



COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REMOTE PARTICIPATION

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday December 10, 2020

Chair, Betty Slade called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Vice-Chair Tim Gillespie and members Hugh Morton, John Bell, Dale Weber, Philip Weinberg, Mark Schmid, and Elizabeth Collins. Janet Jones was absent.

Executive Session – pursuant to the provisions of MGL c 30A section 21(a), Chair declares an open meeting will have a detrimental effect to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

MOTION by Mr. Gillespie to enter into executive session at 6:30 pm. Seconded by Mr. Morton. The members voted 8-0 unanimously in favor by roll call vote.

The regular session resumed at 7:00 pm

7:00pm Regular meeting:

Minutes. Tabled to the next meeting.

New Projects:

- a. Town of Westport: Campground Property Fields and Amenities Design. Project Manager, Jeff Wade provided an overview for the use of the campground land to be converted to two fields and other outdoor activity areas for the schools' use and for public use. The request is for the design work in the amount of \$291,000 from CPC funds. The very high cost amount of expense for the construction of the proposed design was met with many questions from the CPC members. Ms. Collins thought that this would be too much for the taxpayers to understand at this current time. Mr. Morton opined that with all the other debt exclusions for the Fire Department, Police Station and the new school, tax payers could not be able to afford another. Discussion ensued.

MOTION by Mr. Gillespie to place on the January public hearing. Seconded by Mr. Morton. Discussion ensued over the School Building Committee budget having not seen the plan not the cost estimate.

Mr. Gillespie asked if there were a surplus amount from the school that could be applied here, for example. The more information as possible, the committee can make a better decision at the January meeting.

Ms. Collins felt that \$291K is a large amount and should have been advertised better. She would like the SBC to address the CPC at the next meeting. There are so many more questions she would like to see answered to be able to consider the project. She does not want to slow this project.

Ms. Slade asked about the overall planning. The Town has the question of the old high school reuse as there is talk of selling the properties. Are playing fields the best use for this land? The roadway, buildings and wells – have many questions.

This project has not been looked at jointly by Town committees, similar to as the Planning Board does. Other questions included: If the fields at the old school remain, how are these proposed fields going to be managed?

Mr. Wade stated they do know where the wetlands fall but they know where the well radius is. They are planning to use the well to provide water for irrigation. He said the Campground committee gave their suggestions for what the land should be used for and the BOS approved.

Ms. Weber also felt that this seemed too rushed and needed more information.

The members voted 7-1 in favor by roll call vote. Ms. Collins voted nay.

Ms. Collins asked to see participation of members of the School Building Committee (SBC), the public and the Town in some way since the proposal indicated it is a Town Park. Ms. Collins asked who and how will this be maintained.

Ms. Slade suggested having the SBC involved.

Mr. Morton said that the Finance Committee would be involved

Mr. Weinberg feels that Mr. Wade wants to see some momentum: in January, the question will be if there will be enough substance to give to the committee with the info needed.

- b. Protection, Restoration and Repair of Gravestones and Historic Assets at Town-Owned Cemeteries. Applicant. Tim King, Town Administrator and Cemetery Director. Project Manager, Betty Slade stated that \$55,000 is proposed for work on town-owned cemeteries, including gravestones' repair, mausoleum repair, and other necessary work to maintain the stones in good repair. The \$55,000 would go to a 2 year project..

MOTION by Mr. Morton to approve for the January public hearing. Seconded by Ms. Weber. The members voted 8-0 unanimously in favor by roll call vote.

Completion of Annual Report.

Ms. Slade stated this was completed and a draft was supplied to all members. There were no comments. Ms. Slade thanked him for his work.

Completion of updating of CP3 accounts.

Ms., Slade explained the process that the restrictions for conservation and preservation, the data was entered into the data base and is now complete.

CPC expense accounts and reserves.

Ms. Slade reviewed the total revenue for all the projects explaining not all can be allocated in one category.

Public Hearing in January.

The meeting will be on January 14, 2021 at 6:30 with the projects discussed above.

Bills

None.

Other business not foreseen.

Ms. Slade stated that the Council on Aging is seeking to rehab the roof and asked the members if it was ok to add this project on to the public hearing. Members agreed to allow that. Mr. Gillespie stated that they have obtained 1 bid so far. Mr. Gillespie will call the Director to ask to obtain a few more bids and a comprehensive list of what the historic building needs.

Next meeting: January 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjourn.

MOTION by Mr.. Gillespie to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Seconded by Mr. Morton. The members voted 8-0 unanimously in favor by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Tabit
Recording Clerk

Attachments:

Campground Application 120320; Gravestone Application 120220; CPC Annual Report 2020; Balances Current 120920.