

**MINUTES  
WOOLWICH TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING-PUBLIC HEARING/GREEN ACRES APPLICATION  
MARCH 25, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mayor Vernon Marino with the following statement:

The March 25, 2019 Special Meeting of the Woolwich Township Committee is being called to order. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Battisti: PRESENT      Frederick: PRESENT      Santore: PRESENT      Matthias: PRESENT  
Marino: PRESENT

Also present on the dais were Solicitor John Alice and Administrator/Clerk Jane DiBella.

Additionally present: Timothy Staszewski and Travis Greiman of Remington and Vernick Engineers, Will Pine, CFO and Matt Blake, Director of Community Development.

Those present saluted the American Flag.

Motion was made by Committeeman Battisti and seconded by Committeeman Frederick to open the meeting to public comment. All were in favor.

Hearing no public comment, motion was made by Deputy Mayor Matthias and seconded by Committeeman Battisti to close the public portion. All were in favor.

Mayor Marino requested a motion to open the public hearing on an application for Green Acres Funding in the amount of \$4,130,000.00 for improvements to Locke Avenue Park. So moved: Battisti. Second: Craig. All were in favor.

Hearing no public comment or questions, Committeeman Battisti moved to close the public portion. Second: Frederick. All were in favor.

Mr. Staszewski presented an overview of the project. He noted that various discrepancies were found in plans and cost estimates provided by the previous engineer, Alaimo. Based upon these discrepancies, original cost estimates had been revised. He noted that the application is for Phase 1 of the project.

Mr. Staszewski then introduced Travis Greiman, who was an integral team member in preparation of the application and cost estimates.

Mr. Staszewski noted that the Township is only eligible for the low interest loan, adding that better rates are available in comparison to bonding the project.

He detailed the plan which includes three multi-use sports fields, concession stand, bathroom facilities, parking lot, multi-use path around the project perimeter, lighting for one field and the parking lot and associated storm water and utilities. He further added that the cost estimate includes soft costs and contingencies and feels the estimates to be reasonable and accurate.

Mayor Marino stated that this is an important and much needed project and that he wished more public had attended. He explained that current facilities get over used. The addition of the concession stand will prevent visitors from having to walk a long distance to the existing concession stand, and the additional restroom facilities may prevent the need for port-a-pots.

Mr. Staszewski noted that some narrative project descriptions will be revised from those presented in the application provided.

Mayor Marino advised that the project could be 1.5 years to completion and asked one person in the audience if they had any questions. He asked if the plan is in conformance with a plan that was previously sent out to residents and asked if this is just for Phase 1 of the project. The Mayor confirmed both questions.

Mr. Staszewski noted that the application is due by the end of March, and that a resolution of the Township Committee is a requirement of the application. He thanked the Committee for adhering to grant timelines.

Committeewoman Santore, noted that she is appreciative of the extra work required by the engineers, based upon project scope and phasing along with the discrepancies that had to be worked out.

Committeeman Battisti asked if the cost estimate is correct and in conformance with the narrative changes mentioned. The Engineer replied that the cost estimate is correct.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to approve resolution **R-2019-93 State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Enabling Resolution.**

Committeeman Frederick asked if the walking path is lit. The engineer replied that the plan only calls for lighting of one field and the parking lot. He asked which field is lit and was shown the plan. Committeeman Frederick also asked if conduit will be run for future lighting and was told that is included.

Committeeman Frederick asked the CFO what savings the project loan represents and Mr. Pine responded that it will save \$2.1 million over the term of the loan. Committeeman Frederick further questioned the tax impact and was told that open space funds will be used, resulting in no impact to the taxpayer.

Deputy Mayor Matthias asked if parking is sufficient. Mr. Staszewski responded that will require a full review.

Deputy Mayor Matthias also asked if estimates are consistent with other projects the engineering firm has been involved with, and Mr. Staszewski replied that the firm has bid similar projects and were able to draw from those unit prices.

Committeeman Frederick asked to keep safety in mind along the driveway and asked if speed bumps or barriers are planned. The engineer responded that none are proposed, but that suggestions will be considered as the project moves.

Committeeman Battisti asked how much of the estimate includes utilities. The engineer replied \$700,000 which includes hook ups.

With no further questions from the Committee, Mayor Marino requested a roll call on resolution R-2019-93.

**Roll Call: Battisti: YES, Frederick: YES, Santore: YES, Matthias: YES, Marino: YES** Motion carried.

Motion was made by Committeewoman Santore and seconded by Deputy Mayor Matthias to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane DiBella  
Administrator/Clerk

Minutes not verbatim  
Audio recording on file