

City of Beacon – City Council
Workshop Minutes
August 10, 2009

Workshop was opened at 7:00pm on August 10, 2009, with Mayor Steve K. Gold thanking all for coming to this Workshop.

Attendance:

Mayor Steve K. Gold
Council Member Casale
Council Member Kelly
Council Member Leake
Council Member Pasti
Council Member Fredericks

Excused:

Council Member Thompson

Guest:

Denis White
Norm MacLeod
Cabot Parsons
Ty Marshall

Also in Attendance:

Acting City Administrator – Timothy Dexter
City Attorney – Richard Wolf

Visitors Center

Denis White and Norm MacLeod distributed materials to the Council including plans from Excel Homes which is a prefab building with what it would cost the city. It was determined that it would cost the city approximately 4,000 for a handicap ramp and maintenance of the building such as electric and heat.

Parking would be on the north side of Tompkins Hose to include three spaces, one which would be handicapped.

There will be public bathrooms, which the merchants on Main Street were pleased to hear as they get many tourists coming in to use their facilities. A Council Member stated that New York City charges for using bathroom facilities, which will help defray the cost of maintenance.

The money for this project will be coming from the Preserve America Grant and Quadricentennial Grant money.

There was discussion with regards to the Handicap Ramp to use the materials from the roads that are being repaved and working from there to cut down on the cost.

Mr. MacLeod stated that he has contacted some Senior Citizens to volunteer their time at the Visitor Center to answer questions and to give out brochures, etc.

Council Members stated that the roads coming into Beacon are in disrepair and that the City should focus on that prior to focusing on a Visitors Center. Mr. White explained that Chelsea Homes has given them a guarantee on a price, which will expire on September 5, 2009. With that being said, if the Council chooses not to go forward at this time, the cost will increase and the City will still have to come up with the funds for the handicap ramp.

Acting Administrator Tim Dexter stated that he will call the County regarding CDBG Infrastructure Funds to be used towards this project.

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The City of Beacon Planning Board will be discussing this on Tuesday, August 11, 2009, and will give a report to the Council on their findings. If the Planning Board finds this acceptable this will be brought to the Council Meeting of August 17th for approval.

Traffic Safety Committee Recommendations

1. Install two handicap parking spaces in the Church Street municipal lot. One to be located behind the Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union and the other behind the Back to Health Chiropractic office.
2. Install loading zone in Church Street municipal lot where the island is located with limited parking of 15 minutes.

It was the consensus of the Council to have the Public Hearing scheduled for Monday, August 17th for Approval. Colleen Swift, Executive Assistant to the Mayor will notify the Secretary of the Traffic and Safety Committee to arrange for the Public Hearing and to notify the members of the Traffic and Safety of the Public Hearing.

School District Shared Services /Facilities:

This item is the second time brought before the Council as Exhibit A and Exhibit B needed to be discussed, prior to this item going to Council for approval.

The following items were discussed at length and were decided to change the following:

1. Page 2 Item 1. ADD

The School District hereby permits the City, through its Recreation Department, only regularly City Sponsored or any event that the City Recreation Sponsors to use the School District's property and facilities listed in Appendix "A" of this Agreement at such times and under such conditions as may be agreed upon in writing by the School District's Superintendent of Schools, or his/her designee, and the Administrator of the City of Beacon, or his/her designee.

2. Page 3, Item 8. REPLACE

The City, in the spirit of cooperation, shall permit the School District to use its property and facilities listed in Appendix "B" when insurance and other requirements are met. There shall be no fees charged by the City unless the use of the facilities by the School District generates costs to the City for overtime or special equipment or services that are directly due to the use of the facility by the School District. In such cases the charges to the ~~City~~ School District shall be for the actual costs to the City.

3. Appendix "A" – Delete First Column

Replace with text that reads or any other mutually agreed upon facility and arrangement.

Due to the fact that this agreement needs to be approved by the City of Beacon School Board, which does not meet until September. This Agenda Item will be brought back to the next workshop meeting of Monday August 31, 2009, to discuss further.

Dutchess Stadium

Contract between City of Beacon and Dutchess County to Extend Sewer Line Agreement at the Dutchess Stadium. There was discussion regarding *Schedule I – Payment – Methods and Procedures. Number 2. Rates (a) the payment rate (the "Applicable Rates") for measured*

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sewage flow shall be: First 250,000 gallons per day at \$2.146168 per 100 cubic feet. It was decided to add a clause that the price will remain the same AFTER the first 250,000 gallons...

Spring Valley Street

The City and the property owners desire to have Spring Valley Street paved from Spring Valley Street to the property line of the property owners to ~~ADD: This Agreement is to~~ provide space on which the property owners may park their cars and for driveway cuts to be made to each above-designated property from Spring Valley Street.

In addition, the Council would like the space to be identified.

It was the consensus of the Council to strike the following:

- ~~1. The portion of Spring Valley Street from its present paved portion shall be paved and extended to the property line of the property owners' contiguous parcels abutting Spring Valley Street from 155 Spring Valley Street to and including 165 Spring Valley Street.~~
2. The paving **ADD of the area in this agreement** and resurfacing of Spring Valley Street, as described in paragraph 1, shall be at the sole expense and cost of the property owners, with no expense or cost to the City of Beacon.

City Attorney Richard Wolf will make the necessary changes, and will be brought to the Council Meeting of August 17, 2009.

Public Art Ordinance

Cabot ____ and Ty Marshall was present at the meeting to discuss this Proposed Local Law. After much discussion regarding the approval process, it was decided that when a piece of Art that will be displayed either on private property or public party it will go before the Beacon Civic Arts & Cultural Development Committee for approval. Then it would go to the Council and be approved via resolution. If the Art is unacceptable the Beacon Civic Arts & Cultural Development will make recommendations to the artist so it can be considered again to be approved, and the City Council will have ultimate decision on approval or disapproval.

Within in this Ordinance the Council would like to see a clause regarding Store Front Windows.

Both Cabot and Ty stressed that any art work displayed in Beacon is an assets and will be beneficial to have these assets for grant approvals and other financial benefits.

Art Work given to the City as a gift and placed on City Property, and the art work was damaged the City would have the choice to either go through insurance to have it replaced or discard it. If the Art Work is a temporary gift, the artists will be responsible for the art work and will have to obtain their own insurance. Acting City Administrator Tim Dexter will look into the DAR donation of the Bust of Washington in the intersection of Teller and Howland to see who is responsible to fix if it was damaged.

Playground Equipment - Riverfront Park - This will be discussed at the next Recreation Commission and they will decide which equipment will be suitable for the Riverfront Park.

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Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of a Refund for a Corrected Real Tax Bill:

Parcel 5954.35.8578441 – 13 Catherine Street for Years 2006, 2007 and 2008. Acting City Administrator explained that this address 13 Catherine Street has been charged a non-homestead rate and not homestead for three years due to clerical error. This item will be brought to the Council Meeting of August 17, 2009 in Resolution form.

Budget Amendments:

1. Amend the Capital Fund Balance (Code: H0000.059900) in the amount of \$28,000. This is the amount to be used in the Capital Roads program for the project at Ralph Street and Mackin Avenue (Code: H5112.240001.28XX).
2. Amend the Sewer Fund Balance (Code: G0000.059900) in the amount of \$16,000. This is the amount to be transferred into the Capital Roads budget and used for the sewer portion of the project at Ralph Street and Mackin Avenue (Code: H5112.240003.28XX).
3. Amend the Sewer Fund Balance (Code: G0000.059900) in the amount of \$35,000. This amount is needed to fund the Digester Cleaning Project at the Sewage Treatment Plant (Code: G8130.240003).
4. Amend the General Fund Budget Contingency Account (Code: A1990.400001) by transferring \$12,000 into the Attorney Base Proportion Legal Action expense. (Code: A1420.450450). This is to cover the expense of the retainer agreement with Towne, Bartowski and DeFio Keane for the legal action regarding the incorrect base proportions used in calculations of prior year tax rates.
5. Amend the General Fund Budget Contingency Account (Code: A1990.400001) by transferring \$50,000 into the Attorney Hiddenbrooke expense (Code: A1420.450422). These funds are needed to cover ongoing services provided by Zarin and Steinmetz for litigation regarding the Hiddenbrooke property.

Council agreed to bring these Budget Amendments to the Council Meeting of August 17th for Approval.

Due to electric power outage the meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Swift
Executive Assistant to Mayor Steve K. Gold
Date: August 11, 2009