

STAMFORD PLANNING BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES #3766  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012  
4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CAFETERIA, GOVERNMENT CENTER  
888 WASHINGTON BLVD., STAMFORD, CT

---

Stamford Planning Board Members present were: Theresa Dell, Chairperson, Dudley Williams, Claire Fishman, Roger Quick, Michael Totilo, Jay Tepper and Zbigniew Naumowicz. Present for staff was Todd Dumais.

Mrs. Dell called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### **Regular Meeting**

#### ***SWRPA Presentation:***

**Southwestern Regional Planning Agency** presentation by Dr. Floyd Lapp, Executive Director.

Mrs. Dell opened the meeting and welcomed Dr. Floyd Lapp and Phyllis Pugliesi Board Member. They presented to the Board what the mission of SWRPA is and what services they provide to their constituent communities. Dr. Lapp outlined their legislative policy program and how they have advocated certain legislative issues such as ZEO treble damages at the State level. He noted that SWRPA was the lead on pursuing a grant for aerial photography for the region and how in doing so, saved their constituent municipalities over \$800K with the funding coming entirely from a state grant. Another program they are actively pursuing is Transit Oriented Development. Dr. Floyd explained that when the City lost its transportation planner, they began working with a consultant and the City on managing the East Main Street Transit node project and also assisted Stamford in obtaining a grant for Springdale and Glenbrook TOD zoning. Dr. Lapp said transportation is their bread and butter and currently looking at a Greenwich – Stamford route 1 study which has received a lot of positive reviews. They also work with watershed planning.

Mrs. Dell asked several questions about I-95 traffic congestion. Mr. Williams asked for an update on the Merritt Parkway - Route 7 interchange. Dr. Lapp said currently, nothing is happening with that. Dr. Lapp directed Board Members to review their website ([www.swrpa.org](http://www.swrpa.org)) for additional information.

Mrs. Fishman commented on tolls because many low-wage people traveling highways will be impacted. The Board discussed congestion and toll pricing on I-95.

Mr. Quick had a question about the Transportation Center Garage. Dr. Lapp described the committee that reviewed the bids and that the State is hoping to select a company by January or February 2013.

Mrs. Dell said they'd write a letter to DOT that the Board doesn't want the garage moved.

Chairman of SWRPA, Jerry Ellis, described their budget being divided 80/20 with 20% discretionary to do what the towns want to do and they would like to keep the dialog open. Representatives to their Board from Stamford are very active.

#### ***Planning Board Meeting Minutes:***

Mrs. Dell postponed discussion of all sets of pending minutes until next week.

### **Joint Public Meeting**

Mrs. Dell opened the continuation of the Capital Budget Joint Public Meeting, introduced the members of the Planning Board present and Frank Cerasoli (Board of Representatives) and Kathleen Murphy (Board of Finance).

***Capital Budget Presentations FY 2013/14-2020:***

Childcare Learning Center - Discussion of this item was moved to a future date.

Operations – Public Services- Traffic & Road Maintenance

Tom Turk, Traffic and Road Maintenance Supervisor said their number one priority is the storm drain conversion at the City & Town Garage. A MS4 permit will go into effect next year by DEEP. The project is to separate truck wash water into the sanitary sewer system.

Mrs. Dell said funds won't be immediately available and asked if that would be a problem?

Mr. Tepper asked how they came up with the \$165K estimate? Mr. Turk said he'd been in construction for 10 years and has the experience to estimate the costs.

Ms. Murphy asked if the WPCA had any issue to handle extra salt put into the system? Mr. Turk said it would be a minimal difference because it goes into an oil-grit system.

Mr. Turk described the \$750K request for an equipment storage canopy to protect their large investment in vehicles by protecting them from weather. Mr. Turk described they'd been given a 20 year guarantee for this project.

Mr. Williams made a motion to take the scheduled presentations out of sequence, Mrs. Fishman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with the eligible members present voting, 5-0 (Dell, Williams, Fishman, Totilo and Quick).

Special Revenue – Parking Fund

Mr. Turk described the special revenue parking fund request for new hydraulic cylinders for the Bell Street Garage. One elevator in this garage has been shut down since August and they need to replace all the cylinders in three elevators but can do one now and spread out replacement of the others.

Mr. Tepper asked about this being listed as City Bonds. Peter Privitera said yes, bonds, but from a special revenue fund.

Operations – Public Services - Solid Waste

Dan Colleluori, Supervisor, Solid Waste told the Board that their first priority is to replace the outdated scale house for \$250,000 and to install a deck scale and relocate the old one to Scofield to weigh leaves before sending them out. They estimated the bid from an RFP. He also described the Solid Waste Building Renovation where they want to waterproof the outside of the building. Mrs. Fishman asked about the existing project balance. Mr. Colleluori said this is phase 3 of the project. Representative Cerasoli asked why the project costs for this had been significantly reduced from last year's projections. Ms. Murphy asked what recommendations had come out as a result of the audit? Mr. Colleluori said issues were with the gates and software upgrades.

Short Term Capital – Citywide Equipment Replacement & Upgrade

Michael Scacco, Fleet Manager, provided the Board with a handout and discussed each item on the sheet being requested.

Mr. Tepper asked if these were listed by priority? Mr. Scacco answered not at this time. He then reviewed the road laser striping system for which they currently use a contractor for this but they've been having problems with their state contractor. He discussed the John Deere

compact tractor currently used by both highway and parks departments and the lawn mowers for which they get 10 to 12 years use from.

Ms. Murphy noted this looks more like a bundled approach rather than project specific. Mrs. Dell said as a Board, in their comments, could appropriate certain amounts for each departments specific request in their transmittal but that she would like to see a break out into operations versus public safety and have them prioritized.

#### Operations – Engineering

Lou Casolo, City Engineer and Dominic Tramontozzi were present from Engineering Bureau to present the Capital requests. Mr. Casolo said they are in their 18<sup>th</sup> week of capital budget for fiscal 2012-2013 and the early stages of spending these funds. Engineering requested \$23M and Traffic Engineering requested \$9M and that all of their priorities are numbered in order. He explained that the top priority is \$5.4M for Scofieldtown Park Design where they want to cap and close the landfill. Mr. Tepper asked if the park will be closed forever? Mr. Casolo said no, they'll re-open it as a public use facility. The second request is for Chestnut Hill Road reconstruction which is a carry-over from last year and they want to begin construction next summer. Third request is for Skymeadow Drive Drainage Improvement

Mr. Casolo described citywide sidewalks and said he had the ability to do \$5M in upgrades.

Mrs. Dell said \$5M was a rather large figure. Mr. Casolo said he had a backlog of all the Citizen Services complaints. Mr. Tepper asked if they attack it from a problem basis or is there a schedule?

Mr. Casolo described street patching and resurfacing requests of \$5M. Mrs. Dell said it was mind boggling the cost of infrastructure problems.

Mr. Casolo described requests for citywide storm drains, manholes and basins.

Mr. Casolo described street lighting and that they are in the third phase of a 5-year project.

Mr. Tepper had a question about the \$38,360 balance in the Roxbury Road account since zero was appropriated. Mr. Casolo said he would look into it.

Mr. Casolo described major bridge replacements and the funding of the West Main Street Bridge and how this is a special project with many different components.

Mr. Casolo described citywide roadway repairs.

Mr. Casolo next described the Animal Shelter request and how a final location has not yet been selected. Mr. Dumais asked if it wasn't premature to estimate expenses if a final location hadn't been identified? Mrs. Dell agreed that until a final location and more accurate cost to the project could be determined it seemed inappropriate to include.

#### Operations –Traffic Engineering

Mani Poola, City Traffic Engineer, presented the project requests. He began with the Henry & Atlantic Street interchange and how this was to accept State funds were required to supplement existing developer funds. Mr. Pool explained the Ferry Study request. Ms. Murphy suggested they determine a status of this before they move along. She said that the Fed/State has asked for funds back from the City on a previous version of this approved project.

Oaklawn Avenue improvements has the neighborhood in agreement and funded 80-10-10.

#### Operations – Administration – Maintenance Facilities

Operations – Administration – Maintenance Parks

Mark Lyons presented the request's and discussed the Yerwood Center outreach; Curtain Call renovating existing bathrooms to code and the Lathon Wider Community Center's requests. He also presented the Government Center Renovations are the number one item as the building is coming up on being 30-years old and how they want to upgrade the lobby. He also presented projects for a heating system for the vehicle maintenance building; Terry Conner's Ice Rink improvements to mansard and town yard upgrades.

Mr. Quick asked how old the south-end firehouse roof was? Mrs. Dell noted a repair is not a capital budget item but replacement is something different.

There was a discussion on the Marina Fund. Peter Privitera stated that this is supposed to be a self-supporting fund as they have many, many slips in the City's marina but it can't meet its obligations and the Administration needs to look at this issue.

Kevin Murray presented the request's for Maintenance Parks.

Special Revenue – WPCA

Prakash Chakravarti, Supervising Engineer at the WPCA, described the requested \$8.9M in WPCS projects. Mr. Privitera explained to the Board that two projects will be submitted next meeting as a supplemental request and how the City will move away from Geo Bonds to revenue bonds for WPCA capital projects.

Mr. Tepper asked if anything is being done for odor control? Mr. Chakravarti answered yes.

Ms. Murphy asked about approving matching commitments.

Operations – Land Use - Discussion of this will be moved to a future date.

There being no further business, Mrs. Dell adjourned the meeting at 10:40 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 7<sup>th</sup> floor of Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, during regular business hours.