

State of Rhode Island

County of Washington

In Hopkinton on the fifth day of June 2017 A.D. the said meeting was called to order by Town Council President Frank Landolfi at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833.

PRESENT: Frank Landolfi, Thomas Buck, Barbara Capalbo, Sylvia Thompson, David Husband; Town Solicitor Kevin McAllister; Town Manager William McGarry; Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin.

HEARINGS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

The Council opened a hearing to consider the transfer of the \$39,981.31 remaining balance in the 2014 CDBG Program for the Crandall House Generator Project to the Langworthy Field Recreational Upgrade Project. The Town of Hopkinton made application to the CDBG Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery (DR) program for an emergency generator for the Crandall House in Ashaway due to its use as an emergency shelter during periods of power outage or severe storms. For reasons of timing on the award of these funds, application was also made to the “normal” CDBG Program for federal fiscal year ’14 funds. Both applications received awards. Having more severe expenditure requirements, the DR money was invested first in the project, followed by the CDBG money. The generator has been installed and that activity has been successfully completed. There is a balance of \$39,981.31 in the ’14 CDBG line item. The Town of Hopkinton wishes to transfer this balance to the Langworthy Field recreational upgrade project also funded in ’14 CDBG and with DEM recreation money. Notice of the hearing had been published on May 28, 2017 seeking public input.

Community Development Coordinator Geoffrey Marchant and Town Planner James Lamphere were present. In response to a question about Federal approvals, Mr. Marchant explained the State manages the Federal funds; the transfer required notice to the public to allow for comment. Additionally, Mr. Marchant thanked Mr. Lamphere regarding his efforts with the recently completed low-moderate

income survey project which will allow for the transfer of funds to the Langworthy Field project. The Council thanked the Town Manager and all staff involved in securing the grants.

No comments had been received as a result of the advertised notice and no one in attendance spoke on the matter.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF THE \$39,981.31 REMAINING BALANCE IN THE 2014 CDBG PROGRAM FOR THE CRANDALL HOUSE GENERATOR PROJECT TO THE LANGWORTHY FIELD RECREATIONAL UPGRADE PROJECT.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Capalbo, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

RI SOLAR RENEWABLE ENERGY & PELOQUIN BUILDERS PETITIONS

The Council opened a hearing on a Petition for a Zoning Ordinance Amendment and a Petition for a Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Amendment to Map 10 filed by Rhode Island Solar Renewable Energy LLC, 43 Creston Way, Warwick RI 02886 for property owned by Pelouquin Builders Inc., 58 Main Street, Ashaway, RI 02804 located on the south side of Route 91/Alton Bradford Road identified as Assessors Plat 3 Lot 53D, an RFR-80 Zone. The applicant is proposing to install a Solar Array requiring the vacant land to be cleared to allow the erection and installation of solar panels to generate approximately 13.3 AC and 18.8 DC megawatts of energy requiring an Zone change from RFR-80 to Manufacturing–Special and is filed in accordance with Section 16 (A) – (E) of the Zoning Ordinances of the Town of Hopkinton as amended.

Vincent Naccarato, Esq. was present representing the Applicants. The filing fees had been paid, notice posted in the newspaper and notice given by certified and regular mail. A stenographer was present to record the proceedings. A copy of the transcript will be attached and made part of this record.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON TO CLOSE THE HEARING AND SET A DATE FOR A DECISION.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Capalbo, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

The Council set July 17, 2017 as the date for the decision.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Executive Session Minutes of May 15, 2017 were removed from the Consent Agenda to consider them at a later date. The request of the Tax Collector to adjust off uncollectible Motor Vehicle and Tangible Taxes for 2003, 2004, 2005 & 2006 was also removed from the Consent Agenda. Due to the amount involved, the Council would like to see more information on the tangible taxes and will schedule the matter for June 19, 2017.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2017; Approve refunds as a result of overpayment by Financial Institution, submitted by the Tax Collector.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Capalbo, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during the first public forum.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Manager William McGarry reported on May 25, 2017 he attended the fourth Hazardous Mitigation Plan meeting held in the HPD conference room. Approximately twelve other town and local officials also attended this meeting in an ongoing effort to develop an updated Town Plan, funded through a \$25,000 RIDEM grant.

NEW BUSINESS

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION ACTIVITIES RE:

The Council opened discussion regarding the Hopkinton Historic District Commission's recent activities and interest pertaining to efforts to preserve Rhode Island's indigenous tribal ceremonial stone landscapes located within the Town of Hopkinton, as well as the recent request received by the Hopkinton Historic District Commission to consider entering into a formal memorandum of understanding with four regional tribal entities and an organization by the name of Ceremonial Landscapes Research, LLC. Hopkinton Historical District Commission (HDC) Chairman Richard Prescott and Doug Harris, Deputy Tribal Officer were present. Mr. Prescott referenced the Comprehensive Plan that indicates the Historic District Commission would work with the Narragansett Indian Preservation Office to develop strategies to protect the indigenous tribal ceremonial stone landscapes; a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would lay out a strategy. Mr. Prescott felt it was not just a local issue; there was pressure throughout New England and there was not enough education related to the ceremonial landscapes so the intent is to educate the public. The basic premise of the MOU is to work with the Narragansett and the other three entities. The MOU would be needed if they were to undertake specific projects. Mr. Prescott had sent the MOU to the Council President and it had been sent on to the Solicitor. Council President Landolfi explained the HDC cannot enter into a MOU, even though it may be a worthwhile cause, there were private land owner issues. Solicitor McAllister stated Chapter 119, the enabling ordinance for the HDC limits the authority of the HDC; they have no independent legal status and cannot sign a legal document. The Town Council would be the entity to do it, so the matter before the Council is strictly for discussion purposes only. He reported the HDC authority is limited the preservation of and matters related to the historic buildings within the historic district zone and that is it. The MOU is a legal document and if it were signed it would be legally binding. Mr. Harris stated all the lands in this area were once that of the Narraganset. He reported there has been outreach to neighboring tribes relative to ancestral lands and all were coming together for consultation. He noted if there was a project requiring a federal license, the Town would be made aware, but a lot of projects were not federalized

and there were places that could be protected. Thomas Helmer of Tomaquag Road was present and spoke in favor of protecting the stone structures. The Town Council is interested in the concept of protecting these stone structures but there is much concern about the scope and the private property rights issue. More work and study is needed on this matter which will involve the Town Solicitor relative to the MOU so the matter will have to be addressed at another time.

AWARD BID RE: AUDITING SERVICES

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and vote to award a bid to Bacon & Company, Certified Public Accountants, of Warwick, RI to provide professional auditing services for fiscal years ending June 30th, 2017, 2018 and 2019, in the amounts of \$24,750, \$25,245 and \$25,750, respectively. Finance Director Brian Rosso was present. There was no discussion.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO AWARD THE BID TO BACON & COMPANY, CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS OF WARWICK, RI TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 2017, 2018 AND 2019 IN THE AMOUNTS OF \$24,750, \$25,245 AND \$25,750, RESPECTIVELY.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Capalbo, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

AWARD BID RE: ON CALL ENGINEERING & CONSULTANT SERVICES

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and vote to award bids to Crossman Engineering of Warwick, RI and VHB Engineering of Providence, RI to provide professional on-call engineering and related consultant services for fiscal years ending in 2018 and 2019, which may be extended for one (1) additional fiscal year at the Town's discretion. Town Planner James Lamphere was present. There was no discussion.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO AWARD THE BIDS TO CROSSMAN

ENGINEERING OF WARWICK, RI AND VHB ENGINEERING OF PROVIDENCE, RI TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ON-CALL ENGINEERING AND RELATED CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING IN 2018 AND 2019, WHICH MAY BE EXTENDED FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL YEAR AT THE TOWNS DISCRETION.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Capalbo, Husband, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during the second public forum.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO ADJOURN.

SO VOTED

Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin

Town Clerk