

MINUTES OF PLANNING BOARD
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING #3280
DECEMBER 26, 2000
7th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, GOVERNMENT CENTER
888 WASHINGTON BLVD., STAMFORD, CT

Present for the Board were: Duane Hill, Chairman; John Garnjost; Marggie Laurie; Donna Loglisci; and Claire Fishman. Present for staff were: Robin Stein, Land Use Bureau Chief; Tom Fava, Capital Projects Administrator; and Carol Davis, Senior Planner.

Mr. Hill opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Pending Subdivision:

Subdivision Application #3777 of Dino and Sandra Spadaccini for subdivision of property into two parcels on the north side of Gerik Road (#52).

Mr. Stein reviewed the subdivision explaining that a variance of the minimum lot size was granted for Lot B. He said there are no wetlands or regulated areas and there has been no correspondence from neighbors. He said the ZBA conditioned its approval on the removal of the shed.

On a motion by Mrs. Fishman, seconded by Mrs. Loglisci, the Board voted unanimously to approve the subdivision with the following conditions:

1. Significantly sized trees shall be preserved to the greatest extent feasible. (Note to appear on final map.)
2. In-ground fuel tanks shall be prohibited. (Note to appear on final map.)
3. Site development shall not begin until a soil erosion and sedimentation control plan is approved by the Environmental Protection Board and those control elements scheduled for installation are in place and functional. (Note to appear on final map.)
4. In accordance with CGS 8-26c, approval shall expire on December 29, 2005 unless all "work" as said term is defined in CGS 8-26c(b), has been completed by said date. (Note to appear on final map.)
5. Subdivision reference number to be placed on final map.

Capital Budget 2001/2002-2008

Mr. Stein said he had made changes in the Planning Board recommendations based on the comments of Board members at the last meeting. His proposed changes were as follows: in Land Use increase funds for open space acquisition; in the Police budget laptop computers and out year requests for government center computers were deleted; all Library requests were deleted; and the auditorium at Scofieldtown was removed from the Education budget.

There was discussion about the difference between operating and capital budget items. Mr. Stein said it is hard to distinguish a difference in some instances and he explained that in the early 90's operating items were placed in the capital budget to keep taxes down. He said that since they may miss the operating budget deadline, items removed from the capital budget can get lost. He said there should be more coordination. Mr. Hill suggested that treatment of laptops should be reviewed and a comment made in the Budget Message.

There was discussion about whether the City Website is a capital item and it was decided to put \$50,000 in 2001 and \$0 in the out years.

Mrs. Laurie said Pavement Markings could be in the Operating Budget. Mr. Hill suggested that members flag projects that are possible Operating budget items. The following items were flagged:

Highways: Environmental Compliance
 Pavement Management System
 Pavement Markings

Police: Laptop Computers

Volunteer Fire: VHF Radio Replacement

Stamford Fire: Replace SCBA & Air Bot.

Mr. Garnjost said he would like more information from Fleet Management before the public hearing. Mrs. Laurie said she would like more information about "rinks." She said she would like to know where the additional roller rink is to go and explained that Scalzi Park and the Cove are overdeveloped.

Mr. Garnjost asked for information as to what has been appropriated for engineering projects. There was discussion about the problem on Colonial Road and it was agreed to put the department request back into the budget.

It was agreed that the name "Jefferson/Dock Connector" should be changed to "Stamford Urban Transitway."

Mrs. Laurie asked if the Waterside Streetscape could begin in 2001. Mr. Stein said he would see if some funds can go in for design.

Mrs. Laurie said Sweetbriar Road has been in the WPCA budget for a long time and there may be complaints at the public hearing. Mr. Stein said at the public hearing the Board may have to acknowledge that the department cut this.

Regarding the Police budget it was agreed to put \$46,000 for laptops back into 2001 since this is the end of an ongoing project. Mr. Garnjost noted that no information has been received regarding the 800 MHZ project.

Mr. Stein said a letter has been sent to Mr. Cassone regarding the fire department pumpers. It was agreed to send another letter to Mr. Cassone asking about interface of the VHF Radio replacement with 800 MHZ. Mr. Hill and Mrs. Laurie questioned whether \$1.7 million for a new East Side Fire Station is realistic and if it can be completed in one year. Mrs. Laurie expressed concern whether the location would provide the best fire protection. It was agreed to include this matter in the letter to Mr. Cassone.

It was agreed to remove \$185,000 from the Smith House request for East/West Wing Plumbing until the assessment is completed.

Regarding the Library budget, Mr. Hill said he had spoken with Mr. DiMattia. He said Mr. DiMattia has backup support for the Main Library Maintenance request. Mrs. Laurie proposed that HVAC should be in the budget since it is important for people who otherwise would have no place to go on hot days. Mr. Hill said he would call Mr. DiMattia again and ask him to set priorities.

There was more discussion about the Scofieldtown school auditorium. Mrs. Laurie said a drama program is part of the school experience. She said if the community is behind more growth is it wise to cut back from the standard school? Mrs. Fishman said she would agree to a common room if it has a full stage. Mr. Garnjost said the size of the stage is dependent on the principal, that the Planning Board is following what was planned and approved previously. Mr. Hill said he has trouble with a \$4 million auditorium. Mrs. Laurie wanted more information about Administrative Equipment.

Mr. Stein asked if the Board wants to go to hearing with \$4 million over the safe debt limit. Mrs. Laurie wondered if the Board is being over-conservative. The next meeting was scheduled for January 2, 2001 when deferred items will be on the agenda. Mr. Stein said he would have numbers for out years of the budget on January 9 and the budget must be finalized on January 16, 2001.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Duane Hill, Chairman
Stamford Planning Board

Note: These proceedings were recorded on tape and are available for review during regular business hours.