

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATION & EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Monday, June 2, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Rivers, DeLorenzo and Deputy Mayor Gamble

Also present were: Councilor Washington, Philip K. Schenck, Town Manager, Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

Absent was: Councilor Hypolite

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Summary of School Bond Issue

There was no one in attendance from the Bloomfield Board of Education to give a status update regarding school bond concerns.

Administrative Report from the Town Manager

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager reported to the subcommittee several updates in town government affairs:

Mr. Schenck, Jr. reported that March was a great month for grant activity. The town received the following grants:

- \$600,000 – Filley Park (enabling legislation)
- \$38,000 – Nutmeg Network Grant – high speed broadband services
- \$125,000 – LoCIP Grant, totaling \$250,000
- \$10,000 – Police Crusaders

- On May 31, 2014, an Open House was held to view all newly renovated Bloomfield Public Schools.

- Also, on May 31, 2014, the Economic Development Commission and the Chamber of Commerce hosted their 1st Annual Grub Crawl, which was very successful.

- The Finance Department has begun closeout procedures for FY 2013/2014 budget.

- Mr. Schenck, Jr. signed a contract with Goman & York Property Advisors, LLC as the new Economic Development consultants for the town.
- A large apartment complex is being proposed by Bloomfield Town Hall between Bloomfield and Jerome Avenues. There will be approximately 400 apartment with various amenities built. The Town Plan & Zoning Commission has approved a floating zone for the area.
- The town has also applied for a Sidewalk Grant in the amount of \$600,000 to assist in this development. Any costs above and beyond the grant amount will be paid by the developer.
- There has been favorable legislation regarding school reimbursement rates. Preliminary discussions have begun with the State of Connecticut – Department of Education.
- Once the school bonding reimbursement issue is resolved then the town could potentially review concerns with the Public Works garage, Prosser Library and long range issues at 330 Park Avenue. Mr. Schenck, Jr. stated that he has prepared preliminary schedules for the Public Works garage and Prosser Library. This Fall 2014, building committees will be formed and policy review for Council.
- The Granby Street repavement project will begin this year and Woodland Avenue will follow for next year.
- Solarize CT waged a friendly competition between the towns of Farmington, Simsbury and Bloomfield with deadlines of who could achieve the most enrollments for solarize services.
- Mr. Schenck, Jr. and Mrs. Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager will be interviewing their first intern on Friday, June 6, 2014.
- The town has received all Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) approvals for Filley Park. The town is awaiting the additional approvals from the Army Corp of Engineers. A conversation with MDC is needed to determine a solution regarding steps entering the park over a sewer easement.

Councilor DeLorenzo inquired about how many people were in attendance for the Grub Crawl and suggested better marketing strategies for the next town wide event.

Mr. Schenck, Jr. informed the committee that CREC would like to purchase additional property in town. They are proposing to purchase 30 acres from Griffin Land in the amount of \$108M.

Councilor Rivers inquired about notification to the town when businesses are entering and leaving town. There was a brief discussion about Wintonbury Mall and the request to an in-depth review on re-evaluation and actual value.

Councilor Rivers also suggested a scale down version of the “Welcome to Bloomfield” sign at every entrance into town.

Councilor DeLorenzo recommended utilizing the old stones on Prospect Street from the wall repairs to be built as columns at entrances in the Master Parks Plan or Filley Park.

Adjournment

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.