

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
SPECIAL MEETING: HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026 AT 8:30 AM
84 SOUTH MAIN ST, CHESHIRE, CT 06410

Present: William Bonaminio, Patricia Archibald, Maria Colacrai, Susan Dillman, Cindy Braga, Joanna Giddings, Jessica Fischer, Elizabeth Morin

Absent: Jessica Feustel

Staff/Guests: Andrew Martelli (Assistant Town Manager), Michael Glidden (Town Planner), Don Walsh (Town Council), Matt Haskell (ARTFX), Peter Deyo (New Haven Sign Company), Rico Martel (Electrify America), Serhat Alkar (Atlantis Management Group) and John Bajor (Minutes Clerk)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by William Bonaminio.

2. ROLL CALL

The roll was taken by John Bajor.

3. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was determined.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited by all.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no corrections to the previous minutes.

MOTION by Patricia Archibald to approve the prior meeting minutes

SECONDED by Maria Colacrai, with motion passing unanimously by those present.

6. COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT

None Received

7. SIGN PERMIT REVIEW/SITE PLAN REVIEW

- A. **Sephora:** Store will be ~5000 sq ft and Matt Haskell requested signage at Stone Bridge Crossing. This has already been reviewed and approved by Town Planner Michael Glidden and now awaits TBC approval.

MOTION by Susan Dillman to approve the Sephora signage request

SECONDED by Cindy Braga, with motion passing unanimously by those present

- B. **Paris Baguette**: Also presented by Matt Haskell, restaurant will be an end-cap at Stone Bridge Crossing and contain an outside dining area. The signage letters are a bluish color when non-illuminated and will turn to white when illuminated. Lights will turn off a few hours after store closing around 11 PM-Midnight. Signs have been reviewed and approved by Town Planner Michael Glidden and now awaits TBC approval.

Note: General comment mentioned: As opposed to individual stores, signage at Stone Bridge Crossing is to be in Black and White only.

MOTION by Susan Dillman to approve the Paris Baguette signage request

SECONDED by Cindy Braga, with motion passing unanimously by those present

- C. **Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa**: Presented by Peter Deyo for signage at Stone Bridge Crossing which will be blue letters (non-illuminated). Signs have been reviewed and approved by Town Planner Michael Glidden and now awaits TBC approval.

MOTION by Joanna Giddings to approve the Hand & Stone and Facial Spa signage request

SECONDED by Maria Colacrai, with motion passing unanimously by those present

- D. **Everybody's Plaza – Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**: Presented by Rico Martel through Electrify America for installment of 10 electric vehicle chargers in parking lot at Everybody's. These are Level 3 stations in which an 80% charge can be achieved in 15-20 minutes (as opposed to current chargers that requires 6-8 hours). Project involves removing trees so no interference with the transformer to be installed (size 70 x 76 inches). Any removed trees will be replaced under the power lines closer to the road. There may be significant disturbance of existing tree roots due to digging up asphalt. Charging station will be open 24-hours even though Everybody's (Big-Y) closes at 9 PM. Hence, 2 lights are also proposed which will be on all night.

The charging stations are 8 feet tall and will have a barrier to prevent hitting the station. However, if the station is damaged, the system automatically shuts off.

Town Planner Michael Glidden recommended not acting on this proposal today and continue at next meeting on May 6. In addition, the committee would like to see the following:

1. Trenching process plans.
2. Color rendering images of proposed final layout.
3. Which species of trees will be removed and re-planted? Bradford pear trees are present but they are not-native to Connecticut and considered an invasive species (Andrew Martelli to circulate link of recommended trees for consideration).
4. Why this location chosen and is it the best location as Cheshire is under-served by EV chargers.
5. Photometric plan of lighting.

Note: Everybody's Super Market is now Big-Y Super Market.

- E. **Atlantis Management Group (Mobil):** In a continuation from last meeting, Serhat Alkar began to present planning details on plantings near the entrance sign (sign was approved at last meeting). However, this item was not on the agenda, and because this was a Special Meeting, cannot be added and discussed. It was requested AMG return on the May 6th regular meeting and landscaping will be placed on agenda.

8. BUSINESS

- A. **Update on Home & Garden Show:** Very good turnout and ran out of plantings which was resupplied (purchased) from Cheshire Nursery. However, the 'giveaway' was the highlight and not what the TBC actually does for the Cheshire community. Suggestion for next year to prepare a 1-pager on TBC activities for the event.
- B. **Semiquincentennial Celebration Discussion – Signage:** No update from SignPro. Plantings will be white and red geraniums along with blue angelonias.
- C. **Watering Maintenance Contract:** Andrew Martelli went over contract and made live edits with inputs from the committee including scope of work, qualifications, schedule and term to ensure doesn't encroach on Public Works Labor/Union responsibilities (i.e. pruning).
- D. **General Town Property Discussion:** Jessica Fischer noted a small clump of Asiatic tearthumb or Mile-A-Minute) invasive weed/vine at Mixville Park. Suggested it be removed immediately or likely it will spread/overgrow onto walkway. Also at Mixville, suggestion to remove water wags from trees (and save for future use) as trees are new established.

Susan Dillman asked how much money needs to be spent before end of year to which Andrew responded \$4625.50 by end of June. Susan to send Andrew an email on what needs to be done (i.e. tidy up around Town Hall).

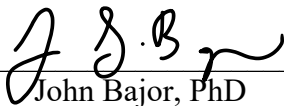
9. STAFF REPORT: No Update

10. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

MOTION by Susan Dillman to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 AM

SECONDED by Pat Archibald with motion passing unanimously by those present.

Attest:


John Bajor, PhD