

Chester Main Street Project Committee

Regular Meeting, January 14, 2020

Page 1 of 3

1. Call to Order

The Chester Main Street Project Committee held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut. Chairman Joplin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Seating of Members

Members in attendance were Michael Joplin, John Schroeder, Chuck Mueller, Ed Meehan, Leslie Strauss, Charlene Janecek and Jeremy Ziemann. Others present were Aaron Mortensen, Bill DeJonge, and Fire Chief James Grzybowski.

3. Discussion – where are we right now

4. Discussion – what's coming up in the next 4 or 5 weeks

It was noted in November the final design set was submitted to the State. They got back to us middle of December and we addressed all their comments which were pretty insignificant. One comment had to do with what was included in the funding and what the State said wasn't included. The contractor will provide a price for all the work and a separate price for the Chester Wall stairs south end. The stairs, guard rail and southern portion of Spring Street will be an add on.

Chuck Mueller suggested adding an alternate in Core 10 which included the stairs and section of Spring Street including drainage, guide rail and landscaping which will be the responsibility of the Town.

Chairman Joplin noted the State agreed to pay for Maple Street but not for Spring Street. There is money for a metal guard rail which could be changed to Core 10 Steel, but no funding for the stairs. John Schroeder noted the rationale from the State was that the stairs weren't ADA compliant.

Ed Meehan asked what the position of the Board of Selectmen was for coming up with \$125,000. Selectman Janecek noted there is some funds in the Main Street Capital Account. It could also possibly come from the road fund as well.

The State provided additional comments January 7th asking how the Town is handling the nonparticipating items. More comments on January 10th regarding the added alternate. As of now the Town has responded to the State with respect to the added alternate and we are waiting for the State to issue a letter of authorization to advertise. We have the bid site all set up and ready to go. Plans are all set. Selectman Janecek noted First Selectman Gister calls the State every day looking for a response.

The process for the next 60 days was reviewed – go out to bid, 28 day bid period, get bids back and review bids, Selectmen get together and authorize award to low bid, it goes back to the State and they provide authorization to award.

Aaron Mortensen reviewed the design to construction schedule. He noted a month's time was lost due to the State.

Chester Main Street Project Committee

Regular Meeting, January 14, 2020

Page 2 of 3

Chairman Joplin asked when the Town would be able to talk directly to the contractor. Mr. Mortensen noted the Town doesn't ever talk to the contractor, its done through the construction administrator. Ed Meehan asked if there was a laydown area. Mortensen noted they are still working on that.

Chairman Joplin asked if there was any stipulation in the bid about completing construction in a certain amount of time. Mortensen replied that was in the bid and there are liquidated damages of \$1000 a day. He also described the difference between the substantial completion and final completion.

Chairman Joplin asked how the duration of the project was determined. Mr. Mortensen explained how he figures that. He noted the job will be done as quickly as possible but they don't want the whole town torn up at once. Work will be done Monday-Friday 7 AM to 5 PM. No weekend work. Everything will be open. A lighting allowance was included if they want to work at night. Mr. Schroeder noted he didn't think night work was feasible. Selectman Janecek noted the people in the apartments wouldn't like that.

A laydown area on the grassy area of the Fire Dept. was discussed.

There was discussion regarding the voids. Mr. Schroeder noted there has to be a plan in place for this. The money for this has to go to a town meeting for approval. Selectman Janecek noted the money is in the Capital Budget.

At what point does this committee and the selectmen sit down with the contractor and discuss local concerns. There has to be a coordinated effort to hear business and apartment tenants concerns. There has to be communication.

Traffic control was reviewed. That was incorporated into the contract. A person will be designated to provide that service.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at the Town Hall and attended by Aaron Mortensen and Lauren Gister.

Bill DeJonge noted when the bridge was done, the contractor had a person there all the time to talk to the people.

Status of the electrical upgrade at Simons was discussed. First Selectman Gister has contacted Norm Needleman and Christine Palm, State Representatives.

The State will fund the kiosk but not the stairs.

5. Other Business, if any

6. Bills for Payment – none.

Chester Main Street Project Committee
Regular Meeting, January 14, 2020
Page 3 of 3

7. Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2019

Motion by Meehan, second by Schroeder, to approve December 10, 2019 Minutes as written. Unanimously Approved.

8. Audience of Citizens

Bill DeJonge was present and commented above.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith R. Brown".

Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary