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TOWN OF KILLINGLY, CT
OPEN SPACE LAND ACQUISITION COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 27, 2018

REGULAR MEETING

6:30 PM

ROOM 102

**Killingly Town Hall
172 Main St., Killingly**

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Keith Thurlow called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm

Roll Call – Donna Bronwell, William Cheng, Elizabeth Dubofsky-Porter, and Keith Thurlow

Absent with notification – Janet Hallbergh and Byron Martin

Also attending – Kevin Kerttula, Town Council Liaison and Ann-Marie Aubrey, Director Planning & Dev.

II. Agenda Addendum

None

- III. Citizen Participation** – limited to three (3) minutes per speaker for an accumulated time of no more than twenty-one (21) minutes (unless extended by a majority vote of the Committee)
Resident in the Audience – Greg Davis – had nothing to say at this point.

IV. Adoption of Minutes – (review/discussion/action)

A) May 24, 2018 –William Cheng made a motion to adopt the minutes of 05/24/2018; Donna Bronwell seconded the motion; there was no further discussion; vote was 4/0; motion passed.

V. Old Business- (review/discussion/action)

None

VI. New Business – (review/discussion/action)

Keith Thurlow requested that the members review the documents that were in their packets. Review with the following in mind – Why do we exist? – Everyone has the ability to give input regarding any proposed open space. – Keith does not want this committee to be stagnate. He is requesting that everyone has input – next meeting will be Thursday, October 25, 2018 – wants some input.

1) Setting Goals and Priorities for upcoming year

W/C – is there a way to notify people that we have a process to follow if they wish to donate / sell their land for open space, etc.

E/DP – People may not know that we have the capability to accept or purchase land.

William Cheng made a motion to open the floor for general discussion and public input; Donna Bronwell seconded the motion; no further discussion; vote 4/0; motion passed.

Resident Greg Davis was invited to join in the discussion.

There was some general discussion regarding conservation easements, purchase of development rights, should there be more passive recreation vs active recreation. The group reviewed portions of the town ordinance which explained the responsibilities of committee members.

VII. Other Discussion Items – (review/discussion/action)

- 1) **Budget Report** – It was reported that we had at least \$218,639.06 plus whatever interest that has accrued since May, 2018.
- 2) **Board of Recreation Report** – No report at this time, no member was present
- 3) **Agriculture Commission Report** – It was reported that the Tomato Festival was a success; that the AG COMM was working on the agriculture regulations; and that they wanted a list of those people that placed their property under the 490 tax list and that they would get the list from Pat Monahan, Tax Collector.
- 4) **Conservation Commission Report** – Given by D/B; the KCC has a list of potential properties for preservation, etc.; they also have a map of the current open space located in town; reported that KCC had a form letter to send to people who may be interested in selling / donating their real estate was written by the prior Director of Planning & Development; and that they have an older version (not the most up to date) list of the properties classified under 490. Also reported that on 10/13/2018 the KCC is holding its Walktober event at 1:00 pm in Cat Hollow; there will be two (2) walking trails – one that is handicapped accessible along the asphalt path (road) at Cat Hollow; and one that will lead hikers across the bridge and up through woodland paths on the other side of the river. Finally, the KCC will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 to discuss their portion of the Plan of Conservation and Development.
- 5) **Economic Development Report** – W/C gave the report; there was a meeting two (2) nights ago; the elections were held and the new Chair is Mark Tillinghast and William Cheng is the Vice-Chair; there was a minor discussion regarding the façade improvements going on along Main Street; minor discussion regarding 140 Main Street. Keith suggested that the EDC give Dale Desmarais some sort of recognition for all of the work he has done over the years.
- 6) **Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission** – E/DP noted that the wetlands commission is also the Aquifer Protection Committee, and she explained what that meant. There are three Class “A” Aquifers in Town (going from North to South) – Hopkins, Brooklyn, and Plainfield. Companies within those Aquifers must register with the Town and/or State to make sure they have the proper procedures in place to avoid contamination of the aquifer by certain chemicals, etc.
- 7) **Planning and Zoning Commission** – K/T gave the report, working on the POCD, have invited various boards and commissions to come and talk with the PZC. The last few months have been somewhat quiet as far as work load goes. No new subdivisions, etc.
- 8) **Citizens Report** – There was no citizens’ report; however, Greg Davis (visitor) gave his input regarding preserving “passive recreation” spaces throughout the community. Thought it was a very important thing to do.

VIII. Town Council Liaison Report – (review/discussion/action)

K/K gave the report. The Town Council is still trying to resolve the sexual harassment claim filed against the town this past year. A new Finance Director has been hired, Jen Hawkins, previously she was one of the auditors. It is hoped that she will be able to start in mid or late October; as she must finish her current audits. The Town Council received eighteen (18) applications for the Town Manager’s position. The Town Council will make the first cut (from the applications) and will send out essay questions to eight (8) of the candidates. Then an outside panel, chosen by the Town Council, will interview those candidates and submit their top three (3) choices to the Town Council for interviews. The Town Council is expecting the “final candidate” for the Highway Director’s position to be named sometime this month. On October 2, 2018 the Town Council will interview the ten (10) candidates for the Charter Review Commission, hope to bring the number of candidates down to seven (7) and will announce the successful candidates on Tuesday, October 9, 2018.

K/T did not question the “Highway Director”; however he stated that he remembers that the “Public Works Director” should be a Professional Engineer – so why is our Town Engineer no longer the Public Works Director?

- IX. Enter into Executive Session (if needed/ review/discussion/action)** – Per CT General Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D) [discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate... when publicity regarding such site, lease, sale, purchase, or construction would adversely impact the price of such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated, or abandoned...”]

It was asked if any member of the committee had any reason to request that the committee go into executive closed session to discuss any real estate. No members requested the executive session; therefore the committee never went into executive session.

- X. Next Meeting – (review/discussion/action)**
1) Regular Meeting of Thursday, October 25, 2018

K/T reminded all the committee members that we will definitely have a meeting on Thursday, October 25, 2018; he also reminded the members to review all the documents (town ordinance; the OSLA by-laws, etc.) and be ready to discuss any open space possibilities.

K/T also requested that AM/A bring in a map showing all of the current open space in Killingly; and a current list of those properties that are designated as 490.

- XI. Adjournment**
W/C made a motion to adjourn; E/DP seconded the motion; no further discussion; vote 4/0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.