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Seymour High School Athletic Field Committee
Seymour Middle School – Media Center
1/8/2015
7:00 PM

Members Present: Paul Sponheimer, Sean Walsh, Ed Strumello, Jay Hatfield, Bill Paecht, Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Theresa Conroy, Jack Liedke, Tim Sadick, Paul Roy (Alternate)

Members Absent: None

Others Present: First Selectman Kurt Miller, Rick Belden, Don Smith

Meeting was called to order at 7:09pm by Chairperson Nicole Klarides-Ditria.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment:

Rick Belden mentioned that he confirmed with the high school athletic director that the high school schedule for the fall sports is set in May. He also mentioned that Dalton Track checked the track and said it was in good condition, but could use some refurbishing. To refurbish, the cost would be in the \$140,000 range. To fully replace the track, the cost would be in the \$300,000 range.

Establish Short List of Architectural/Engineering firms For Project

Kurt Miller mentioned that six firms submitted information related to the RFQ. He stated that two companies did not provide, however, the information as requested in the RFQ and were not recommended to be considered. Kurt recommended that, of the remaining four firms, the committee consider choosing from the three firms that have history and knowledge of the town from previous projects. Each of the remaining four firms did provide complete packages. He said he and Tony Caserta are not making a specific recommendation for a particular firm and that they would leave the decision to the committee. He stated that he hopes the committee would confirm three firms for a short list and make motion for final proposals and interviews.

At 7:16pm, Ed Strumello and Jay Hatfield left the meeting to attend the Board of Education meeting. A motion was made by Bill Paecht to seat committee alternate, Paul Roy. Sean Walsh seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0-1 with Paul Roy abstaining.

Request Detail Proposals From Short List Firms

Nicole Klarides-Ditria mentioned that she reviewed the packages earlier in the day at town hall and suggested that O'Riordan Migani Architects LLC not be considered because they did not approach the request as asked. She suggested the committee move forward with the remaining three firms: Nafis & Young, Donald Smith and Milone & MacBroom. Bill Paecht made the motion to accept these three firms as the recommended final three firms chosen for final proposals. Sean Walsh seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Set Interviews For Architectural/Engineering Firms For January 22 Meeting

Nicole Klarides-Ditria mentioned that interviews for the final three would actually be set for the January 29nd meeting.

Committee Member Comments

Paul Sponheimer asked if we will be able to see which turf the firms would propose at this point. Nicole Klarides-Ditria asked Don Smith if he would offer comment. Don said that decision would typically come later.

Sean Walsh asked if the committee would want to ask the firms about other uses of the field and any medical concerns connected to the turf that the general public have either asked about or may ask about. Bill Paecht mentioned that the state previously did research on turf and there were no health concerns from them on it. Nicole mentioned that the committee can ask the firms in the interview process.

Paul Sponheimer asked if there is a public hearing as part of the process of deciding on a firm. Nicole Klarides-Ditria stated no and Bill Paecht said there is no need for it.

Theresa Conroy mentioned that the health concern question is a good one and we will consider it in the interview process.

Sean Walsh mentioned that conventional chairs cannot be used on the turf, so we will need users to know and plan to factor into our discussions later.

Nicole Klarides-Ditria mentioned that the track is in good condition, but that we can consider refurbishing if money is available later. Sean Walsh suggested that the committee would need to go to the state to ask if money would be available. He asked if the state said a change could be allowed. Nicole Klarides-Ditria responded that it would only be after the plan of spending details is set.

Paul Sponheimer stated that parking would have to be moved and would have to be factored into costs for meeting ADA requirements for handicapped parking. Sean Walsh mentioned that a ramp would be needed in parking set up.

Sean Walsh asked if we need to install new bathrooms. Nicole Klarides-Ditria said we don't know the answer to that yet. Bill Paecht said he they were not in the scope, but that it was his understanding that if a handicapped-accessible bathroom is need, then answer would be yes.

Paul Sponheimer asked if press box needs to be addressed. Nicole Klarides-Ditria said it would for ADA purposes.

Tim Sadick asked if parking would be behind bleachers. Bill Paecht said no due to safety concerns.

Tim Sadick also suggested access from Ross Drive. Nicole Klarides-Ditria said that would be something that we will address with the engineers.

Paul Sponheimer asked if press box needs to be where it is currently. Nicole Klarides-Ditria stated that is something for the engineers to determine.

Bill Paecht asked if all bleachers need to be revamped. Nicole Klarides-Ditria said we will need to determine if one set of bleachers that are ADA compliant would be sufficient. Sean Walsh mentioned that he read the scope and he believes that having one set of stands providing handicapped access is sufficient for ADA compliance.

Tim Sadick asked if accessibility would be addressed in the interviews. Nicole Klarides-Ditria responded yes.

Paul Sponheimer asked if engineers choose the turf. Nicole Klarides-Ditria said we get the proposals from them and the committee decides.

Sean Walsh asked if committee reads proposals and come up with questions for next meeting. Nicole Klarides-Ditria responded yes.

Nicole Klarides-Ditria asked if 45-minutes would work for each firm and Sean Walsh responded that he thought it would. Nicole Klarides-Ditria asked Don Smith if he thought that time allotment was reasonable. He said he thought it was, but planning for an hour may work as well.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Bill Paecht made a motion to add the approval of minutes to the agenda. Sean Walsh seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Sean Walsh made a motion to approve minutes from the 11/24/14 meeting. Bill Paecht seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0-1 with Paul Roy abstaining.

Sean Walsh made a motion to approve minutes from the 12/4/14 meeting. Theresa Conroy seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0-1 with Paul Roy abstaining.

Bill Paecht made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sean Walsh seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Liedke
Committee Secretary