MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 19, 2025
7:00 PM - Town Hall - Council Chambers
https://youtube.com/live/m0GM-pe-EOE

1. **PRAYER - Jeff Rousseau**

A prayer was made by Councilor Rousseau.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Gina Cekala (left the meeting at 8:35pm), Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella (remotely) (left the meeting at 9:00pm), Lori Unghire

Absent: Robert Cressotti

Also present were Town Manager, Christopher Bromson; Assistant Town Manager, Steve Bielenda; Interim Town Attorney, Tom Tyler; Assistant Town Attorney, Lawrence Widem; and Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey.

4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

The fire evacuation was announced.

5. **MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS**

- Regular Meeting - May 5, 2025

MOTION #7233 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Marie Pyznar to accept the minutes.
Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7233** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

- Special Meeting - May 6, 2025

MOTION #7234 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Lori Unghire to accept the minutes.
Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7234** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

- Special Meeting - May 12, 2025

MOTION #7235 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Lori Unghire to accept the minutes.
Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7235** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr.,

Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

6. SPECIAL GUESTS

- **Armory Line - Matt Hart, Executive Director, CRCOG**

Town Manager Bromson introduced Matt Hart, Executive Director of CRCOG, who was joined by his colleagues Robert Aloise, Director of Transportation Planning; Caitlin Palmer, Director of Regional Planning & Development; and Mike Cipriano, GIS Specialist/Principal Planner. Mr. Bromson stated that he was in attendance at a CRCOG meeting last week along with thirty-eight area towns. He appreciated the work of Mr. Hart and his colleagues and their discussion concerning municipal shared services. They also spoke about AI, technology, and announced the opening of a Technology Center in Hartford. He said that CRCOG is a great group to be a member of and that Enfield will have a larger presence at their meetings in the future.

Mayor Nelson has worked alongside Representative Carol Hall and the CT DOT for months trying to get something moving on the Armory Line, whether it was Rails to Trails, Rails with Trails or just Trails. Mr. Hart presented an offer from CRCOG that Mr. Nelson wanted the entire Council to hear. Mr. Hart explained the potential of a multi-use trail on the Armory Line. He said the first step in a project like this is to begin with a planning effort or a feasibility study, especially when it applies to an active line like the Armory Line. The purpose of their attendance tonight was to discuss whether Enfield would be eligible to use an existing CRCOG study to kick-start the project. They would collectively learn what would be needed to appropriately study the feasibility of using the Armory Line for a multi-use trail. Mr. Hart presented a few slides detailing their Priority Pathways Study, East Coast Greenway Study, and what the town could expect moving forward.

Priority Pathways builds on previous efforts and creates a safe, comfortable, low-stress environment, while developing a more connected network for bicyclists and pedestrians and benefiting recreation and utility users. Currently, they are six months into an eighteen-month regional study. They have received extensive outreach from municipalities, including Enfield. The goal would be to connect the economic center of town to transit areas. This regional study is to determine the corridors that would serve bicyclists and pedestrians. It would determine its main focus, identify high-level constraints, and develop a scope to explore the Rails with Trails option and anticipated funding requirements. The preliminary work would not include completion of a full-fledged feasibility study but would include an estimate of what that type of study would cost. Town staff or council members would be educated on the process of implementing Rails with Trails, but it would not include broader public education or engagement.

Mr. Hart believed the East Coast Greenway Study for the Griffin Line in Hartford would be the closest recommendation to include Rails with Trails. This study was in coordination with CT DOT and included constraint mapping, cross-sections, renderings, along with cost estimates. There are many similarities between the Griffin Line and Armory Line. The CT DOT owns the right-of-way for the rail in both instances and leases it to an operator. CRCOG works closely with all the DOT transportation studies, specifically with the Office of Rail, to ensure safety since the Griffin Line is an active line. The design guidelines vary from rail to rail.

As long as there was no major opposition, they would move forward by contacting a Priority Pathways consultant who would complete a short-duration task. More than likely, they won't start until they have knowledge of the new operator or a new lease under contract. They would then determine the scope and associated fees, educate the public on the process, and provide completion of deliverables. Following that, the town would be free to pursue funding for the Rails with Trails feasibility study. It could come in the form of state funding from places like DEEP, or federal funding sources that would require a local match. The town would have the opportunity to have CRCOG oversee the study. CRCOG would be willing to spend $10,000 on an existing study utilizing their funds to conduct this preliminary step. It would show the scope of what would be needed in order to complete the feasibility study.

Councilor Mangini asked who would be responsible for paying any costs exceeding the $10,000 that CRCOG would fund. Mr. Hart said that with a preliminary study they would better understand the costs associated with the feasibility study. The current cost ranges from $17,000 to $40,000 per mile, but a study would help narrow down that amount. They would use the funds from the project that Mr. Cipriano is managing to cover the cost of the preliminary study, leaving no cost to Enfield. Ms. Mangini asked if the feasibility study would give municipalities an idea of public interest. Mr. Aloise stated that with any feasibility study, public engagement is a difficult task. In order for DOT to take steps to construct anything on the line, they would want public buy-in and town buy-in. Ms. Palmer said that there was a feasibility study that was part of a larger project. If the public engagement portion was important to the Council, it could be added to their scope.

Councilor Ludwick said that the trail in East Longmeadow could be used as a feasibility study as many residents of Enfield already utilize their walking path. He would like to see Enfield be a pilot, through CRCOG, for a connection from East Longmeadow down along the bridge that crosses the Scantic River. He would rather have a connection from that end than connect through Hartford as it would take years to complete a line from East Windsor to Enfield. He said that it would also make it a multi-state project which may open them up for federal grants. Mr. Aloise responded that from a DOT standpoint, it's nice to have a document that states what the constraints are and the cost. They could certainly have a consultant break the project up into sections. Mr. Ludwick stated that the Council had already passed two resolutions supporting a Rail/Trail project, and starting on the East Longmeadow side would be the perfect starting point. Mr. Hart liked Mr. Ludwick's points, but said it was important to take the preliminary steps to help narrow the scope. Mr. Hart stated that there may be many great linkage spots to the east as well, because the East Coast Greenway Trail is 3,000 miles long and links Florida to Maine.

Mayor Nelson said that East Windsor wants to stop the project at Broad Brook because that line is active. The focus of CRCOG would be that portion of Enfield and Broad Brook. They were waiting to hear back from the consultant to determine how long it would take to complete a feasibility study. They required that a new lease was signed to determine constraints before moving forward. Mr. Aloise said they were approached by both Mr. Nelson and East Windsor and offered the same plan to both. The $10,000 has already been approved for this purpose, and they believe it's a close enough match to move forward. These are federal funds that are being used but can only be used as planning funds. During a prior call with DOT and Representative Hall, she was denied a copy of the lease information and was told to FOIA the request. He believed that if the town, their state reps, and CRCOG worked together, they might be able to obtain the lease information. Mayor Nelson did not want CRCOG to spend any money if the sentiment of the Council had changed.

The Mayor obtained a consensus from the Council for CRCOG to move forward with the study.

A copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes.

7. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND PETITIONS

Marjorie Gandossy, 31 Frew Terrace

Ms. Gandossy asked if the money for the study that would be completed by CRCOG was Federal or from the town. She worried about the town funding it since they didn't have the money to fully fund the schools for the new school year. While she supports trails, she supports education and reasonable class sizes more.

George Young, 8 Holly Lane

Mr. Young questioned the Council about the plans to improve Ridge Road and Holly Lane. Mr. Young noted that his road had been marked multiple times, and it was his impression that it cost money to do that every time. He wanted to know if they were replacing the sewer system, getting fiber-optic cable, a complete renovation of the road, or just resurfacing. He would like to be provided a timeline, if available, which would be sent to neighboring houses.

Mr. Young questioned whether paperwork was required by the applicable 501(c)(3) applicants for Item C on the agenda. One of the requirements of Form NAA-01 states that expenditures must equal or exceed total funding. He explained that neither the Enfield Food Shelf nor Enfield People for People met those requirements. They are also being asked to attach a copy of page 1 of their last Form 990, which is the tax return for non-profits. He questioned why they are requiring the return for 2023 and not 2024. He didn't believe the Council should be approving what appeared to be incomplete applications. Mr. Young was also concerned about the impact Resolution G would have, if approved, on the applications for the Enfield Food Shelf and Enfield People for People. The transfer would increase the budget after it has already been approved, because of the receipt of a last-minute reimbursement check from the BOE. The transfer in Resolution F to the BOE will also increase the FY26 budget.

Pam Townsend, 54 Kimberly Drive
Ms. Townsend had the privilege and honor of attending a ceremony at Governor William A. O'Neill State Armory. The ceremony was to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of WWII in September 1945. The event was hosted by the office of Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz in collaboration with the CT VA Commissioner Ron Welch and General Francis Evon of the CT National Guard. Around seventy-one WWII veterans from all over CT were in attendance, including six from Enfield. The Enfield veterans ranged in age from 97 to 101 years of age. Enfield had the largest contingent in attendance. In order for the veterans to be able to participate, a lot of planning was required. This included getting permission from veteran families and ensuring each veteran had an escort. She wanted to thank Town Clerk Sheila Bailey for helping to coordinate this special event, all while managing budget season, Charter Revision, and her office. She appreciated Ms. Bailey's professionalism and dedication to Enfield's veterans. Ms. Townsend said the event was emotional, and she appreciated that Lt. Gov. Bysiewicz went around to interview every veteran in attendance. She quoted Calvin Coolidge, "No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave."

Aaron Thomas, 1 Terrace Circle
Mr. Thomas spoke on behalf of his daughter, a senior at Enfield High, and his two nephews. Mr. Thomas said his daughter has attended Enfield schools since elementary school, through the pandemic, and now as a graduating senior. Over the years, a number of her mentors have been let go, and her favorite classes have been cut. One of his nephews is in elementary school, and the other is a student at JFK. He didn't believe that his nephews would have the same experience his daughter had. He said that as a licensed real estate

agent in MA and CT, he has found it difficult to get people to move to Enfield versus other towns. He believed that it was due to the school budget.

Lucien Lefevre, 54 Kimberly Drive

Mr. Lefevre, Chair of the Enfield Veteran's Council, announced that on Sunday, May 25th, Enfield would host their annual Memorial Day Parade. The parade starts at 1pm at Enfield Street School and finishes at the Town Green. He looks forward to seeing everyone in attendance. There will be a flyover with two Chinook helicopters, with one of the pilots being a Fermi High graduate. The CT VA Commissioner will be the guest speaker at the Town Green after the wreath-laying ceremony. Retired General Ron Welch will also be there, and Lt. Governor Bysiewicz will also try to attend. The parade is a great chance for residents to listen to the Enfield High School band perform along with the Honors Choir, who will perform the National Anthem. Mr. Lefevre also had the opportunity to attend the 80th anniversary commemorating the end of WWII. He said it was a humbling experience to see all the veterans. He believed that the event had the largest number of 100-year-olds in attendancein one place.

George Young, 8 Holly Lane

Mr. Young asked how many people were approved for the Senior Volunteer Tax Credit for their hours volunteered in the year 2024 calendar. He would like to compare the budget to the expenditure. He believed that the WPCA should increase the rate for their wastewater service, so that the town can receive more than $390,000, which has been the amount they have received since the approval of the wastewater plant. He also believed that their IT expenses should be reviewed along with the costs of certain services the town provides through the Town Manager's office and legal assistance. He said their bills should be increased, since the town is paying more to support the Town Manager's Office and the Legal Department. Doing so would reduce the mill rate.

Mr. Young stated that the senior population in Enfield is unfairly burdened with the cost of the BOE. The cost of living keeps increasing, and he is upset that some council members believe they should continue to pay the same tax rate, just because they may have a bit of money saved. He would like to see at least one Council member have the courage to lower taxes for seniors.

8. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Councilor Mangini congratulated the WWII veterans of Enfield and across the state and was thankful for the outpouring of support across town. Ms. Mangini also congratulated her godchild, Evan Krusha (sp), who earned his Army stripes and attended George Mason University and received his commission. Ms. Mangini also said that the Enfield Police Explorers are having their pig roast on June 7th from 12-8pm at the Moose Lodge. Tickets are $20 per person and everyone is welcome.

Councilor Rousseau recognized Bob Grindle as a remarkable member of the community. Mr. Rousseau had the opportunity to meet him yesterday at Shaker Fields. As Mr. Rousseau was leaving, he left behind a valuable item on one of the picnic tables, and Mr. Grindle found it this morning. Mr. Grindle did some detective work and contacted Mr. Rousseau to return the item. Mr. Rousseau said he was thankful to live in a community where such outstanding character still exists.

Councilor Hendrickson asked if the PAR (Project & Activities) Report was available online for residents to read. It was clarified that it is available on the Town Manager's page on the town website. Mr. Hendrickson said that it may provide some clarification with the Roads 2021 project. It also includes information about a number of projects happening in town. He said that they have not held a pre-construction meeting yet for the roads project.

Councilor Ludwick reminded residents that with the Abbe Road project going to bid, the sidewalks are included in the bid. Mr. Ludwick said that he respectfully disagrees with the process of the Siting Council, saying it is not a fair process and does not touch on the concerns of residents. Roughly 12% of the Siting Council decisions have been overturned in favor of the towns. He didn't believe it to be a fair percentage, and he stressed that the process needed to change. Even though Enfield was not successful, he was appreciative of what steps they took here in Enfield. He believed that if there was going to be an appellate process, then the state should fund it so that residents would be able to afford a lawyer to fight what would be in their backyards.

Councilor Santanella gave a shout-out to members of the Enfield Police Department for their participation in the Unity Tour, bicycling from Enfield all the way to Washington D.C. They participated in the National Law Enforcement memorial services held last week. He also congratulated PLA Class #18, who graduated last Thursday. The ceremony was held at Enfield High, and he was happy to see a group of parents who were engaged in the community. Mr. Santanella was also in attendance at the WWII veteran’s recognition event today. He said it was an emotional event, and he was honored to attend and meet all the veterans. The Enfield delegation included Jeremy Gorman, Edward Stanley Cott, Stanley Kokofski, Melvin Krupa, Ernest Maynard, and Henry Sroka.

Deputy Mayor Pyznar also attended the PLA graduation ceremony, which is sponsored by K.I.T.E. saying it was in their 18th year. Ms. Pyznar said she was disappointed she was unable to attend their Health and Wellness event on the Town Green this past Sunday. She attended the Opera House Players' rendition of *Anastasia* with her granddaughter, and said the performance was excellent. She also had the opportunity to go to the Felician Sisters Convent to celebrate their 150th anniversary. Ms. Pyznar provided some history about the Felician Sisters, their convent, and the grounds dating back to 1932. The Sisters have taught at various locations across Enfield and currently run the Montessori school. They are also working on getting the over 55 community options for quality housing.

Ms. Pyznar thanked Town Clerk Bailey for her hard work in coordinating the WWII event for Enfield veterans. She thanked the driver for picking up the veterans and providing transportation to and from the event, along with staff at American Assisted Living and Parkway for getting the veterans ready. She appreciated Mr. Lefevre for stepping in at the last minute to assist one of the veterans. Prior to the event, she gathered some photos of her father who served in WWII and shared them with the group. Mr. Cott recognized Ms. Pyznar's father from his time in the service. She said that one gentleman stood up and said he would do it all over again, because he loves this country so much. Ms. Pyznar said it was very apparent how much Lt. Governor Bysiewicz cares about the veterans, making sure to go around and speak to every veteran who wanted to say something. She said it was a remarkable day and thanked everyone who allowed her to be a part of it.

Mayor Nelson addressed Mr. Young's concern about the Neighborhood Assistance Act and said that tonight they are only setting a date for the Public Hearing. He believed that the rest of Mr. Young's concerns would be addressed throughout the evening, including the roads. Mayor Nelson attended the JFK Awards Ceremony last week and said there are many smart students at JFK. He was proud to note that there was a student who received almost every award offered that night.

Mr. Nelson was unable to attend the WWII event due to travel but said that Pam Townsend and Lucien Lefevre deserve praise for making sure the event was a success for Enfield veterans. They worked together to organize and contact the right people. He said that they sell themselves short, but they always go out of their way to help the veterans and community. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart.

9. TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

10. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

Town Attorney Tom Tyler introduced the Town of Enfield's new Assistant Town Attorney, Lawrence Widem. Mr. Tyler said that Mr. Widem would attend the second half of the meeting to ensure that they always have attorney coverage. Mr. Widem has been helpful to the Town Attorney's office, allowing Mr. Tyler and Assistant Town Attorney Mark Cerrato to attend more meetings during the day. Mr. Widem is very experienced in solar issues and processes, which could prevent Enfield from going outside to obtain counsel in the future.

In the case of Hernandez vs. Board of Education, the notice to appeal was filed with the Second Circuit Court of Appeals by Wes Horton several weeks ago. There will be a remote pre-trial hearing conference which Mr. Tyler will attend on behalf of the town. This will be held on Thursday, May 29th, and he hoped to provide an update at an upcoming Executive Session.

He said that the Deer Pond Recycling Project is an application pending with the State of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The project will be located in Longmeadow right on the Enfield line. Mayor Nelson sent a letter to MA DEP outlining the concerns of residents in the Shaker Pines area, the trucks, the potential railway, and environmental concerns. They have not yet received a response from MA DEP. A hearing will take place in East Longmeadow with their Board of Health. A consensus was obtained from the Council to authorize the Town Attorney's office to appear on behalf of the Town of Enfield and Council to restate the concerns that were outlined in the letter.

Mayor Nelson asked if it was too late to seek an appeal from the Siting Council now that Mr. Widem was on board. It was believed that the time to appeal had passed, but they would utilize Mr. Widem in the future for additional solar field inquiries and cases as well as compliance with the proposed Abbe Road solar project. Councilor Ludwick asked if DEEP could obtain soil sample tests from the solar fields on Broad Brook Road and asked if they should be done on a yearly basis. Mr. Widem would look into Mr. Ludwick's concerns. Councilor Hendrickson suggested that soil samples also be taken prior to the installation on Town Farm Road and then periodically.

11. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

- **South River Street Force Main Project Presentation - Donald Nunes**

Public Works Director Donald Nunes explained the sewer repair project would affect the residents of Asnuntuck Street, Cottage Green, Prospect Street and Thompson Court for about five to seven weeks. The map provided showed a large area of Enfield that utilizes the South River Street Pump Station. Currently, it pumps anywhere from 750K to 2.7million gallons of sewage a day. It then flows downwards to the gate valve location, which was built in 1931, where the force main and gravity mains meet. The entire project must be accessed from a small portion of a resident's property. The property owner has been accommodating, and they seek to contact them again in November. The current gate valve, built in 1931, is leaking. To remedy the situation, they would completely remove the valve and replace it with a straight pipe. Many parts of the system are cracked and broken and need to be completely replaced. To complete the project, two bypasses need to be completed, similar to Simon Road. They will be working closely with EPD to create traffic routes. Mr. Nunes said that starting around May 20th tenants will be contacted, and work will begin in June, with a tentative finish of mid-July. To mitigate the costs associated with the project, Mr. Nunes and Economic Development Director Aaron Marcavitch have applied for grants for congressionally directed spending, as well as a grant to study the best method of repair.

Councilor Ludwick thanked Mr. Nunes for the in-depth presentations he has provided over the last year on projects like Martin Terrace, Simon Road, and now this. He also appreciated the transparency and communication with residents.

A copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Consent Agenda**

1. **Transfer Funds for the Purchase of a New Magic Carpet Bus**

MOTION #7236 by: Bob Hendrickson, seconded: Marie Pyznar to accept the consent agenda. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7236** adopted. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None. ***A copy of the full resolution is below.***

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made.

FROM: Fixed Route Bus Grant

Miscellaneous State Revenue	22046148-413699	$14,656
Senior Citizens Bus Committee	22046148-573200	$6,002

TO: Fixed Route Bus Grant

Vehicles	22046148-573200	$20,658

I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 16, 2025, by John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance

B. **Appointment(s)–Town Council Appointed - NONE**

C. **Resolution Setting a Public Hearing for the 2025 Neighborhood Assistance Act**
RESOLUTION #7237 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council will hold a Public Hearing in the Enfield Town Hall Council Chambers, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Monday, June 2, 2025 at 6:50 pm to allow interested citizens an opportunity to express their opinion regarding the 2025 Neighborhood Assistance Act proposals.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7237** adopted. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, JeffRousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

D. **Resolution to Submit the Attached Town Council Recommendations to the Charter Revision Commission for Changes in the Commission's Draft Report**
RESOLUTION #7238 by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Cynthia Mangini.

Mayor Nelson said that the proposed changes were discussed last week, and they sought a legal opinion concerning the flag policy. Mr. Nelson noted that since the flags were not included in the Charter Revision Commission's Draft Report to the Council, they couldn't be included in the recommendations. Mr. Nelson requested clarification on whether this applied because the question was not actually rejected by the Charter Revision Commission as there had been a tie vote. Assistant Town Attorney Widem responded that because it was a tie vote, the affirmative never obtained a majority before the Commission. Once the Commission brings forward their Draft Report, the Council can vote yes or no or make changes to the report, but the Council cannot override the Charter Revision Commission or force them to re-vote on an issue that was rejected.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council hereby submits the attached recommendation(s) for changes in the Draft Report (or statement of no recommendations) to the Charter Revision Commission for consideration.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7238** adopted. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, Lori Unghire No: Cynthia Mangini, John Santanella Abstain: None. ***A copy of the Town Council'srecommendation is appended to these minutes.***

E. **Resolution Regarding Bid Waiver for Purchase of Demo Ambulance**

RESOLUTION #7239 by: Michael Ludwick, seconded: Cynthia Mangini.

WHEREAS, Enfield Emergency Medical Services seeks to purchase a demo ambulance that is new and available for immediate purchase; and

WHEREAS, There is a national shortage of vehicles effecting the production of new ambulances; the town will purchase a demo ambulance; and

WHEREAS, Enfield Emergency Medical Services will use a vendor that we have previously used and that the bulk of the cost of the vehicle is covered under state contract; and

WHEREAS, Enfield Emergency Medical Services will make minor modifications to the demo unit to ensure uniformity with the current ambulance fleet and increased lighting for safety standards. These modifications are not covered under the state contract.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter V, Section 8, Paragraph (d) of the Enfield Town Charter, the Enfield Town Council does hereby determine that it is against the best interest of the Town to require competitive bidding for the purchase of the demo ambulance.

Councilor Ludwick stated that he does not normally like to waive bid requirements, but he believed that Chief Erin Riggott always goes out of her way to get the best deal. He thanked her for always ensuring that Enfield gets the best quality at an affordable price. He believed this was an excellent way to add another ambulance to the fleet.

Town Manager Bromson said that the money had already been appropriated, but it became necessary to make modifications. The emergency service vehicles' shortage is a national crisis. It was decided before the budget to set aside the money so that they could quickly purchase the vehicle. Mayor Nelson added that it was important for all the vehicles to be uniform so that first responders can locate needed equipment in a hurry. He appreciates all the work Chief Riggott put in to find the ambulance and would support the bid waiver.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7239** adopted. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, JeffRousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

F. **Resolution to Increase the Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriation to the Town of Enfield Board of Education - $234,226**

RESOLUTION #7240 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Council of the Town of Enfield hereby approves the $234,226 increase in the Total School Appropriation to $79,332,249.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Enfield adopted budget for Appropriated Fund Balance (account 10040000 499000) will be increased by $234,226.

Councilor Hendrickson asked if the BOE asked for the additional appropriation. Mayor Nelson responded that the Council was around a 4% increase and decided to forgive the money that was given to the BOE last year. Acting Assistant Superintendent Mr. Longey did a great job of getting the BOE out of the financial crisis they inherited. This year the Board has excess funds that exceed the amount they can carry over from year to year. Increasing their FY26 budget appropriation will allow the BOE to use the funds to hire new staff members. He did not believe the money the Council gave should ever have been a loan, because the Board would be paying the funds back from funds the Council appropriates. This was the reason he decided on the 4% increase and the remainder of the check.

Councilor Ludwick gave kudos to the Chair of the BOE, Superintendent, and others for managing their budget and getting it back under control. Mr. Ludwick was under the impression that they were going to forgive the $1.7million. He did not believe he agreed to give this money back to them. He was concerned because they had just approved their budget and worried that giving them the money would increase their MBR for next year. He believed there were ways to support the schools without putting extra money into their budget, such as an additional SRO at JFK or custodians at the high school. He believed that this decision could wait, and he would rather meet with the Board. Councilor Mangini thanked the Mayor for doing what was right. She would support the resolution.

Mayor Nelson said he was in agreement with what Councilor Ludwick said but stated that if this money does not get added to their MBR, the Board would be unable to replace some of their crucial staff. Mr. Nelson understood that as a Council they cannot dictate what the BOE does with the funds once they are appropriated. He believed that they needed to have trust in one another. He had the opportunity to speak to the Superintendent at the Awards Night at JFK and Mr. Moccio said they are looking for positions at JFK where the majority of the problems are. He wanted to ensure that the money he promised would be funneled back into the schools to start addressing the problems that teachers, staff, and students had been talking about.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7240** adopted. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, JohnSantanella, Lori Unghire No: Michael Ludwick Abstain: None.

G. **Resolution to Appropriate Funds for Social Services Grants to Outside Agencies Supporting Enfield Residents - $98,500**

RESOLUTION #7241 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

FROM: **GENERAL FUND - REVENUES**

Appropriated Fund Balance	10040000	499000	$98,500

TO: **GENERAL FUND - NON-DEPARTMENTAL CHARGES - TRANSFERS OUT AND CONTINGENCIES**

Transfers to Social Services	10800092	593020	*$98,500*

FROM: **SOCIAL SERVICES - COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

General Fund Transfers In	22046164	480001	$98,500

TO: **SOCIAL SERVICES - COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

Network Against Domestic Abuse	22046164	589200	$17,000
Amplify Inc	22046164	589201	$ 3,000
Educ Resources for Children	22046164	589202	$13,000
Enfield Food Shelf	22046164	589203	$17,000
KITE	22046164	589204	$12,000
Enfield People for People	22046164	589207	$13,000
Enfield Homefront Team	22046164	589209	$ 8,500
Loaves and Fishes	22046164	589210	$15,000

I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 14, 2025, by John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance

Councilor Hendrickson said that he was willing to table the resolution until he could hear from the non-profit groups and have them present their cases. He would prefer to know what the money would be used for and what their grant processes are like. As a member of one of the organizations, he would abstain from voting. He stated that the Enfield Food Shelf would be willing to provide whatever information is asked of them. He also had the opportunity to speak with Finance Director John Wilcox about the cuts that were made, which appeared to be $200,000. Some of that money consists of grants. He asked for next year's budget book to include a line item for grant revenues. He did not believe that tabling the item would hurt any of the organizations.

Mayor Nelson said it was his belief that they could amend the resolution to appropriate the money without committing specific dollar amounts to individual organizations until they received additional information. The choices are to amend the resolution or table it. Ultimately, he would like the Council to meet with Ms. Guerreri from Social Services. Town Manager Bromson stated that Ms. Guerreri does not have any information on how the money would be used. In the past, some organizations had been asked to detail how they would spend the money, and they refused to do so, resulting in them pulling out. He believed that if Ms. Guerreri did that now, the organizations who were interested would be able to provide the information the Council wanted. Mr. Bromson said that if they wanted the money to be a part of the July 1st budget, then a resolution would need to be adopted June.

Deputy Mayor Pyznar was under the assumption that the money was being appropriated, and then the non-profits would come forward. Ms. Pyznar would also like more clarification about where the money goes. At one time, the non-profits used to come before the Council and explain what the money would be used for. She appreciated knowing where her tax dollars were going and believed that there needed to be accountability. Councilor Mangini said that the majority of the non-profits survive solely on fundraising and assistance. She stated that it was a no-brainer that the non-profits should receive the money, because they are struggling now more than ever before. It is important that the Council remain cognizant of their responsibility to care for those that are less fortunate. She would support the resolution to restore money to the non-profits.

Councilor Santanella explained that these organizations have received funding from the Town of Enfield for years, and they are an essential part of providing services to the community. Mr. Santanella said that it was not unusual for municipalities to make donations like this to these types of organizations. It was his understanding that the organizations needed to report to Social Services how they planned to utilize the money. Mr. Bromson agreed with that statement but said it may not be at the level of detail the Council would expect.

Councilor Hendrickson explained that the Town Charter states that any organization receiving over $5,000 would have a town liaison at the meetings. This would allow the liaison to see where the money was spent and report back. He was unsure if the other organizations listed had liaisons from the town. Councilor Ludwick thought that the Council members had to make sure that the money was allocated to the specifications the organization had outlined. Mr. Ludwick said that the intent was to cut the funding in half, and if they were receiving grant money in that section of the budget, he wanted to know if that was considered an expense. He would be fine with tabling the item until he received an explanation. Councilor Hendrickson reiterated that he is not against funding any of the organizations, but believed it was a great opportunity for them to express to the public how the money would be spent, what they do, and how they benefit the town.

Mayor Nelson did not want to see this item fail and would entertain a motion to table the item. He believed there were a lot of moving parts that he would like to see an explanation for. He questioned whether they should hold a special meeting prior to the regular meeting where Ms. Guerreri and Mr. Wilcox could give a detailed explanation.

MOTION by: Jim Nasuta, seconded: Lori Unghire to table the item.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted and the Resolution was tabled. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

H. **Resolution to Adopt the "Technical Support Specialist" Job Description**

RESOLUTION #7242 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Jim Nasuta.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby approve the "Technical Support Specialist" Job Description to take effect on July 1, 2025.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7242** adopted. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, JeffRousseau, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

I. **Resolution to Adopt the Revised "Parent Educator" Job Description**

RESOLUTION #7243 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Lori Unghire.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby approve the revised "Parent

Educator" Job Description.

Assistant Town Manager Bielenda explained that he approved this job description as to form, but as far as the content and substance, he would need to refer to Social Services Director Cindy Guerreri. The revision was cost-neutral for the town.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7243** adopted. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, JeffRousseau, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

J. **Resolution to Adopt the Revised "Operations Manager-Transportation" Job Description**

RESOLUTION #7244 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Enfield Town Council does hereby approve the revised "Operations Manager-Transportation" Job Description.

Assistant Town Manager Bielenda stated that he brought the job description forward because the position had gone to market using the current job description, and they were receiving the candidates they were searching for. After reviewing the job description, he believed some information was dissuading or discouraging to applicants who may not have the skill set that was required. They cleaned it up, and he believed that it would attract more candidates.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7244** adopted. Yes: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, JeffRousseau, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

14. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

None.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE SAID MEETING

None.

16. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS/APPLIES ONLY IF PRIOR TO 11:00 p.m.

Lucien Lefevre, 54 Kimberly Drive

Mr. Lefevre said that on the morning of the parade, Posts 154 and 80 will hold ceremonies at all the cemeteries to honor the veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice. It would start at 9am and move along all the cemeteries, and he encouraged the public to join them in remembering those who have fallen.

17. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Nelson asked if the town advertised the Memorial Day Parade, and Town Manager Bromson ensured that they would post information on the website and social media platforms. Pam Townsend explained that the Veterans page of the town website included all pertinent information. Deputy Mayor Pyznar said that if the parade gets rained out, they will move the ceremony to Enfield High at 1pm.

Mr. Bromson said that the Director of Social Services, Cindy Guerreri, had reached out to the Mark Twain House to gauge how many residents would be interested in attending the first concert of the Summer Concert Series on June 6th at 7pm. They have also discussed laying fiber optics out to the bandshell which will allow concerts to be live-streamed. Another idea was to install monitors which would display sponsor information and notable town events.

18. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: Jim Nasuta, seconded: Marie Pyznar to adjourn.
Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 9:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council

Lindsay Petrucci, Assistant Town Clerk
Secretary of the Council

Appended to the minutes of the May 19, 2025 Regular Town Council meeting. See Page 2 Special Guests

1

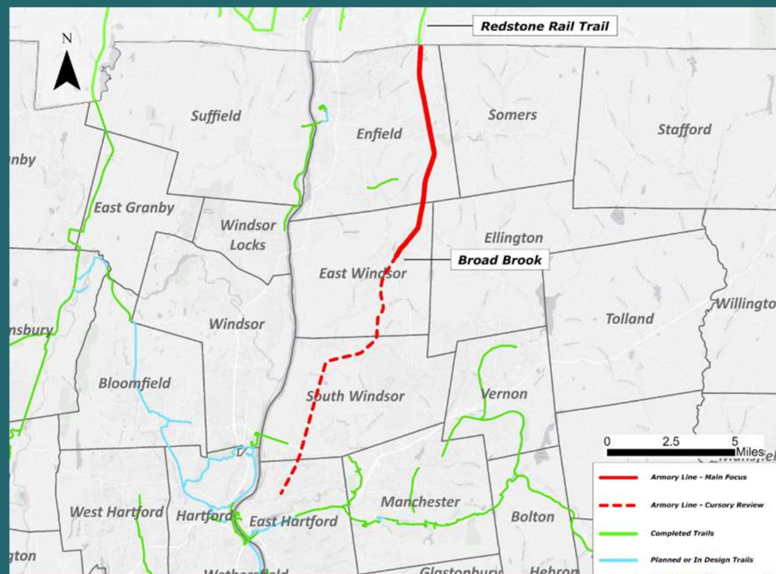
PRIORITY PATHWAYS

- Build upon previous efforts such as the Capitol Region Complete Streets Plan and East Coast Greenway Gap Closure Study.
- Create a safe, comfortable, and low stress environment for vulnerable users.
- Develop a more connected network for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Benefit both recreational and utility users.

2

OVERVIEW OF ARMORY LINE PROJECT TASK

- To be progressed as an "Extra Work" Task within the Priority Pathways Project
- Main Focus: Broad Brook to MA State line
- Cursory Review: South of Broad Brook
- High level identification of constraints
- Outreach / educational meetings with Towns
- Create a scope for a feasibility study to explore Rail-with-Trail (RWT) and anticipated funding requirements



3

WHAT THE PRELIMINARY WORK *WILL* AND *WILL NOT* DO

This *IS* "scoping a scope," *NOT* a full-fledged feasibility study

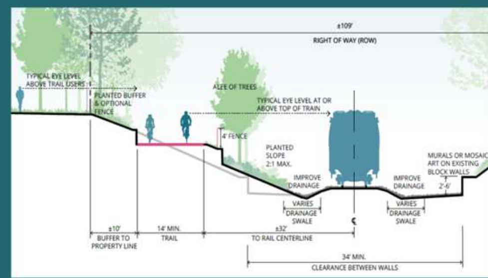
This *WILL* include an estimate for what a feasibility study will cost, however *WILL NOT* include a cost estimate to construct the actual trail

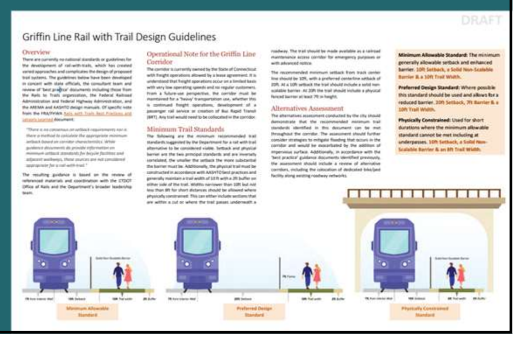
This *WILL* allow town (staff or council members) to be educated on the process to implement rails-with-trails, however this *WILL NOT* include broader public engagement or education

4

GRIFFIN LINE FEASIBILITY STUDY | HARTFORD

- Recent prior experience
- Rail-with-trail (RWT) feasibility study
- Coordination with CTDOT
- Constraint mapping
- Cross-sections and renderings
- Cost estimates





5

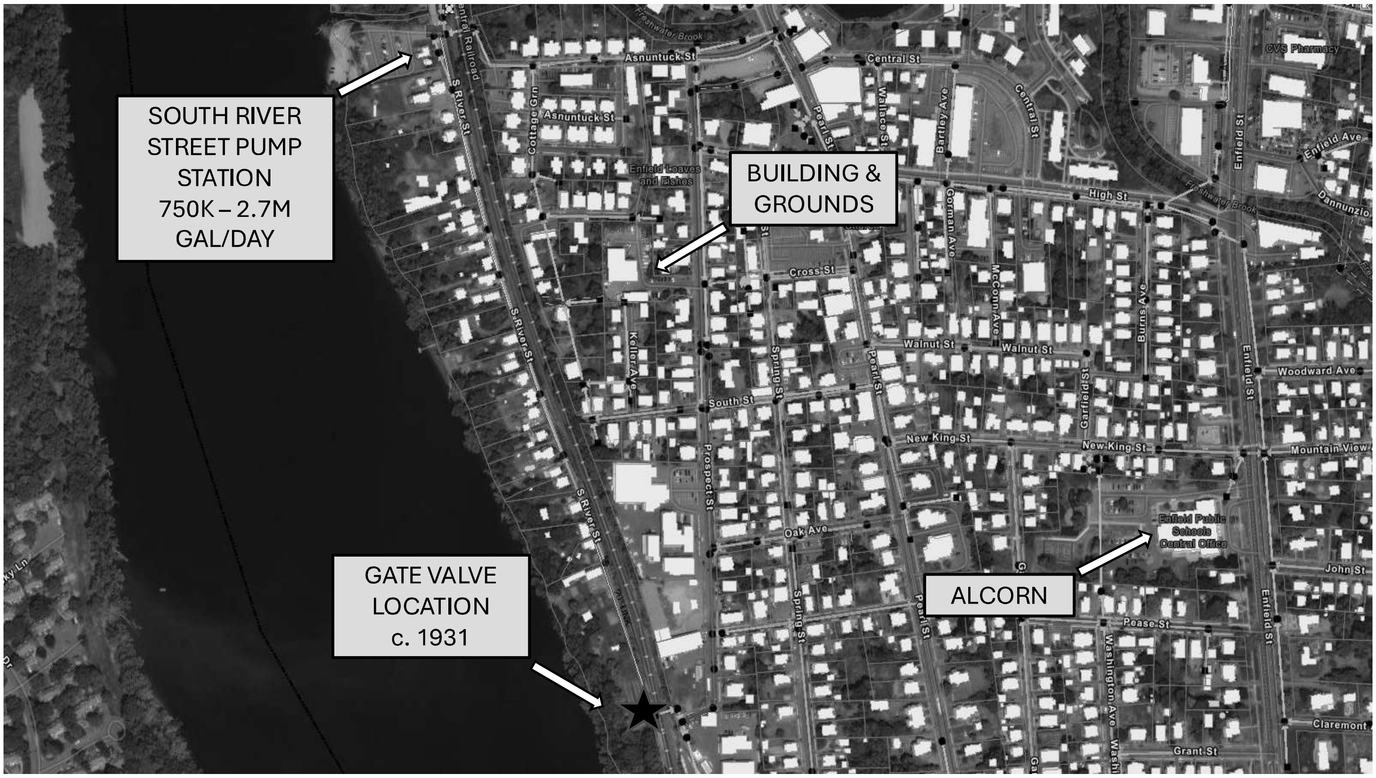
WHAT'S NEXT

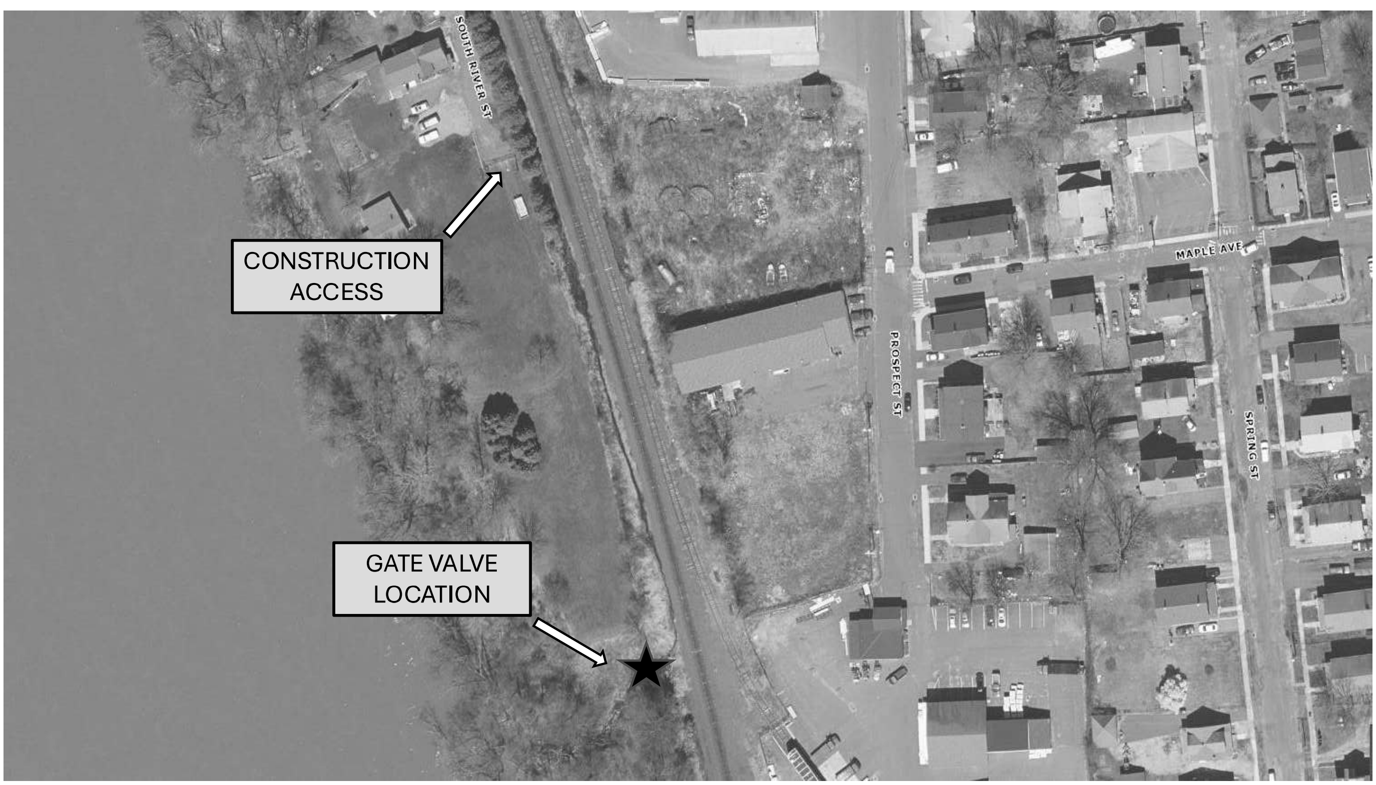
Near Term:
- Contract with Priority Pathways consultant
- Completion of Deliverables

Post-Scoping Efforts:
- Pursue funding for RWT feasibility study
- CRCOG potential to manage a future study

6

Appended to the minutes of the May 19, 2025 Regular Town Council meeting. See Page 9, Special Committees of the Council

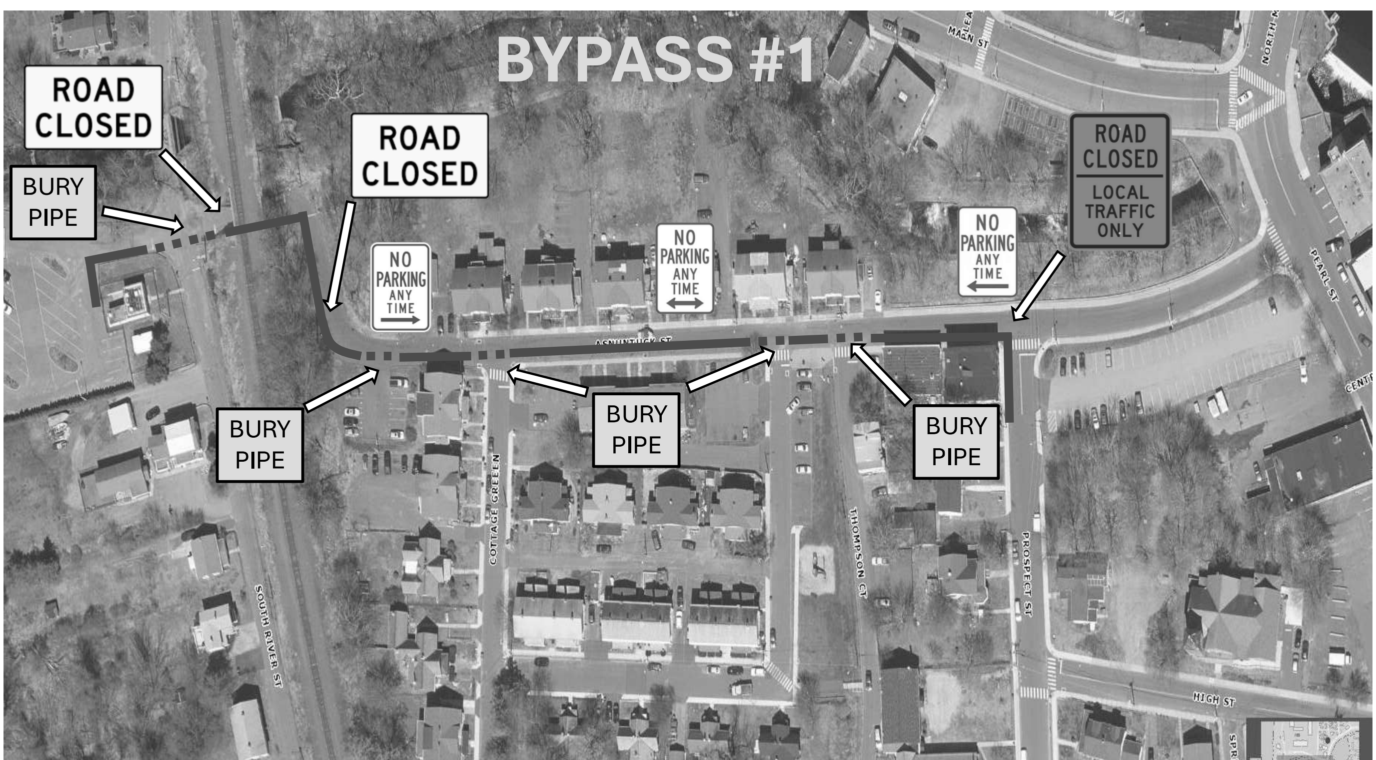


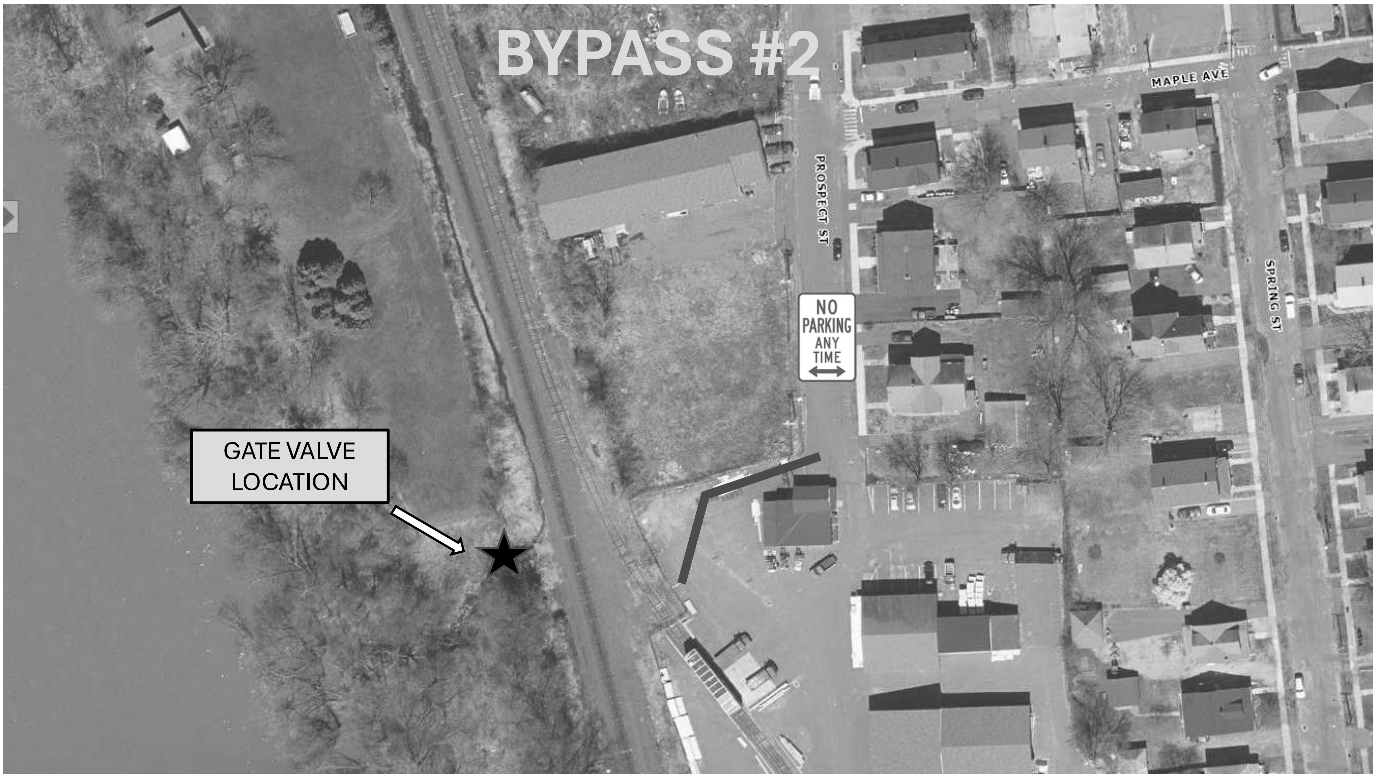


CURRENT CONDITION

CURRENT CONDITION

CURRENT CONDITION





REPAIR COST

- BYPASS CONTRACTOR - $66,400.83
- PIPE CONTRACTOR - $30,193.00
- RESTORATION CONTRACTOR - $30,000.00
- AMTRAK - $2,000.00
- **TOTAL COST - $128,593.83**

AMTRAK PERMIT STARTED - JULY 22, 2024

AMTRAK PERMIT RECEIVED – MAY 23, 2025

REPAIR SCHEDULE

- MAY 20-23, 2025 – TENANT/OWNER NOTIFICATION
- JUNE 9, 2025 – SIGNS/BARRICADES
- JUNE 9, 2025 – MOBILIZATION OF BYPASS PUMPS
- JUNE 10-20, 2025 – INSTALLATION OF BYPASS PUMPS
- JUNE 23, 2025 – MOBILIZATION OF PIPE/EQUIPMENT
- JUNE 24-27, 2025 – GATE VALVE REMOVAL
- JUNE 30, 2025 – JULY 11, 2025 - DEMOBILIZATION OF BYPASS PUMPS
- JULY 14-18, 2025 – FINAL RESTORATION

Appended to the minutes of the Regular
Town Council meeting. See Page 11 Reso # 7238

TOWN OF ENFIELD

TO: Charter Revision Commission

FROM: Enfield Town Council

DATE: May 19, 2025

SUBJECT: **Recommendations for Changes to the Charter Revision Commission's Draft Report**

Chapter VI – Finance and Taxation

Section 4. Duties of the Council on the Budget

a. Reduce the "trigger" for an automatic budget referendum from greater than a 5% to greater than a 4% increase in general fund expenditures.
b. In the event that the budget is not approved by the electors at a referendum, an increase of 4% rather than 5% of the current fiscal year's general fund expenditures shall be set.