



## **Town of Cromwell Redevelopment Agency**

***Regular MEETING  
6:00 PM WEDNESDAY October 19, 2022  
ROOM 222 CROMWELL TOWN HALL 41 WEST STREET  
Minutes***

Present: Ann Halibozek, Paul Warena, Robert Donohue, Richard Nobile

Absent: Chairman Joe Fazekas

Also Present: Director of Planning and Development Stuart Popper, Mayor Steve Fortenbach

**1. Call to Order**

Ann Halibozek called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

**2. Roll Call**

The presence of the above members was noted.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Paul Warena and seconded by Richard Nobile to approve the agenda with addition of adding minutes for approval from May 18, 2022 and June 15, 2022. All were in favor; the motion was passed.

**4. Public Comments - none**

**5. Old Business**

**a. Tank Farm – Chevron cleanup**

Mr. Popper said the Arcadis Project Manager told him that Chevron and the Horse Farm are in discussion through their attorneys. He said an agreement fell apart and but they are still working on it. Mr. Popper said this is a legal issue between two private parties.

**b. 60 and 61 River Road RFQ/RFP**

c. Former Public Works Facility

Mr. Popper said they have received a grant for \$1.2 million and will convert the public works facility into a locker room. He said this is a temporary patch as there is a Committee looking to move the Football Field to the High School and build the Community Center where the Football field is now.

**6. New Business:**

Scott and Judy Magnano of 29 Wall Street came to the meeting and asked if they could share their situation with Chevron and the cleanup of their horse farm.

Mr. Popper explained that this is 9 acres of privately-owned land and Chevron is cleaning it up but they have never contacted him to discuss any plan for that land. Mr. Popper said it is his understanding that Chevron is not done cleaning it up. Mrs. Magnano said this has been going on for five years and they don't have a say in what is happening. She said the town has known about this since 1980. Mrs. Magnano said the bar and ABC pizza had to evacuate because of fumes and the town had no idea this happened. She asked why the fire department and the town don't share this kind of information and said the town doesn't have a record of that incident or their call to the Fire Department. She said there is purple fluid on her property and these are dangerous compounds that Arcadis has identified but DEP only looks for Creosote. Mrs. Magnano said there are serious health issues in our neighborhood including thyroid problems and ALS. Mr. Nobile said the Town Council needs to know about this and Mr. Magnano said that when his attorney knows more he will call the town. Mrs. Magnano said they have found benzene in the ground and that will permeate the barns. She said Chevron is proposing to put membrane in but are only planning to go down 4 feet. She said the membrane has a life and it is questionable what will happen when that life is up.

Mrs. Magnano said that Jamin Deproto has helped them identify the chemicals and the descriptions of what they have found on their property. She said that Chevron and Arcadis have told us not to go to the media with this. She said there is a lot of illness in this area and Ms. Halibocek said if you were a commercial property you would go to Occupational Medicine for any illness. Mrs. Magnano said I might be diagnosed with cancer tomorrow and said how sick do people have to get.

Mayor Fortenbach said he appreciated what they were saying and said once you can substantiate this evidence then the town can review it. He said that evidence would need to come from professionals and he said you are also in active litigation so it is probably best they didn't say too much.

Mr. Popper reviewed his report dated October 19, 2022. He said that Mr. Demartino bought the

gas station from Mr. Bitgood but he didn't get approval for the digital billboard from the DOT.

Mr. Popper said there has not been any application for the old Friendly's building.

Ms. Halibozek asked Mr. Popper how the town garage will be used for future use and Mayor Fortenbach said that the new facility will be used as part of a park and will have a new purpose.

**7. Approval of Minutes:**

a. May 18, 2022

A motion was made by Robert Donohue and seconded by Richard Nobile to approve the minutes of May 18, 2022. Robert Donohue, Ann Halibozek, Paul Warena approved the motion; Richard Nobile abstained. The motion passed.

b. June 15, 2022

A motion was made by Robert Donohue and seconded by Richard Nobile to approve the minutes of June 15, 2022. All were in favor; the motion passed.

c. September 28, 2022

A motion was made by Robert Donohue and seconded by Richard Nobile to approve the minutes of September 28, 2022. Robert Donohue, Richard Nobile, Paul Warena approved the motion; Ann Halibozek abstained. The motion passed.

**8. Commissioner's Comments:**

**9. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Robert Donohue and seconded by Paul Warena to adjourn at 6:52pm. All were in favor; the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Linda Imme  
Recording Clerk