There was a special meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

**Committee members present were:** Councilors David Mann, Kevin Gough, Patrick DeLorenzo and Deputy Mayor Rickford Kirton

**Also present were:** Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, Jose Giner, Director of Planning and Economic Development, Ashley Stewart, Environmental Planner and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

**Absent was:** Councilor Kenneth McClary

**Guest:** Mark Jewell and Gordon Daring - VHB Consultants

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Presentation by VHB - Complete Streets Status Update**

Mr. Mark Jewell and Mr. Gordon Daring of VHB Consultants presented a status update on the Complete Streets project.

Mr. Jewell explained the process of this policy. There were numerous public information meetings held to solicit input on the project. The VHB Consultant firm along with staff have developed a draft policy for Complete Streets Master Plan for the Town of Bloomfield.

It was noted that there are 1400 communities nationwide that have adopted a Complete Streets policy. There are currently 14 communities in Connecticut that have adopted a policy.

Mr. Jewell listed local and state agencies that have also adopted this policy:
- Continued Partnership with the Department of Transportation
- Coordinated with CRCOG - Complete policy for the region
- West Hartford ranked #1 in the Nation for their Complete Street Policy Statement

There are eight elements that are included in the Complete Streets Policy:
- Improving the quality of life, community character, walkable
- Core commitment to the town residents
- Prioritize projects
- Jurisdiction - all town roadways and public ride-a-ways
- Implementation - every town
- Measuring Metrics
- Accountability
There was a brief discussion regarding the goals and implementation of the Complete Streets Study for the Town of Bloomfield.

Councilor Mann inquired about signage updates and zoning concerns. In addition, he also inquired about the timeframe to formally adopt the policy with design guidelines. There may be a need to create new ordinances.

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated that the Town will be updated the Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD) in the next few years. He inquired about how to integrate the Plan of Conservation & Development update and the Complete Streets Policy as a whole.

Mr. Jose Giner, Director of Planning and Economic Development commented on future Capital Improvement projects. He asked about how these projects fit into Complete Street Policy moving forward.

Councilor Mann inquired about the benefits of this program to the town. It was noted that this program would provide equity, distribution to all users of the right of way, transit riders, pedestrians, Economic Development potential, walkable communities, health and environmental impacts.

Councilor DeLorenzo inquired about the impact of future roundabouts. He also asked about how the Complete Streets program fit into the Town Center, what cost to the town?

Safety was the biggest concerns of residents during the public information sessions

Councilor Gough thanked the consultants for an overall great plan. He inquired about the experience in West Hartford since the adoption of the Complete Streets policy? Once the policy is adopted by the Town, what ordinance type issues would be considered, if any?

Councilor Gough also asked about statistical data on reductions in car traffic.

Old Business

Council Referred Item FY 18/19-17: Consider and Take Action regarding Non-Renewal of our Agreement with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection on the Reservoir #2 Lease

The Town will continue to work with the State of Connecticut on a potential lease agreement for Reservoir #2. The current lease will remain in effect until a new lease has been signed.

The subcommittee members inquired about whether the same lease requirements from the previous lease applied or will more responsibilities be imposed on the town.
FY 18/19-56: Consider and Take Action regarding Cigna Tax Abatement Request

It was moved by Councilor Gough, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kirton to authorize the Town Manager and Town Attorney to enter into negotiations with Cigna to discuss outlining the terms of a five-year abatement with an option for an additional two years, if Cigna sufficiently meets community investments.

VOTE: AYE: D. Mann, K. Gough, S. DeBeatham-Brown, R. Kirton
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: P. DeLorenzo

The motion carries 4-0-1.

The subcommittee reviewed the initial term sheet from Cigna offering the Gillette House to the Town. The Gillette House is of historical value to the town and should be preserved, but it was questioned whether the Town should own the building.

Mr. Schenck, Jr. noted that if the Town is interested in obtaining this house, an inspection of the building would be necessary. He suggested to include this house into the Cigna agreement as a contingent offer.

Mr. Giner noted that the Town is currently in the process in becoming a Certified Local Government, which would support the listing of historic properties listing in town.

New Business

Discussion of the Riley Lumber Property

The subcommittee discussed the Riley Lumber Property for future additional parking needed for the Prosser Library.

Some ideas for current use of the property may include, but not limited to:
Art Space
Flea and Farmer’s Market
Code impacts - temporary or partial use
Conditions of Use: maintenance, insurance, management and promotion, rehabilitation of the building

The Town is currently leasing this property to Eversource at $1,750.00 per month for staging.

Development Inquiries and Project Updates

- Sustainable CT - submitted initial objectives, on schedule to get Bronze Certification in October
- Major Tech Company scheduled to move into Griffin Park
- Battery Farm development on North Tariffville Road
• Tax Increment Financing - Interviews for attorneys will be scheduled before July 31, 2019. There were two attorneys recommended by Goman & York, the third attorney recommended by the Town Attorney.

• Supportive Housing Project on Cottage Grove Road - MDC concerns (halted project, added $50,000). The developer did a cost engineering assessment for this project, estimated at $200,000.

• Douglas Street - A new developer is willing to take over the TFC project and build supportive housing units.

• Update on Goman & York Contract - The Town is currently reviewing their scope of services.

Other Business

Status updates regarding the Bloomfield Hardware Store and 168 Tunxis Avenue.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Councilor Gough, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of May 21, 2019 with minor corrections.

Adjournment

It was moved by Councilor Gough, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.