

Local Ballot Questions

Question #4: Capital Infrastructure Repairs

“Shall the Borough of Naugatuck appropriate \$5,075,000 for the cost of Bridge, Road and Infrastructure Repairs, including, but not limited to, construction, renovation and repaving of roads, repair of the Maple Street Bridge and certain sewer system repairs and all improvements in connection therewith, as well as engineering and all related costs and authorize the issuance of bonds and notes in the amount of \$5,075,000 or so much as may be necessary after receiving grants or other funds available therefor to finance such appropriation?”

Background Information

Road Paving

Recently the Borough commissioned a Road Condition and Pavement Management Study. The study examined the 113 miles of Borough accepted and maintained streets. As part of the study, each street was analyzed and given a Road Surface Rating (RSR) from 0 to 100 (worst to best). The Borough average RSR was determined to be 70.65. The report determined that the Borough currently has a backlog of approximately \$22.7 Million of paving and repairs to complete and approximately 65 miles of Borough roads are in need of paving, reclamation or reconstruction.

The pavement report showed that “it is more cost effective to keep good roads in good condition than to reconstruct them when their condition has degraded too far for repair. The report calculated the Borough should invest at least \$900,000 annually to maintain the current road conditions. Any less expenditure will lead to further degradation of the RSR and local road conditions.

Over the past 20 years, the Borough has consistently invested between \$200,000 and \$300,000 annually with most years being \$250,000. During the last twenty years, the cost of asphalt pavement has more than doubled from \$35/ton to \$88/ton and the Borough is maintaining many more miles of roads. The cost to repave one mile of roadway is approximately \$270,000.

The Borough is proposing to invest approximately \$4,000,000 in local road and associated infrastructure including sidewalks sewers and drainage. It is anticipated that the majority of the expenditures will be on main roads where the Borough will see the largest cost benefit value. The road work also must be coordinated with the utility companies and the work that they have planned in the Borough.

The Borough expects to resurface the following roads:

Andrew Avenue
Cherry Street
Field Street
Hoadley Street
Johnson Street

May Street
North Main Street
Raytkwich Road
Rubber Avenue
Scott Street

Spring Street
Water Street
William C. Rado Sr. Drive
Wooster Street

Whittemore Memorial -Maple Street Bridge

The Maple Street Bridge was built in 1912 to honor John H. Whittemore, who died in 1910. Whittemore was the head of one of the city's largest industries, the Naugatuck Malleable Iron Company, and he used his great wealth to benefit the community. Among his gifts were two schools and a library, all elegant buildings designed by New York architects McKim, Mead and White. A bridge was chosen as his memorial because it would combine the attributes of practicality and beauty associated with Whittemore's philanthropy. The plans for the bridge were drawn by Henry Bacon, a nationally prominent architect best known today for the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C. (1922). Bacon's design was applauded as "a monument to the memory of Naugatuck's most public spirited benefactor ... a fitting tribute to him who has made our abiding place "a city beautiful."

The Maple Street Bridge is a critical part of the Borough's infrastructure linking the East and West side of town. The three span bridge consists of concrete and stone masonry arches supported by reinforced concrete abutments and piers. The overall length is 180 feet and the width curb to curb is 40 feet. The structure has been rated "serious" condition by the Connecticut Department of Transportation since 2007 due to the severe concrete deterioration on the underside of the concrete and stone masonry arches. The Bridge currently has a weight restriction for easterly bound vehicles.

The Borough desires to complete repairs to the Maple Street Bridge over the Naugatuck River and restore the structure to its original design by reinstalling the parapet walls, historic lighting and pavers. The total project cost is estimated at \$6,475,000. The Borough of Naugatuck has applied for Local Bridge Program funding and the State has committed State grant funds of \$ 3,190,880. The Borough has \$2,200,000 of local funding approved previously and requires approximately \$1,000,000 of additional local funding.

More detailed information as to the Maple Street Bridge Repairs and, the proposed road repaving schedule can be viewed on the Borough of Naugatuck website: www.naugatuck-ct.gov.