

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATION & EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting for the above-referenced subcommittee held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 7, 2013 in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

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

Also present were: Wayne Casper, Director of Facilities – Bloomfield Board of Education, Barry Berson, Susan True, Philip Schenck Jr., Town Manager and India M. Rodgers, Clerk of Council

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Councilor Gamble, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hypolite and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of September 3, 2013.

Update on all School Building Committees

High School – Mr. Wayne Casper gave a status update regarding the payment of the final bill for this renovation project. Once the bills have been received and payment is rendered, the building committee chair will submit a letter to Mayor Schulman for disbandment. It was also noted that the glass block was replaced at the high school.

Carmen Arace – Mr. Barry Berson reported that all punch list items and project construction has been completed at this site. The building committee has a scheduled meeting for this upcoming week. The committee will discuss three items for consideration and this building committee will also request to be disbanded from the Mayor.

Elementary Schools

Mr. Casper reported that the final construction bill was paid and approval for payment was made for the plaque. At Laurel Elementary, the final change orders were signed and the building committee is still awaiting a final bill. There is still an outstanding bill for playground. The building committees for both schools will request to be disbanded as well.

Mr. Casper noted that all building committees are expected to be completed and done by the end of November 2013.

Administrative Report from the Town Manager

Mr. Philip Schenck, Jr., reported the following updates to the committee:

- 2 additional delinquent tax sales were received, reducing the total number of properties to 13. The tax sale will take place on November 6, 2013 for the remaining properties.
- 10 tax liens were filed against properties for landscaping and mowing totaling \$2700.00
- Mr. Schenck, Jr. attended a thank you luncheon at Woodside Village for the excellent response of Public Safety, Fire and Social Services personnel to a recent building fire. All units were repaired and residents were allowed to move back in on October 1, 2013.
- The parking lot at the Police department is under construction for emergency access.
- The first Annual Americana Folk Festival was held on October 4-6, 2013 at Wintonbury Mall and the Town Green. Mr. Mike McGarry will present before the EDC to coordinate other events with the town center.
- Mr. Schenck, Jr. attended a dedication ceremony of Stout Fields with the Wintonbury Land Trust.
- He also attended a neighborhood gathering on Duncaster Road, where he met residents in the community.
- The owner of the old Farmer's Exchange property is trying to solicit a contractor to demolish building. In order to receive a building permit, the contractor must be licensed with the State of Connecticut.
- In addition, a request was made to the Central New England Railway to remove the box cars in the area of the Farmer's Exchange building so that demolition could occur.
- As of October 15, 2013 a recommendation of Council was made to place the Farmer's Exchange building back onto the blighted property list if it has not been demolished.

Deputy Mayor Hypolite inquired about the possibility in hiring a third party vendor to pursue delinquent tax liens. It was noted that initial contact has been made to solicit assistance with motor vehicle taxes. There are no legal ramifications to writing off tax liens.

Mr. Schenck, Jr. stated that CCM had a program to pursue delinquencies, however the time spent to locate individuals was more costly than the actual bill.

Other Business

Councilor Gamble inquired about using natural gas for town vehicles. The concept was discussed at a recent CCM conference to assist municipalities in saving on gas.

Deputy Mayor Hypolite suggested that department heads attending various conferences should submit a brief report on information learned to share with Council members.

Councilor DeLorenzo thanked town administration and the public works department for line painting Seneca Road. The town will review and re-evaluate other streets for line painting as well.

Councilor Gamble inquired about the Lisa Lane Farm open space acquisition. The area of Cottage Grove Road and Blue Hills Avenue was rated grade “D” by the State of Connecticut – Department of Transportation (DOT). There is a possibility of road reconstruction that may affect the Lisa Lane property.

Councilor Gamble also addressed the issue of inoperable street lights in town. There are currently 18 street lights as well as a traffic signal on Cottage Grove Road and School Street that are not operable. Mr. Schenck, Jr. stated that he will follow up with CL&P and the State of Connecticut – DOT for repairs.

Adjournment

It was moved by Councilor Gamble, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.