

TOWN COUNCIL
Town of Trumbull
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TOWN HALL
Trumbull

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LEGISLATION & ADMINISTRATION
MINUTES
March 28, 2011

Call to Order: Chairwoman Suzanne Testani called the Legislation & Administration Committee to order at 7:08 p.m. All present joined in a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance.

Present: Chairwoman Suzanne Testani, Kristy Waizenegger, Mark Altieri and Michael Rappa.

Absent: Vice Chairman Jeff Jenkins, Chad Ciocci.

Also Present: Town Council Chairman Carl A. Massaro, Jr., and Chief of Staff Dan Nelson, Attorneys representing the City of Bridgeport Atty. Rob Russo, Atty. Berchem, Atty. Stuger, Claire Gold, Education Consultant, Mr. Bob Hetman of O&G Industries and Jim Laposta of JCJ Architecture.

1. RESOLUTION TC23-152: Moved by Mr. Altieri, seconded by Ms. Waizenegger.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Inter-municipal agreement between the City of Bridgeport and the Town of Trumbull for the provision of police and emergency medical services to the Fairchild-Wheeler Memorial High School is hereby approved.

Mr. Nelson stated that on Monday, March 21, 2011 Commissioner George Coleman had come to Trumbull to discuss Trumbull's needs with regard to communication upgrades as well as the potential of a land swap. A meeting is currently being scheduled between First Selectman Herbst, City of Bridgeport officials and the Governor and/or a member of his staff.

In response to Ms. Waizenegger Mr. Nelson stated that the state is only hearing of the land swap for the first time. The parcel proposed to be swapped is approximately 25 acres and is on the other side of Quarry Road from the school. The state will convene a meeting to discuss the feasibility of the proposal and whether it is in the best interest of all parties.

The P&Z 65-day extension expires on April 22nd, 2011 and is the final extension; P&Z will have to rule on the proposal. The land swap proposal has been brought forth to Commissioner Coleman and is receptive, discussions are in their preliminary stages and are being fast tracked with the state. The proposal will involve municipal boundary changes.

Mr. Altieri noted that the resolution before the L&A Committee is an inter-municipal agreement between the city of Bridgeport and the town of Trumbull; discussion of the land swap is not germane at this juncture.

Mr. Rappa stated that the committee had requested a representative from the Police Department and the Fire District speak to this resolution. Mr. Nelson noted that two representatives were not available to attend this meeting due to being on vacation.

Atty. Russo stated that the Fire Marshal and the Fire District have agreed to the agreement verbally. Mr. Altieri requested that representatives from the police and the fire department be asked to attend the full town council meeting. Mr. Nelson agreed, noting that the Fire Marshal and the Town Planner were on vacation and should be back in time for the April 4, 2011 Town Council meeting.

Mr. Jim Laposta of JCJ Architecture reviewed the site plans in detail with the L&A Committee. The building is located closest to the RT. 25 portion of the site; the majority of the parking is under the building allowing for a compact footprint. Mr. Bob Hetman of O&G Industries stated that student parking will be limited by lottery to 11th and 12th graders. The layout and site orientation of the school was reviewed in detail with committee. With regard to the landscaping, the invasive wetland planting will be removed and replaced with deciduous plantings. New wetlands will be created. The building will have a vegetated roof also known as a “green roof”.

Claire Gold, education consultant spoke to the school and its program. Ms. Gold is the retired superintendent of schools of Westport and Wilton. This school will be dedicated to science, math and technology and will have a student population of 1,500 students consisting of 100 students from Bridgeport, 125 from Trumbull and 325 students from six (6) other communities. The building is planned for energy efficiency and to be environmentally sustainable. The site is in proximity of Beardsley Park, is attractive to suburban families and will achieve Gold LEED certification. The school will bus the students from seven (7) towns. There are no plans for interscholastic sports, but include a gymnasium for their health program. The school is as large as it is based upon the state requirements for each of the specialized programs. Trumbull will save on the per-pupil cost from their education budget and will still receive the pupil sharing fee of \$450 per student.

In response to Ms. Testani, Ms. Gold stated there is no time limit to the state funding of Trumbull students attending the school; the information with regard to after 10 years Trumbull will have to pay certain amount per student is erroneous information.

Governor Malloy is not taking any additional applications for new schools, but this project has been approved for funding by the state in 2006. Atty. Russo added that if the state would have an issue with the courts if they were not to honor their approval and funding of the school. The total square footage of the school is 282,000 sq. ft.

Mr. Rappa spoke to his disappointment that the police representatives were not present at this meeting. Atty. Russo clarified that the Police Commission has approved the traffic study before it went to P&Z. Mr. Rappa stated that he is in favor of the school and believes it to be a benefit for the community but is concerned that there may be a delay.

Moved by Ms. Waizenegger, seconded by Ms. Testani to hold Resolution TC23-152 in committee.

Ms. Waizenegger stated that there are still questions to be answered noting that if the land swap were to take place that it would impact this resolution.

Mr. Rappa stated that discussion on the safety aspect of the agreement and additional agreements was what he had expected to discuss; if the resolution were to be postponed it would impact the project as a whole.

VOTE: Motion Failed 2-2 (Altieri and Rappa against).

Moved by Mr. Rappa, seconded by Mr. Altieri to send Resolution TC 23-152 to the Town Council without recommendation.

VOTE: Motion Failed 2-2 (Testani and Waizenegger against).

VOTE: To recommend Resolution TC23-152 to the Town Council Failed 2-2 (Testani and Waizenegger against).

2. RESOLUTION TC23-153: Moved by Ms. Waizenegger, seconded by Mr. Rappa.

BE IT RESOLVED, that First Selectman, Timothy M. Herbst, is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute agreement and contract documents on behalf of the Town of Trumbull with the Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority, is hereby authorized to negotiate and execute agreement and contract documents on behalf of the Town of Trumbull with Department of Transportation of the State of Connecticut and to affix the corporate seal.

Mr. Nelson stated that the grant had been applied by Jean Fereira, Director of the Senior Citizen Center. The transportation grant is awarded annually; this is a signatory resolution with the GBTA in the amount of \$40,000; there is no matching of funds required by the town.

VOTE: Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

There being no further business to discuss the Legislation & administration Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni
Town Council Clerk