“There are quite a few speeders that have come into town lately,” said First Selectman Marty Lindenmayer. He located the ordinance as part of a multi- year effort on the part of the town to slow traffic in the center of Kent.

“Post Covid, people are back on the road,” he said, also citing the increasing permanent and visitor populations as contributing to increased excessive speed incidents. After several years of trialing speed mitigation measures, such as lowering speed limits and installing LED “your speed” signs, the situation hadn’t tangibly improved, said Lindenmayer, citing reports from police and the town’s own speeding data collection project.

Lindenmayer said the new ordinance is “a tool” to finally address the speeding issue in town. He mentioned that the town of Washington, Connecticut, is just ahead of Kent in its own process of implementing speed cameras, and has been helpful in providing data and guidance.

Lindenmayer stated that the cameras would be installed in plain sight with the proper signage – “no hidden cameras or moving them in the middle of the night,” as he put it.

“From the start, this has been a safety issue,” said Selectman Glenn Sanchez at the Nov. 12 meeting. He related a story of how he was once passed by another vehicle – crossing the double yellow line – while driving down Main Street. “It was unbelievable,” he said.

Selectman Lynn Worthington reported that some residents fear the move has other motivations. “I’ve heard complaints that this is another way to tax residents,” she said.

She recommended the board be upfront at the public hearing about the financial aspects of the ordinance. “It’s not a money-making endeavor,” she emphasized.

Lindenmayer was careful to point out that the ordinance itself states that any money received from citations will have to go toward the maintenance of traffic programs, such as improving signage and painting crosswalks.

Selectmen ..

From: Jason Sander <jsander325@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 2:08 PM
To: Selectmen ..
Subject: Re: Maple Hill Farm Idling Transportation Trucks @4am on a Saturday morning

How do I propose an ordinance that no large trucks can idle on a residential street from midnight to 6am so the streets residence can get a full uninterrupted nights sleep?

> On Nov 18, 2024, at 11:15 AM, Selectmen .. <selectmen@cornwallct.gov> wrote:

>

> Jason,

>

> I am not an expert on state law, however my preliminary research shows agricultural vehicles are exempt from state regulation of idling. Further, I am unaware of any local or state restrictions on hours of agricultural activity.

>

> Thank you,

>

> Gordon M. Ridgway

> First Selectman

> Town of Cornwall

> 860-672-4959

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Jason Sander <jsander325@yahoo.com>

> Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 4:17 AM

> To: Gordon Ridgway <cwselectmen@optonline.net>

> Subject: Maple Hill Farm Idling Transportation Trucks @4am on a Saturday morning

>

> Gordon,

>

> Is this permitted per Connecticut law on Cherry Hill Road, a residential street? Please advise.

>

> Thank you,

>

> Jason Sander

> 27 Cherry Hill Road



TOWN OF CORNWALL

Selectmen's Office | Gordon Ridgway, First Selectman

P.O. Box 97, Cornwall, CT 06753

Office (860) 672-4959 | Fax (860) 672-4068

Selectmen@CornwallCT.gov

NOTICE

December 3, 2024

TO: CORNWALL RESIDENTS
FROM: THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
RE: NO PARKING NOTICE DURING SNOW SEASON

Effective December 6th, 2024, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Cornwall will evoke its power to prohibit the parking of all vehicles that are situated so as to interfere with snow plowing activity on Town highways.

The restrictions will apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from **December 6, 2024, through March 30, 2025.**

Plowing activity can occur at any time and includes set back plowing in clear weather.

Interference with plowing can occur unless a parked vehicle is at least 6 feet from the traveled or paved portion of the highway.

Section 14-307 of the Connecticut State Statutes empowers the Cornwall Board of Selectmen to remove vehicles parked in violation of its orders.

Your cooperation is requested. Thank you.

Gordon M. Ridgway, First Selectman

Rocco Botto, Selectman

Jennifer Markow, Selectman