

STAMFORD PLANNING BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES #3745
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2012
7TH FLOOR LAND USE CONFERENCE AREA,
GOVERNMENT CENTER
888 WASHINGTON BLVD., STAMFORD, CT

Stamford Planning Board Members present were: Theresa Dell, Chair, Dudley Williams, Roger Quick and Jay Tepper. Present for staff was Todd Dumais.

Mrs. Dell opened the Special Meeting at 4:00pm. She noted for the record that Mr. Tepper would be seated in lieu of absent Regular Board Members.

Special Meeting

Supplemental Capital Appropriation Requests:

Interdistrict K-8 Magnet School requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$400,000 to add an additional ingress lane and reconfigure the existing parking areas to alleviate back up onto Blachley Road.

Lou Casolo, City Engineer, explained the request. They were asked to develop a plan to create another lane into the property to give space for vehicles trying to enter the site. He commented that the supplemental funds would allow a third lane to be constructed and reconfiguration of the existing island parking areas.

Mrs. Dell asked how far queing backs up now? Mr. Casolo said at peak times vehicles back up to East Main Street on Blachley Road, the peaks being around morning drop-off and afternoon dismissals.

Mrs. Dell asked if the Cove Road entrance being open would help alleviate this issue. Mr. Casolo said they had a meeting to discuss that question and reviewed the Zoning Board conditions to discuss the opening of the gate for ½ hour in the morning and again at night. Mrs. Dell commented that they should look into ensuring this is open. Mr. Casolo said they've also talked about Cove Road gate but its private and the City doesn't control it.

Mani Poola, Traffic Engineer, said the traffic report assigns traffic to this entrance, so the gate must be opened for some time during the day. Mr. Casolo said, however, they don't know how this will be operated and that it is unlikely that school traffic would enter form Cove.

Mr. Tepper asked for additional information regarding the site, while its under construction and ensuring vehicles don't get reassigned to the street while they wait. Mr. Casolo said it's a tight timeline with lighting and drainage and they hope to have a design done by May 1st and project completed by September. He noted that the School is operated differently than designed and enrollment was significantly higher than when designed.

Mr. Quick said he had a question about the large Cooper Beech tree and if it was still there.

After further discussion, Mr. Williams moved to recommend approval of the Supplemental Capital Request. Mr. Quick seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with the eligible members present voting, 4-0 (Dell, Williams, Quick and Tepper).

Atlantic Street Reconstruction requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$200,000 for improvements to Canal Street, Pacific Street and Atlantic Street.

Mr. Poola described the request as no cost to the City. The funds were from BLT/Harbor Point towards the reconstruction of Atlantic Street as outlined in a agreement with the District. Mr. Poola said it is very similar to a State/Federal grant.

Mr. Tepper asked what exactly they were doing? Mr. Poola described the Atlantic Street improvements.

After further discussion, Mr. Williams moved to recommend approval of the Supplemental Capital Request. Mr. Tepper seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with the eligible members present voting, 4-0 (Dell, Williams, Quick and Tepper).

Stamford Lights requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$155,000 to create a place to display and showcase works of art (State Grant).

Laure Aubuchon, Economic Development Director, said it's a 1 to 1 match and noted that the Agenda description was not accurate. She said that the City applied for a \$155,000 grant and needed to be quickly put the project out to bid. The project was to use lights as art to illuminate the approach to the Train Station. Some of the funds are coming from Tiger 3 Train Station funds and asking for supplemental funds to compliment what they've received.

Mrs. Dell had a question about the artwork and was the DSSD included.

Mr. Dumais asked what the operational cost of the lights as artwork would be? Ms. Aubuchon said that will be worked into the RFP to cover a minimum of 2 to 3 years of the cost.

Mrs. Dell said she didn't think they could approve City funds out of the capital budget? Ms. Aubuchon said she didn't know yet. The Planning Board can approve the funds if it meets the definition of Capital Improvement.

After further discussion, Mr. Williams moved to recommend approval of the Supplemental Capital Request. Mr. Tepper seconded the motion with a comment regarding the matching funds and clarification of the expressed request and it passed unanimously with the eligible members present voting, 4-0 (Dell, Williams, Quick and Tepper).

There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Dell adjourned the meeting at 4:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Dell, Chair
Stamford Planning Board

Note: These proceedings were recorded on tape and are available for review in the Land Use Bureau located on the 7th floor of Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, during regular business hours.