

PUBLIC SITE AND BUILDING COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING
November 9, 2023 – 5:00 PM
Note: This meeting was held remotely by Zoom

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Public Site and Building Commission:

Joe Strickland, Chairman	<u> X </u>
Russ Blair	<u> X </u>
Kevin Huelster	<u> </u>
Ed Kowalczyk	<u> </u>
Lisa Mockler Taylor	<u> X </u>
Joe Vallone	<u> X </u>
Richard Vornkahl	<u> </u>
Mark Ripka	<u> </u>

Building Department:

Steve Smith	<u> </u>
Sandra Wright	<u> X </u>

Fire Marshal Terrence Dunn

Joe Strickland introduced two guests, Yulee Aronson and Toni Simonetti. He stated that Yulee has been recommended to become a member of the Public Site and Building Commission to fill a vacancy, and his resume has been submitted to the RTM.

The minutes of the October 12, 2023 meetings were reviewed. There were no corrections or additions.

Russ Blair moved and Joe Vallone seconded to approve the October 12, 2023 minutes and the motion was unanimously approved.

1. STAPLES RE-ROOF PROJECT: Prior to the meeting, the PSBC members received an update report and progress pictures from Colliers as well as copies of submitted invoices. Joe Strickland stated that the current invoices represent invoice #5 from Greenwood and Colliers. Joe added that he had met with Elio Longo last week to discuss the progress of the Staples re-roof project. A discussion followed and it was noted that the balance to finish the project is \$485,707.48.

Lisa Mockler Taylor moved and Ed Kowalczyk seconded to approve payments to Greenwood Industries in the amount of \$135,648.12 and Colliers in the amount of \$262.50. The motion was unanimously passed.

2. GILLESPIE CENTER RENOVATIONS PROJECT:

A proposed bid timeline was presented. Joe stated that the pre-bid walk-through would take place on Tuesday, November 28, with bids due on Friday, December 15 at 2 p.m. He added that the bids will be reviewed on or before, Friday January 12, 2024 and that the construction period would be determined once a successful qualified bidder is secured.

3. WESTPORT POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE CLUBHOUSE:

Joe Strickland stated that there is no new information on the WPAL project and that the WPAL committee is moving through the permitting approval process.

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

Ed Kowalcyk questioned the progress on Longshore and Joe reported that there is no activity to report at this time.

Toni Simonetti spoke on behalf of the Long Lots Elementary School project and voiced her opposition to the demolition of the community garden. She questioned why the Public Site and Building Commission was not involved in the Long Lots Elementary School project. A discussion followed regarding the role of the Public Site and Building Commission according to the Town Charter. Joe Strickland noted that while the PSBC is the default school building committee, they are not always selected to oversee school projects. He added that he has offered the services of the PSBC to create a second opinion from either the members of the PSBC or from external experts. A discussion followed regarding whether the PSBC would be appointed to oversee a feasibility study or to oversee the entire duration of Long Lots Elementary School project. It was agreed that this needs clarification. Joe Vallone stated that at this time an architect has been hired only to prepare a feasibility study for rehabilitation vs. new construction. Joe Vallone added that once a decision has been made regarding the direction of the project, he feels an architect will need to be hired for the full scope of the project, starting with a schematic design. Further discussion followed.

Joe Valone moved and Russ Blair seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Sandra Wright
Secretary

Distribution:
The Honorable Jennifer Tooker
B. Harmer
E. Daignault
Chairman-BOE
Chairman-BOF