

APPROVED: September 3, 2013

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
July 22, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: President Borek called the meeting to order at 8:55 p.m.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

This is to advise that the notice requirement provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" has been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given and transmitted to The Times and Princeton Packet; filed with the Clerk of the Municipality; and posted in the West Windsor Township Municipal Building at North Post and Clarksville Roads on July 16, 2013.

ATTENDEES: President: Borek; Vice President: Samonte; Council Members: Geever, Khanna, Maher; Business Administrator: Schmid; Township Attorney: Herbert; Director of Community Development: Ward; Township Engineer: Guzik; Township Clerk: Young

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Alison Miller, 41 Windsor Drive, explained the value of the North Post bike lanes and advised that the lanes are a link to two different areas of the township.

FOR DISCUSSION:

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Little Bear Brook Flood Hazard Assessment and Redevelopment Area Regional Stormwater Management Analysis Project

Mr. Guzik advised that Engineering had a request after the flooding from Hurricane Irene to perform a stormwater study and flood hazard assessment. He noted that this study has been a multi-year process. Mr. Guzik reviewed the consultant's proposal, the flood data, risk and flood assessment, and additional compiled data to devise mitigation strategies. He noted that the redevelopment area was included in the study to enable the Township to take advantage of provisions that may be available as a result of the plan.

Mr. Maher inquired about the value of the studies that were done in the 70's and 80's. He also asked how the analysis was going to be accomplished and how does the Township plan on using the data.

Mr. Guzik explained that a tropical storm does not provide a basis for the study but the 100-year flood average will be taken into account. The study will provide information on preparing the mitigation process from a local level to possibly a federal level, and conceptual designs will be created.

Mr. Maher asked if the project was put out to bid and what were the rankings of the vendors who submitted bids.

Mr. Guzik explained that he requested proposals from consultants that had experience with the different disciplines involved and he performed rankings of the various bids.

Ms. Geevers advised that the study is critical, and she supported the extra time that was taken to thoroughly review the information and surveys. She appreciated the Engineer's efforts to include consideration for the owners in the redevelopment area.

Mr. Guzik explained that there was a 10% contingency for soil testing and proposed changes in the contract. He advised that the owners in the redevelopment area will contribute if one of the districts begins construction. Mr. Guzik noted that the Toll Brothers' funds that were set aside to mitigate potential flooding issues will be used to pay for the analysis.

Ms. Samonte suggested that Administration escalate the matter if the outcome is more of a regional issue.

North Post Road Bike Lanes Report (2013-R143)

Mr. Guzik informed Council that an RFP was sent out for conceptual plans for the project. He spoke about North Post Road design in the Master Plan versus how the road is constructed today. Mr. Guzik advised that this project will be a substantial investment to meet the 50-foot-wide roadway with bike lanes. He provided three different conceptual designs and discussed each of the concepts and their impacts.

Mr. Maher asked why three concept plans were needed when Council makes a decision on which design for North Post Road was best. He advised that the Township has another urgent matter on Cranbury Road which needs to be resolved.

Mr. Guzik advised that the study would also provide utility impacts, wetland issues and regulations, and potential costs for the future of the project.

Ms. Ward indicated that deviation from the Master Plan would need to be minimal, otherwise the concept would need to go back to the Planning Board for review and approval.

Mr. Maher noted that Concept #2 did not deviate from the Master Plan, and was the best choice and cost effective.

Mr. Foster, Chair of the West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance, advised that Concept #2 has the advantage of accommodating more experienced bike riders.

Ms. Samonte agreed that Concept #2 was the most suitable plan.

President Borek suggested that Concept #2 and #3 be reviewed to determine the most acceptable plan.

Mr. Maher agreed and suggested that the middle islands be removed because they are not feasible, and there should be sidewalks along the length of the road on the east side.

Mr. Guzik advised that he would amend the contract and resolution for consideration.

Ordinance 2013-12 to Amend and Supplement Chapter 200-149:
Building Prohibition along Watercourses and Floodplains

Mr. Guzik advised that both the Planning Board and the Environmental Commission reviewed the ordinance and made their recommendations.

Mr. Maher informed Council that property along the waterways will be impacted by the ordinance and asked if this matter has been discussed.

Mr. Guzik explained the reasons for the building prohibition along the water sources and advised that the Duck Pond Run has extended the riparian zone to 300 feet. He noted that this ordinance would put the West Windsor Township Code in compliance with NJDEP requirements.

Council addressed questions and discussions continued.

Council agreed to amend the ordinance to 70 feet east of Clarksville Road.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Alison Miller, 41 Windsor Drive, thanked Council for the consideration of Concepts #2 and #3 for the North Post Road project. She advised that the most desirable outcome for the project would not necessarily be the most cost effective.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, spoke about the water level at Carnegie Lake being too high and during storms causes extensive flooding. He noted his interest in seeing the outcome to the flood study.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Khanna
Second: Samonte
VV: All approved

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Sharon L. Young
Township Clerk
West Windsor Township