

The Route 156 Bike Way and Sound View Improvements Committee
Unapproved Minutes of January 11, 2016 6:00 PM Memorial Town Hall, Old Lyme, CT

Committee Members Present: Rob Haramut, Skip Sibley, Jim Lampos, Mary Jo Nosal, Angelo Faenza, Frank Pappalardo, Bonnie Reemsnyder, and John McDonald.

Project Engineer Present: Kurt Prochorena of BSC Group

DOT Liaison Present: Chris Faulkner of VHB.

Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM. Chris Faulkner of VHB was introduced. He returns as our project liaison for DOT, replacing David Head who is transferring to a new VHB office. Chris received copies of the 2015 minutes.

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the 12/21/15 meeting was made by Angelo and seconded by John. There was no discussion and motion was passed.

VHB Comments: Chris reviewed the options for hiring an Inspection firm and which he shared with Mary Jo by telephone on 12/23/15. The committee can recommend (1) hiring BSC group if they are interested and have the qualified, available individuals, (2) hire an individual or utilize a town employee, (3) go through the request for qualifications (RFQ) and rating process for a new firm and interview the top 5 or RFQ all the DOT pre-qualified firms of about forty firms. The process takes some time but the scope of services is less. Inspection services is are 80% reimbursable.

- Bonnie shared that the DOT allows the town to utilize the firm they feel are qualified and have the experience. She would recommend BSC who has been excellent to work with and who know the project. The RFQ process is arduous. The town does not have an employee to utilize for this process. Kurt will meet with Chris to determine if BSC meets the qualifications.
- John inquired as to whether a registered civil engineer meets the requirements. Chris said ConnDOT requires the P.E. to meet certain national certifications and have field experience which meets DOT standards and requirements which includes significant paperwork.
- A construction Agreement cannot be signed without an Inspector Agreement. BSC will remain involved in the project for construction administration (review shop drawings, respond to request for information).
- The Inspector is on site every day the construction firm is on site. Even on a rain day, there is paper work to be done. Chris added that BSC will identify the construction time for the contract and there will be some rain days built in. The inspection contract will mimic this construction time. If the construction time exceeds the contract, the inspector will ask for an extension but the contract has a liquidated damages section to cover.
- The inspection cost/daily rate will be negotiated after the firm is selected based on the qualifications.
- The construction documents are not needed to select the Inspector, but the contract time is needed.
- The DOT does not allow a Request for Proposal. Receipt of Federal Highway funding requires a RFQ.
- Rob indicated that the majority of the projects RiverCOG is involved in are done by the designer and Chris agreed that it was the case, 95% of the time. BSC is interested but Kurt needs to see if BSC can block out the right qualified person and this person has to be approved by DOT.
- In response to a question by Jim regarding the cost of the inspection, Chris said we carry a 14% allocation in the budget. Skip asked if this was factored into any of our costs and Kurt said it is part of the 25% incidentals which have been carried all along through the project budget.
- In response to a question by Frank, Chris said if we do not use the entire 25% it can go to the project. The 25% incidentals include State and Town activities e.g., cost of the State materials testing and 20% of the State construction oversight visits.
- If the RFQ process is required, Mary Jo requested that Angelo consider working again with her on the format. Questions from VHB are provided including: does the firm have this kind of ConnDOT experience; is the firm bonded and insured. Bonnie suggested Rob assist, also.
- Kurt and Chris will meet to confirm the inspection requirements and review for the semi-design submission estimated to be Friday, 1/15/16.

Final Design Workshop 3

Off-Site Work on Hartford Avenue –locations beyond the 50 ft. right-of-way

- Bonnie received the signed certified mailing receipts for the seven properties. The temporary rights agreements have not been received as yet.
- Questions were received from The Vowels who own #75, 79 and 80 Hartford Ave., i.e., what was going to happen with their light posts and porch-nothing, their deck on #81-the contract documents will include temporarily supporting it as the new sidewalk goes in. They were satisfied with the responses to their questions according to Bonnie.
- Kurt reviewed for Chris that the work is required due to the configuration of the overly crowned road and elevation required for the new sidewalk.
- Bonnie and Kurt agreed to send an additional temporary rights agreement to 81 Hartford Ave.

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Curb Extensions (bump-outs)

- Kurt reviewed that the committee voted for: two granite mountable curbs by the park for access to the fire hydrant; a flush granite curb extension at the intersection of Pond Rd. and Hartford Ave. and the others are full reveal concrete curbing.
 - There are two options for the pocket parks-curb extension grading or sloping. (1) Have the curb follow the lay of the road and maintain the curb reveal. Due to the crowning of the road, these curb extensions will have a greater slope in order to keep curb reveal the same. (2) Let the reveal flatten as the road increases. There will be a variation in curb height from 6 in.(the ideal) to 4 in. at the lowest, to make the extension as flat as possible but allow for drainage.
- Kurt recommends the second option, the flatter option, as they these are gathering spaces and when the road is reconstructed for sewers road it will be corrected and the full 6 in. reveal will be visible. There was committee consensus for the flatter reveal recommendation.
- The curb extension will be a cobble-and mixed color blend as decided at the last meeting. This general color blending will be a savings in labor. Chris reminded us to specify at least two manufacturers.

Storm Water

- Questions regarding the conversations at the LEAN meeting concerning drainage at Hartford and Pond were addressed to DEEP and DOT personnel by Will Walter, P.E. of BSC Group. The result is that a swale at the end of the park is not required. Will is working on a requested letter which indicates that conditions will not be made worse. This letter will be part of the semi-design report. Kurt will ask Will to provide the final documentation on this issue to the committee. Therefore, Kurt recommended that we hold on the land swap.
- In response to a question from Frank, Chris said that with a written letter confirming this decision, the regulators will not be able to easily back-track on the decision which was sort of an inter-agency confusion.
- The storm drain pipes connecting the dry-wells have been changed to concrete.
- There is limited area on the curb extensions. We have tree pits (and the roots will not extend beyond the pit), a water line that runs down the west side of the road where the curb extensions are and there is a need for a drainage line connecting the dry wells at each extension. BSC has found an alternative drainage line, not a custom product, where the pipe is offset and can be placed further into the sidewalk thus avoiding adversely affecting the tree pits and a costly fix. However, there will be a need for manholes at the catch basin sites in the sidewalk.
- The water line valves are located in the sidewalks on both sides of the street (we are not touching the valves in the street).
- The shut-offs in the sidewalk will be preserved.
- In response to a question by Frank, the contractor has to prepare working drawings (as-builts) as he proceeds. The inspector will assure that these are being documented. There will be a call before you dig and confirmation of utilities.
- Kurt confirmed that observed changes to the as-builts can be provided for the GIS.

Lighting Options

- The committee is interested in LED fixtures. One fixture the committee was interested in was not available for LED.
- Apex Lighting Solutions provided some purchase cost estimates (not installation) for all 11 poles. The lowest cost is: the combination of the RSA6 arm and the Libertyville light fixture at \$27,500. The highest cost is the SMA6 and the Glenview at \$31,300 combination. We had previously estimated \$36,300 for all the lighting.
- The total opinion of construction cost is up to \$761,000, \$10,000 over our cost approved with ConnDot of \$751,000.
- Chris said he would not worry about this cost differential and we would be eligible for the 80/20 sharing. The Construction Agreement will be sent to us so we can allocate the money, based on the \$751,000. Once the bids come in the agreement will be adjusted.
- Kurt made a contact with the Eversource technician for Old Lyme, an Old Lyme resident, Mrs. DeBernardo. Kurt will provide her with a photo of every pole and the utilities on it. Eversource will then do their own inspection and determine if the poles are ok for the new fixtures and what utilities are on the pole or near the pole. She said this process does not take too long. She indicated that Eversource prefers to do the installation themselves.
- There was support from the committee members, and especially from those members from Sound View, for the arm with the most scrolling on it, SMA-6, which could be used to hang something from, with the Omega fixture 1531. If needed banner arms could be added. The arm is 6 ft. and it and the Omega fixture are powder-coated black.
- The preliminary photometrics look good and some shielding is expected.
- The lights are available in different temperatures. A field trip to see the Omega in Mystic Main St. on the Groton side which was supplied by Apex was suggested.
- If possible, schedule the install as soon as it is funded to improve the chances of the install being done soon.

Street Trees

- BSC is addressing the feedback from the Tree Commission, including the need for tree grates.
- The Committee had some questions regarding the aesthetics of 4 different trees. Jim suggested looking at a Swamp Maple.

Bike Racks-Benches

- Bike racks selected were the ovals
- Benches-the committee reflected six ft. benches with some scrolling, sand colored straps and black arms.

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- Cost updates are forthcoming for different size benches and options.

Curb-Cuts

- Kurt will send a photo of the specific residents Bonnie and Frank will speak to at #42, 44 and 57 Hartford Ave.
- 50 Hartford Ave. ramp is on the plan and will stay where it currently.
- 61 Hartford Ave. ramp's is being shared with #57 Hartford Ave. The design has a current ramp at #61.
- There was a discussion to try and be consistent with the width of the ramps. The suggestion was made to try for 11 ft. ramps if it will help with parking spaces. Kurt asked what the town regulation is for this?
- The Fire Chief has requested a final review of the plans.
- The plan is for a 12 ft. ramp but the recommendation is to have a consistent width.

Parking Signage

- Kurt asked if there any desire for term of parking signage e.g. business parking, time and placement. Kurt will provide a plan with the number of parking spaces for consideration.

Street Signs

- The current plans are to reinstall existing signs. Kurt can get some estimates for a street sign consistent with the bench and light mast. Bonnie suggested that the small Sound View entrance sign be made consistent with some lighting.

Parking Kiosks: The Town will remove and store the existing kiosks and the Contractor will re-install them.

Pavement Markings

- There will be additional black road markings on Hartford Ave. when the project is completed. Bonnie will ask Public Works about a possible solution (possibly scarifying) to the street art until the road is redone.
- Kurt said the entrance into the project area, BSC will redo the center line north of Bocce. The new center line will be a less dramatic change than what is present with the bump-out.
- A granite bump-out at the southeast corner of Bocce and Hartford Ave. will be investigated.
- Turning radius movements will be analyzed by BSC.

Design Misc.

- Kurt recommends we eliminate a utility band on the sidewalk.
- Jim recommended a marker identifying private vs. public property marker (survey disk) and Kurt concurred.

Semi-Design: Chris said that ConnDOT will take 1 month to review the plan.

Project Plan Update

- As requested by David, Kurt will provide a letter of each project element and whether it remains the same or if there is a change and what the cost difference is. The actual Project Plan will be modified in red and finally a summary table provided.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 1/26/16 at 4:30 PM., Skip will not be present due to his travel. Chris will have conflicts in March.

Schedule and final Project Update for the Public

- **Estimated schedule: Construction start right after Labor Day, Open bids 7/1, Advertise 6/1, Final design by 4/1.**
- **More residents will be present for a public informational presentation in the Spring. Target date is 4/25/16 7:30PM.**

Grant Sub-Committee: Mary Jo asks for volunteers and feedback.

Public Comment: none

Motion: Motion to adjourn at 6:45 PM, was made by Frank and seconded by John. There was no discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Jo Nosal, Acting Clerk 1-15-16