

The Route 156 Bike Way and Sound View Improvements Committee
Unapproved Minutes of October 19, 2015 4:30 PM Memorial Town Hall, Old Lyme, CT

Present: Jim Lamos, Mary Jo Nosal, Jean Davies, Skip Sibley, Angelo Faenza, Frank Pappalardo (arrived after minutes approved), Bonnie Reemsnyder, and John McDonald. Guests: Kurt Prochorena of BSC Group and Keith Rosenfeld. Community members in attendance: Lenny Corto, Joanne Lishing

Welcome A quorum of voting members was reached at 4:35 PM.

Motion to approve the minutes of 09/15/15 by Skip and seconded by Bonnie. Discussion-Typographical errors noted by Mary Jo: date of next meeting corrected from 10/16 to 10/19. Meeting was corrected to meeting. Motion amended to accept the minutes as corrected. In favor: Mary Jo, John and Jim. Abstention (as absent from the meeting)- Bonnie, Skip and Angelo

Schedule

- Our engineer, Kurt Prochorena handed on the current schedule. It was noted that this schedule has not changed much since the decision was made to change from a Fall 2015 construction start to a Spring 2016 construction start. This schedule has been reviewed at each committee meeting.

Following our last meeting and after conferring with his management our liaison from VHB, David Head, raised concerns with the schedule. It is VHB's opinion that there is insufficient time to come to agreement with a construction company for a Spring start and project completion. This concern was stated in a 10/5/15 conference call with VHB. The specifics were to be detailed by David with the Committee. David had not arrived at the meeting to provide this information.

- It was noted that since the Hartford Avenue plans were initiated, the Committee had been guided by both VHB liaisons that this was a town project. There is concern amongst the Committee that it is being managed now as a DOT project.
- Bonnie noted that the project cost depends on the final design and we are only at preliminary design. However, she suggested that we evaluate the construction costs for a spring 2016 start and a fall 2016 completion done.
- Skip added that construction work is generally feasible in the fall through November, but March is iffy.
- Jean added that the cost ramifications of a change from spring to fall start be considered for construction costs and additional engineering. Kurt felt that the increase will be primarily in construction as firms are busy now. Skip stated that the costs are generally the same in the same calendar year.
- Jean asked if the Committee felt there was reason to keep to the March start? Frank said that if it makes sense and is feasible we would prefer a project completion before the summer of 2016.
- Jean noted that the concerns from DOT are for a Town owned road. The RiverCOG can assist the Town because this region has few projects with the State and #104-172 should be a priority.
- Bonnie expressed disappointment with the liaison support which was meant to guide the enhancement grant projects to completion.
- Kurt and others noted that historically it is best to be in the construction queue in the Spring. Consider liquidated damages in the Agreement to keep the construction delays in check.

PD Update (preliminary design)

- Draft Responses to DOT using the VHB format were reviewed:
 - Bureau of Policy and Design: Utility-the engineers will coordinate project with Eversource
 - Landscape- BSC may use structural soil suitable for trees in sidewalk
 - Bureau of Engineering and Construction - There is some question regarding DOT vs Town requirements. Kurt will address with David.
 - BSC will identify property owners that may need easement and discuss with David.
 - Illumination-Bonnie reported that Eversource no longer has any grant programs for towns that own their own poles as we do. We await David's update on what was done in Mansfield.
 - ❖ Kurt is getting estimates for arm mounted fixtures. Bonnie will confirm whether Eversource has to do this work or can the town through a subcontractor. The cost of these fixtures and related labor will be part of the analysis the Committee will review when considering lighting.

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- ❖ John suggested that as conduit and handholes are part of the PD, that we go ahead as planned and put lights later. Bonnie noted that this option would be reviewed with the BOF.
- ❖ Jim shared an estimate of \$12,000 per arm.
- ❖ Kurt reminded the Committee that photometric analyses are not part of the scope of work.
 - Kurt will look at crosswalk striping at end of Hartford Ave.
- Hydraulics & Drainage-The 10/15/15 LEAN meeting with DOT/DEEP officials reviewed the fact that Hartford Ave. cannot meet DOT drainage standards. The proposed solution presented by Will Walters of BSC Group, of connected dry wells was verbally accepted by DOT. It was noted by the BSC and acknowledged by the DEEP official, that the solution does filter particulate matter so improves the water quality.
 - Post-meeting, there was some discussion about rain garden and a possible swale near Portland and Pond Ave. to further dissipate run-off.
- Town Officials review of the PD
 - The Town Fire Marshal provided some preliminary responses to BSC regarding the bump-outs near the southern end of the project and trees in the proposed green space. He volunteered to provide measurements of applicable fire equipment to BSC for a turning radius study.
 - Keith Rosenfeld provided the attached comments on the PD.
 - Building Official Response is outstanding.
- The Committee requested Mary Jo to ask for a similar review by the Fire Department.

- There was a question raised to ask VHB as to who was reviewing the project at DOT?
It was noted that some delays with the project can be attributed to VHB and a lack of communication.

Budget and Scope Update

- Scope not discussed as VHB not present
- Budget-VHB indicated on a conference call of 10/5/15, that they are putting through the letter to DOT to raise the construction budget to the preliminary construction budget of \$751,000.
- Kurt's budget update and the accounting from Nicole were provided and are attached.

Misc: no comments from the community members.

Next Meetings:

November 2, December 9 at 4:30 pm at Memorial Town Hall
Possible joint RiverCOG and public information session TBD
The Committee will plan the 2016 meetings.

Motion to adjourn at 6:20PM, made by John, and seconded by Bonnie.
There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Jo Nosal, Acting Clerk 10-26-15

Attachments

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Budget Update - Phase Breakdown
BSC Project Invoice No. 5
Route 156 Bike Way and Sound View Improvements Project
State Project No. 104-172
Updated 8-24-15

<u>Project Phase</u>	<u>Phase Budget</u>	<u>Phase Percent Completed</u>	<u>Amount Expended</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>
Survey	\$16,908.00	100%	\$16,908.00	\$0.00
Geotechnical Labor	\$477.00	100%	\$477.00	\$0.00
Preliminary Design	\$41,964.00	100%	\$41,574.02	\$389.98
Final Design	\$43,074.00	0%	\$0.00	\$43,074.00
Construction	\$11,379.00	0%	\$0.00	\$11,379.00
Subtotal	\$113,802.00		\$58,959.02	\$54,842.98
Direct Costs	\$21,020.00	61%	\$12,829.85	\$8,190.15
Total Budget	\$134,822.00		\$71,788.87	\$63,033.13

TOWN OF OLD LYME
 SOUND VIEW/BIKE PATH IMPROVEMENT - Preliminary Design Phase and Specs
 AS OF 10/15/15

APPROPRIATION APPROVED AT TOWN MEETING 3/24/2014 148,500.00

EXPENDITURES

BSC	9/5/2014	24,943.97
BSC	10/14/2014	9,400.11
BSC	3/11/2015	23,355.09
BSC	4/30/2015	2,000.00
BSC	6/24/2015	3,653.11
Pages, Inc	7/9/2015	243.05
The Day	7/9/2015	266.80
BSC	9/14/2015	6,962.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 70,824.13

AMT UNEXPENDED 77,675.87

REVENUES

CT DOT	10/2/2014	19,563.21
CT DOT	3/17/2015	7,364.99
CT DOT	5/26/2015	20,832.04
CT DOI	8/4/2015	2,922.49
CT DOT	9/25/2015	407.88

TOTAL REVENUE 51,090.61

Memorandum
Land Use Office
Town of Old Lyme

October 19, 2015

To: Town of Old Lyme Route 156 Bike Way and Sound View Improvements Committee

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From: Keith D. Rosenfeld, Land Use Coordinator

RE: Letter in Support of the Old Lyme Route 156 Bike Way

I have reviewed the Route 156/Hartford Avenue Bikeway preliminary design plans. As a note, the proposal does adhere to the Old Lyme Plan of Conservation and Development as the plan seeks to develop public lands (ROW's such as Route 156 and Hartford Avenue) for passive recreational activities such as bicycling. And as to any required actions of the OL Zoning Commission, it appears that the Bike Way plan is primarily proposed for both the State and Town's roadways and there should be no need for any special, required zoning action at this point.

Per my review, I have the following comments regarding the proposed bike trail and the positive community benefits which can arise from its existence. These would include the easing of traffic congestion, increasing economic development potential, creating better-quality transportation patterns, lowering crime and improving public health.

Traffic Congestion

Biking and walking infrastructure can be a solution to local traffic congestion. Studies have proven that people will choose biking and walking over driving for daily trips if the infrastructure is in place.

Economic Development

Bike trails have been proven to increase activity in and around the commercial areas they pass through. These trails make it easier for people to get to stores without having to worry about parking and traffic, especially during the busy, high season summer months.

Transportation Patterns

Americans are already beginning to shift away from cars for daily transportation in favor of biking and walking trail systems. Old Lyme needs to respond in order to attract these new health seeking residents.

Crime and Safety

It is a fact that bike trails reduce criminal activity, increase regular monitoring and improve the public safety of previously unused spaces. It is also true that designated, separated bikeways not only encourage more biking and walking, they reduce accident rates as well on those roadways.

Health

Obesity is the most pressing public health crisis of our age, particularly among children. Making walking and biking a regular part of daily activities by providing convenient bikeways is one of the most cost-effective ways to combat physical inactivity.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me at 860 434-1605, EXT 225.