Board of Parks and Recreation Virtual Zoom Meeting Transcript
January 27, 2021

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**Board Attendees:** Mike Bocchino, Sue Bodson, Nancy Chapin, Gary Dell’Abate, Frank DiVincenzo, Scott Johnson, Rick Loh, Kirk Schubert and Angela Swift

**Staff Attendees:** Lenore Caserta-McClester, Brian Kerzner, Greg Kramer, Blaize Levitan, Joseph Siciliano and Sue Snyder

**Guests:** Sue Baker, Jill Capalbo, Tracy Freedman, Miriam Kreuzer, Jill Oberlander, Leslie Yager, EJ and Steve

WEBVTT

1
00:00:01.020 --> 00:00:12.480
Gary Dell'Abate: will call to order and let's approve the Minutes of our last meeting, which is shockingly over 10th of 2020 we took a month off i'm looking for somebody to approve the Minutes of being.

2
00:00:14.700 --> 00:00:15.809
Mike Bocchino: A commotion except.

3
00:00:16.680 --> 00:00:18.270
kirkschubert: Second, second.

4
00:00:19.170 --> 00:00:20.940
Gary Dell'Abate: All in favor of proving the Minutes.

5
00:00:21.030 --> 00:00:21.510
Why.

6
00:00:23.430 --> 00:00:25.230
Gary Dell'Abate: We have made it so excellent.

7
00:00:26.310 --> 00:00:38.700
Gary Dell'Abate: I would like to start by welcoming our newest Member Angela swift. Angela wave. Hello, Angela is a neighbor of mine. I've known her for many years. She's going to be a great addition to the board and that puts us back.

00:00:39.630 --> 00:00:43.770
Gary Dell'Abate: You know, at a full Board which we haven't been out for a while, but Angela welcome, and thank you for being here.

00:00:43.980 --> 00:00:45.660
angela.swift: Thank you so happy to be here.

00:00:46.560 --> 00:00:47.580
Rick Loh: Oh come aboard.

00:00:48.060 --> 00:00:49.380
angela.swift: Thank you Rick Hi.

00:00:50.040 --> 00:00:52.770
Scott Johnson: Angela tau tau for the people that don't know.

00:00:54.120 --> 00:01:01.860
Scott Johnson: Gary and I are far more familiar with you just to keep a little bit about your job and background kind of stuff.

00:01:02.220 --> 00:01:14.880
angela.swift: I'm been here since 1992. Three kids I'm all went to public schools here. I grew up in westchester. I've been a realtor for the past 20 years.

00:01:16.950 --> 00:01:29.010
angela.swift: I love this town. My kids all play sports. I love the beach. I love walking pomerance. I'm i'm really glad that I can be on something that I think makes a difference here in town. I'm on this and kids in crisis, my to.

00:01:30.660 --> 00:01:36.240
angela.swift: pet adventurous here to help in the town become a better place or I think it's awesome anyway.

00:01:37.020 --> 00:01:39.720
Gary Dell'Abate: I'll say this because I know to Angeles it's a day we got here.

00:01:40.010 --> 00:01:51.210
Gary Dell'Abate: she's a real estate agent in town, a very good one, so I think that's a big plus because it helps you see all of the town and also have a knowledge of what people are looking for.

00:01:51.750 --> 00:02:04.050
Gary Dell'Abate: When they come to the town and the other thing I know about her she's a very fierce fundraiser which we're going to put to work on this board I could see you as soon taxing your people, and we do there was empty, so thank you.

00:02:04.410 --> 00:02:04.680
Gary Dell'Abate: Ask.

00:02:04.890 --> 00:02:05.550
angela.swift: me what a great.

00:02:06.750 --> 00:02:10.980
angela.swift: What a great thing to fundraise for really our town come on site yeah.

00:02:11.010 --> 00:02:15.240
Gary Dell'Abate: We got we have a lot to a lot of it, who want to raise for so as a welcome hey.

00:02:16.290 --> 00:02:22.770
Gary Dell'Abate: um so I guess we'll start blaze why don't you take us start us off and talk about budget visa policy review.

00:02:24.570 --> 00:02:27.030
Blaize Levitan: hey good evening everybody can you can you hear me.

00:02:29.190 --> 00:02:35.430
Blaize Levitan: Alright, so i'm gonna share my screen, I made a quick PowerPoint run through operating capital real quick.

00:02:36.810 --> 00:02:50.250
Blaize Levitan: The first selectman most of you probably know, presented the budget, yesterday the BT Budget Committee so we're going to run through that real quick, let me pull up, let me know if you can Can you see my screen.

00:02:50.640 --> 00:02:51.690
Rick Loh: Yes, sir.

00:02:52.200 --> 00:03:02.070
Blaize Levitan: Okay, so I was totally got about 10 minutes, so if you have any questions quick questions you can just stop me otherwise i'll be around tomorrow if people have some more detailed budget questions.

30
00:03:05.670 --> 00:03:06.390
angela.swift: let's.

31
00:03:07.410 --> 00:03:21.870
Blaize Levitan: So quick overview this board knows we don't have to get in just a but the point here is the parks and REC department in this town compared to most departments in Connecticut just cover such a vast you know set of operations and facilities here.

32
00:03:23.760 --> 00:03:29.250
Blaize Levitan: A couple of the pressure points that we put together the fiscal year 22 budget that we presented.

33
00:03:30.090 --> 00:03:39.720
Blaize Levitan: was obviously to coronavirus impact and uncertainty our mitigation strategy was we did put together this year a very conservative budget development we gave.

34
00:03:40.200 --> 00:03:46.290
Blaize Levitan: You know, near zero percent increase guidelines and all of our superintendents did a really good job, putting together their budgets.

35
00:03:46.950 --> 00:03:55.560
Blaize Levitan: Another pressure point was the minimum wage increase that had about a close to about a $45,000 impact on our budget.

36
00:03:56.370 --> 00:04:10.830
Blaize Levitan: With a minimum wage increase we mitigated some of the impact of that by restricting raises, for our part time staff, we have a budget we presented with no new headcount, including our part time seasonal staff.

37
00:04:11.070 --> 00:04:12.150
Blaize Levitan: So that was really good.

38
00:04:12.390 --> 00:04:18.000
Gary Dell'Abate: It was really yeah what is the minimum, what will we pay them what did the minimum wage go up to.

39
00:04:18.390 --> 00:04:24.360
Blaize Levitan: minimum wage on August in August 2021 will go up to $13.
Gary Dell'Abate: And what was before that $12 okay.

Blaize Levitan: And so, that is, some of our entry level seasonal positions and also our REC positions, a couple of the entry level camp counselors and stuff that we're.

Gary Dell'Abate: Getting is that going to go up again the next couple of years, so it gets to 15.

Blaize Levitan: yeah so the fiscal year 23 will actually have a bigger impact, because that will be a $14 and in our wage schedule the $14 will push a much broader number of positions as we start to hit 14 and 15.

Blaize Levitan: And as you all know, it puts pressure on the rest of the wages that we have you know, in the area, because we already have a hard enough time capturing lifeguards and stuff so it's a competitive position, so it is quite the pressure point.

Blaize Levitan: The other pressure point was the trash removal fees, the town pass a tip fee.

Blaize Levitan: That had $31,000 increase that we now in our new contract for trash being picked up at all of our facilities have to pay.

Blaize Levitan: We mitigated most of this we transition some of our operation with in house staff so we're really proud that they took that and some more sustainable waste reduction strategies throughout town so.

Blaize Levitan: diving in, and this is kind of our.

Blaize Levitan: This is the overview of the budget so what's presented here the number to focus on ultimately is as a department our general fund so not the golf 1.9% increase.

Blaize Levitan: year over year, so we were within we were under BT budget guidelines, but more importantly, probably.
Blaize Levitan: We really if you adjust the second number, the second red circle, the point 7%.

Blaize Levitan: that's our actual budget increase year over year the BT gave us a one time cut its kind of highlighted i'm not sure what color it will show up here, but an 822.

Blaize Levitan: In in response to Kobe they gave us 150 $3,000 one time cut in response to the town and they kind of this is one of the largest account code, so they just dumped it in here, if you would just that one time cut.

Blaize Levitan: we're only at a point 7% increase as an entire department, so a lot of good work by the superintendent's to mitigate a lot of the pressure points I was talking about and well under the bts budget guidelines.

Blaize Levitan: overview by division, you can see there's really not a lot to talk about in the year over year change it just won't read this whole slide but you know.

Blaize Levitan: Administration almost no change recreation almost no change point 4% parks and trees, as I mentioned that was where we had the biggest change, but that was the because of the cut and.

Blaize Levitan: and marine 1.6 increase still well under guidelines and most of that was due to contractual obligations step increases and the minimum wage.

Blaize Levitan: So, again in the capital here's just a quick.

Blaize Levitan: I put the link here and and we can make sure that this gets kind of circulated out, but the the way this this website here has all the towns.

Blaize Levitan: documents relating to the budget and that gets updated throughout the entire budget process here's our 15 year capital plan highlights things that have.
Blaize Levitan: projects that are in.

Blaize Levitan: are highlighted here, most of them routine there's not too much to talk about our organic turf programs and park equipment all of that and parks and trees.

Blaize Levitan: New program we're really excited about that you'll see on here is the tree risk program and.

Blaize Levitan: Dr Greg Kramer he's doing a lot of great work with this tree risk program it's it's a complete it involves a complete overhaul of our work order system.

Blaize Levitan: And categorizing and treating our town trees as assets, the assets that they are there's almost 70,000 town trees that the town.

Blaize Levitan: tree department takes care of and this system will have everything in there, it auto.

Blaize Levitan: builds in maintenance that's required for those 65,000 trees pulls out their work orders inventories their species and stuff.

Blaize Levitan: And and pulls a lot of that information in history, so if something does happen to you can demonstrate, which is really important, we can demonstrate that we have a.

Blaize Levitan: Solid maintenance program and you know you can't control everything with trees, but you can control your maintenance program so that is going to help us out a lot with that.

Blaize Levitan: The other the other main thing that's in here is for the ferry service there's been a lot of talk about that we had the ferry report.

Blaize Levitan: This plan reflects a re powering up option of the fairies here it's an 833 this year we just have $50,000 to design one of those re powering.
Blaize Levitan: That avoids the purchase of a new fairy for 5.5 million and per the fairy reported should extend the life of the you know the fair the existing fairy boats out.

Gary Dell'Abate: boys does repower because that's just another word for changing up the engines.

Blaize Levitan: For a long time it's a multi year project one one engineering, then one boat than engineering for the next boat and then another until all three are complete.

Blaize Levitan: that's exactly what it is yep it's it's basically gutting the engines.

Blaize Levitan: So more interest here on the capital budget highlights for our projects that are in dp w that relate to us, the big ones here Eastern grant and civic Center replacement 18 million.

Blaize Levitan: And then we move the Roger Sherman baldwin park for the first selectman proposal that project was moved out of the parks budget and put into dp w this year and Fred presented some detailed there's there's a bunch of information he put up on that, on the website last night.

Blaize Levitan: Real quick golf golf is its own revolving fund so, but here we just have for capital projects mostly routine maintenance and they were all planned projects that were in the existing 15 year plan.

Blaize Levitan: couple we were waiting Friday the board of selectmen set to vote on some of the fee changes that we put forward the fees, we kept very limited this year, instead of presenting a full fee schedule, we presented on January 14 for the first read just a couple of minor.

Blaize Levitan: fee increases none of them targeted at revenue generation, they were all either operational improvements helping fun field improvements and addressing some BT guidelines that were specific requests.
Blaize Levitan: The most important thing, I think that everyone.

83
00:11:40.770 --> 00:11:51.870
Blaize Levitan: Here would probably be interested in is the on that fee proposal, it includes some changes to the park pass, we have no change to the park pass if you purchase it prior to April 15.

84
00:11:52.470 --> 00:12:03.180
Blaize Levitan: And then on or after April 15 each year it's an extra $5 and the goal of that is to as we're all unfortunately familiar with flatten the curve.

85
00:12:03.870 --> 00:12:11.640
Blaize Levitan: And now that we're in this coven time, but the goal here is to do that with park passes we get this massive rush around Memorial Day weekend.

86
00:12:12.060 --> 00:12:22.050
Blaize Levitan: It creates a bit of a backlog, and we also have to bring in extra staff temporary staff to process that so by by moving that up we won't get that.

87
00:12:22.530 --> 00:12:31.650
Blaize Levitan: hoping to avoid that backlog, and we can use our existing current full time staff to process, a lot of those residency applications and it just it just makes it better.

88
00:12:32.310 --> 00:12:44.250
Blaize Levitan: User experience, if you don't have everyone back logging, at the same applying within the same two to three week window and the same structure was proposed for the golf memberships.

89
00:12:45.780 --> 00:12:59.520
Blaize Levitan: So basically an early bird pricing and an extra $20 fee after you know, a certain date purchasing to again avoid the same thing that started the golf season try to get people to buy it a little bit earlier before you get the crunch time.

90
00:13:01.800 --> 00:13:09.420
Blaize Levitan: A couple other real thing small things that just are budget related something we we really have been looking at is.

91
00:13:10.110 --> 00:13:17.280
Blaize Levitan: This is this slide shows the parks and recreation budget the blue line is the actual budget over since 2009.

92
00:13:17.790 --> 00:13:31.320
Blaize Levitan: But here it's also inflation adjusted, which I think really helps convey the amount of efficiencies that the department has adopted since since the same time frame in $2,009 we are spending as a town.

00:13:31.890 --> 00:13:43.230
Blaize Levitan: Less money on parks than we were in 2009 so there really is an efficiency story that can be told here just in.

00:13:44.310 --> 00:13:47.040
Blaize Levitan: there's been no there's been no major.

00:13:47.040 --> 00:14:06.870
Blaize Levitan: Service change or cut during this time, despite a flat or really decreasing inflation adjusted budget and looking at our if we zoom in on our parks and trees division, just to highlight one of these that has kind of a budget related impact this is acres per parks and trees employee.

00:14:08.250 --> 00:14:26.070
Blaize Levitan: Since 1995 and you can see that we've gone when we when we took on the board of education we've gone from a low of 21.68 acres today we're at a wet 30.44 acres that's per full time person that's per position actually that's per F T full time equivalent.

00:14:27.900 --> 00:14:37.290
Blaize Levitan: And so, when you compare that to what's happening with our budget we've actually had an in this window since 2008 to capture some of the recession changes.

00:14:37.740 --> 00:14:44.940
Blaize Levitan: we've had an increase in our parks and trees division and acres managed per employee by almost 20%.

00:14:45.570 --> 00:14:56.610
Blaize Levitan: And an inflation adjusted budget decrease over that same time of you know 12 and a half percent so there's been a lot of good work going on in the department to maintain.

00:14:57.180 --> 00:15:07.830
Blaize Levitan: to actually take on more acres per person and also be able to decrease decrease budget without making any major changes to service provision.

00:15:08.760 --> 00:15:13.620
Blaize Levitan: Actually, in addition to acres per person so we've got the organic turf Program.

00:15:14.340 --> 00:15:20.520
Blaize Levitan: Which we're working on how we can quantify that in terms of Labor productivity, but that's an extremely Labor intensive.
Blaize Levitan: program because you can't spray obviously any chemicals and pesticides, so a lot of that work is done by hand so we're working on a way to quantify exactly how many Labor hours are also.

Blaize Levitan: had to go into that that program but we've managed that program with a decrease in our budget inflation adjusted.

Blaize Levitan: The parks i'm finishing up here parks and recreation resident satisfaction survey what the department has been doing.

Blaize Levitan: Over the last couple of decades and really the last 10 years a lot of changes have been made.

Blaize Levitan: is having an impact just from the resident satisfaction survey the town does every two years.

Blaize Levitan: 19% increase in the satisfaction with a wait time for the recreation pass, and that was as a 2018 and joe's team has made a bunch of more you know many more changes actually to the system.

Blaize Levitan: We just made it gave it a whole new facelift this month, it looks really, really good the online ticket pass system 7% increase in website satisfaction and.

Blaize Levitan: It there's real there's real impact and the experience customers have.

Blaize Levitan: And we've seen here I won't go through all these, but just there's real Labor savings and a lot of the different.

Blaize Levitan: Capital programs that we have new equipment does translate you saw that we have inflation adjusted decrease in our budget, and this is how we're making up for it.
Blaize Levitan: installing navigation swim AIDS, I took some highlights out 60% reduction in Labor hours to install the swim and navigational aids throughout our coastline.

Blaize Levitan: By skip down to.

Blaize Levitan: Small vehicle transport out to the islands that we've had a 74% reduction and Labor hours that have been required actually spent on.

Blaize Levitan: Transporting that kind of equipment and we've brought welding operations in house, for you know contracting out $20,000 savings there.

Blaize Levitan: So significant number of changes that the department's been making to really manage that decreasing inflation budget without cutting any services to the town.

Blaize Levitan: last thing here just cold it impact I won't run through this whole slide but.

Blaize Levitan: coven in terms of the budget did have quite an impact on our budget and in our operations, the most important note that i'll i'll take out of this slide is that.

Blaize Levitan: Our services were up and specifically are non traditional and non revenue generating services, and that was something that we really had to focus on.

Blaize Levitan: With co but our open spaces we've had to install you know costco Park, we had park monitors benny park extra staff.

Blaize Levitan: And so we actually had while many departments were either shut down or closed up, we were experiencing a surge in our non traditional programs and so.

Blaize Levitan: For folks that maybe i'm a finance board one of our notes that will bring up with them that might have been.
Blaize Levitan: Originally, there could have been as some savings from canceling some of our like recreation programs and camps, we had to bring in extra staff to enforce social distancing mask wearing the proper direction people were walking at the parks.

Blaize Levitan: And so that's been kind of the major impact, but we've been able to learn a lot from Coleman and.

Blaize Levitan: I think the biggest takeaway we can all take away from is the value of Greenwich parks and outdoor spaces just really a tremendous asset it's why people have been flocking to the town that's why the grand list ended up.

Blaize Levitan: During you know, is looking the way it's looking, this is why people are one of the main reasons people want to come to Greenwich.

Blaize Levitan: we've had a really an expansion of our online services, our customer service staff have done a great job with implementing cashless payments and contactless services that will be here to stay.

Blaize Levitan: And lots of things accepted online now and we're continuing to work on our online and mobile services, I think over this next year there's going to be some really exciting changes coming out of that so.

Blaize Levitan: That is, I know I was talking to really quick i'm sorry to be kind of running through everything there but.

Blaize Levitan: wanted to just give everybody a quick update on where we're at Joe I don't know if there's any comments you wanted to add on that.

Joseph Siciliano: I do, I, like you to spend a minute talking about social media that you know we've kind of moved in a different direction as a department.

Joseph Siciliano: And not taking any credit away from the great newsletter that Sue Schneider does every so many weeks that's that actually.
Joseph Siciliano: we've started to increase the amount of distribution of that list we're well over 20,000 contacts every time she males that.

Joseph Siciliano: Her newsletter out but can you talk about just just the one or two minutes about this social media and we were and where we started to imply that and and where we're going with it.

Blaize Levitan: yeah sure we're we're really expanding our I think our digital presence, especially over the next year.

Blaize Levitan: In terms with social media, the town has established social media accounts and out of the first selectman is office they have.

Blaize Levitan: Somebody contracted to help manage that social media so we've partnered with them eleanor's here she's.

Blaize Levitan: she's does a really good job with the social media we've been.

Blaize Levitan: We submit a series of posts to the town account and we integrate it into the towns social media that Twitter Instagram Facebook and we've had a lot of really high engagement coming in from those.

Blaize Levitan: channels lenore has been making custom graphics for all of our different announcements and.

Blaize Levitan: We have we're building basically like common iconography common images across all of our platforms, so you can start connecting all those pieces when you're looking at our emails when you're looking at our paper forms when you're on our website.

Blaize Levitan: And when you're seeing us on social media all of those common graphics should kind of start linking things together, you know you're looking at parks and REC programs.
Blaize Levitan: And the social media I think has been a missing piece that we're just as a town excited to have we haven't created our own social media account because.

00:21:40.320 --> 00:21:50.220
Blaize Levitan: By having a parks and recreation account specific to just us then we're kind of all competing for followers you know if every single department in town makes an account everyone's got to get the followers.

00:21:50.640 --> 00:22:00.270
Blaize Levitan: So by the town having a centralized account and we post we embed probably i'd say four to six posts, you know per week that are specific to parks and REC.

00:22:00.780 --> 00:22:08.970
Blaize Levitan: That gets scheduled and posted for us on social media and yeah that's been I think that's going to be something we continue to expand on.

00:22:09.390 --> 00:22:20.910
Blaize Levitan: And and link up with our other digital efforts, the the other digital pieces, I think, if you take a look, if anyone has gone online to do the check out their residency yet.

00:22:22.230 --> 00:22:33.420
Blaize Levitan: The web track has a complete facelift and the customer service staff have done a really good job on, I think it looks so much better, I mean it really looks a lot more modern it's a lot more easy to use.

00:22:33.870 --> 00:22:48.030
Blaize Levitan: And we've already gotten some good feedback on it we've been able to put a couple of different programs, we did we did reservation day we did a couple of other reservations online, for the first time and we've gotten really, really good feedback about it.

00:22:49.140 --> 00:22:56.850
Blaize Levitan: And so I think we're going to really see a lot of good digital operations coming, you know as we continue to expand that system.

00:22:58.260 --> 00:22:58.860
Joseph Siciliano: Please, thank you.

00:23:01.530 --> 00:23:13.710
Gary Dell'Abate: excellent report um when you talk about how we have a struggle, but more money, like, I was at the beach last couple days after Christmas, it was like it rival a fourth of July weekend.
Gary Dell'Abate: And so we saw a lot more traffic at all these places, what, what are the costs that were incurred by having more people there is a cleaning, is it.

00:23:25.080 --> 00:23:30.960
Gary Dell'Abate: Having just people for parks and REC out about making sure to know what's going on to.

00:23:30.990 --> 00:23:34.200
Joseph Siciliano: The I can answer that a little bit because I just ran the numbers yesterday.

00:23:35.430 --> 00:23:53.310
Joseph Siciliano: The the cost we normally shut down on December 1 and open up on April 1 so are anticipating that just for the gate operation alone will be spending an additional unbudgeted $25,000 to staff that this winter, as we all know that that is part of our.

00:23:54.450 --> 00:24:02.940
Joseph Siciliano: settlement for the various lawsuits that we have is that this will not continue into other years were able to fly under the radar this year because we're still.

00:24:03.240 --> 00:24:19.830
Joseph Siciliano: Being the government still declared an emergency, but, but we are doing it this year it's approximately 25,000 extra dollars for the gate staff alone and then there's some additional charges for restroom cleaning and a few other minor things but and that's just a grinch point.

00:24:20.160 --> 00:24:28.230
Joseph Siciliano: You know, we we have some other monitors out there and about looking at fields we have monitors, you know just checking the parks occasionally and.

00:24:28.770 --> 00:24:38.610
Joseph Siciliano: So that there is a there was an uptick in the winter charged costs that we have never occurred before because we're trying to do the best we can, to monitor the covert situation.

00:24:38.970 --> 00:24:53.220
Gary Dell'Abate: I will tell you that the guys, you know the guards it's well worth the money because i've been down there several times on a weekend or a nice day where it's 20 course deep to get in and i've seen a third of them turn make a U turn.

00:24:53.610 --> 00:25:08.190
Joseph Siciliano: So you are about right there's about about a third of the cars that we we count through the gatehouse we count cars people turn around and walk ins every day you're right about a third of the folks that approached the booth get turned around that's about the average yeah.
Gary Dell'Abate: So a lot more would be a lot bigger strain on us if everybody was it correct.

Absolutely.

angela.swift: I had a question to ask, as it relates to social media and capturing data, do we have any or have we investigated using flow codes at all at any of the interest is to the park.

angela.swift: For those optimally a flow coach over the qr code you put your phone at it, but particularly granted.

me to Gary when i'm down the beach and Mike is turning people away, and he has to explain all these things simply could hold up a sign says point your camera, these are the rules, this is how you go get beach passes, etc.

angela.swift: And then, for all of our other parks, etc, all the rules and regulations for signing up for tennis it's all the questions I commonly get asked how do you set a pretentious reservations, etc, just a thought.

Blaize Levitan: that's a good.

Blaize Levitan: that's a good thought because we're actually in the process of of completely redoing a lot of the web pages for this exact reason to i'm from a customer service perspective kind of more than a like department.

Blaize Levitan: government structure perspective and part of it has been creating like short links for people like instead of putting all this info kind of confusing information about residency on every single form and all the instructions.

Blaize Levitan: are going through a streamlining that and just making like you know granted CT gov slash residency and i'm trying to remember like URLs and stuff and I think we can we're using some of the tiny URLs and I think that's another good suggestion is using.
Blaize Levitan: qr codes for that to.

00:26:41.370 --> 00:26:51.780
angela.swift: Show and scarier say it actually captures data so when you shoot your camera to get that in front of the beach per se you're going to get exactly who these people are because, after all, that data so.

00:26:52.200 --> 00:27:01.950
Joseph Siciliano: We love you suggested, the only issue at Greenwich point is that we don't have we don't have hard wired wi fi there are any kind of connectivity we're not there yet.

00:27:02.280 --> 00:27:05.970
Gary Dell'Abate: You don't need why it's a call that you take a picture of it on your phone.

00:27:07.290 --> 00:27:16.980
Joseph Siciliano: I get that, but we were looking at other opportunities to collect data point like you know so we're not counting people with manual counters and, and all this kind of stuff so.

00:27:18.240 --> 00:27:25.860
Joseph Siciliano: Hopefully, in the near future we've been talking to optimum about getting cable, all the way to at least the guardhouse so that would help us tremendously.

00:27:26.190 --> 00:27:28.020
Gary Dell'Abate: Is he going to get HBO on the guardhouse then.

00:27:28.410 --> 00:27:31.830
Joseph Siciliano: I don't know it depends if the neighbor who's going to be paying for it once that.

00:27:32.070 --> 00:27:33.360
Joseph Siciliano: wants us to have it so.

00:27:34.470 --> 00:27:37.470
Joseph Siciliano: there's a neighbor on the causeway that really needs it.

00:27:39.030 --> 00:27:43.440
Joseph Siciliano: it's $100,000 deal to bring it in so anyway we'll see what happens.

00:27:44.790 --> 00:27:45.090
Gary Dell'Abate: Is.

00:27:45.390 --> 00:27:46.920
Joseph Siciliano: You kind of know who this yeah.

Gary Dell’Abate: So jump straight to you from that place again.

Scott Johnson: whoa whoa whoa.

Gary Dell’Abate: What I.

Joseph Siciliano: thought you were napping.

Joseph Siciliano: We tend to take a nap.

Rick Loh: had his hand up sorry.

Joseph Siciliano: I thought he had his head down.

Scott Johnson: Please, first of all, can you send.

Scott Johnson: The both the budget and the capital budget all the board members so they can take a look at it and actually read it.

Scott Johnson: um.

Scott Johnson: Yes, and then include specifically the areas where fees are going to be adjusted.

Scott Johnson: Because the the budget area that I saw one question jumped up on me, is for the crunch point master plan.
Scott Johnson: Is there nothing allocated for that, right now, but the hundred thousand dollars was was allocated for the past three years.

Blaize Levitan: The prior three years in that line was that it has been budgeted the hundred thousand dollars and that that money is still available that that open capitalist sitting it we have 100,000 available right now.

Scott Johnson: Okay, so so it's.

For.

Scott Johnson: subsequent discussion Joe will just have to talk about that for that master plan.

Scott Johnson: Yes, in how you want to use that and allocate that and then.

Scott Johnson: The next steps on that so that's a that's a subcommittee meeting will do that okay.

Okay.

Joseph Siciliano: So i'll go ahead and start little directors report here.

Joseph Siciliano: One of the things we've been talking about is that we've been talking about a kind of a revision of the rink committee and lenore I think has a slide and.

Joseph Siciliano: So the ring Committee was originally put together to do to talk about the needs for the use of the rink.

Joseph Siciliano: The amenities, that we want to see in the rink and the ring study which have all been completed and the report has been completed, we have money.
Joseph Siciliano: In our dp w budget right now to do a 30% site plan approval for through P amp Z and there's been a lot of questions that.

Joseph Siciliano: have come up from the folks in the neighborhood and barn neighborhood Association and the vets who have been very conscious about protecting the trees that.

Joseph Siciliano: That are been dedicated to the veterans arm and so what we've been talking about is putting together just a slight revision here of the committee.

Joseph Siciliano: which would be the rink user committee it designed for the design and planning phase of the of the project, basically, the Members.

Joseph Siciliano: Of the committee pretty much the same there might be a new appointee from the Granite skating club, we were asking the board of parks and recreation, to put the second Member on there.

Joseph Siciliano: We are we've also added some Community liaison folks so they'll get notified of every meeting and.

Joseph Siciliano: And they are non voting members, but they will be notified as the neighborhood Association and the veterans will be notified so if they want to tune into the meeting and listen.

Joseph Siciliano: The project management team will be myself Alan minnelli Steve o'hurley works for Alan and the commitment on the bottom of the page here is that.

Joseph Siciliano: Post up we posted up public participation and every meeting that means every agenda will have a public comment section that the agenda items will be for.

Joseph Siciliano: will also have public public participation, that it will be posted publicly, so that every committee meeting will be posted publicly by public participation.
Joseph Siciliano: And we'll have a transcript or minutes available of every meeting for public posting and display so we have.

00:31:33.990 --> 00:31:45.990
Joseph Siciliano: talked to rick about this bill Drake Schneider these, these are the kind of the front runners and in the committee i've also talked to Fred about this, to see that with that he would approve this as an ad hoc committee.

00:31:46.740 --> 00:31:58.380
Joseph Siciliano: From the board of selectmen and we have all everybody concurring that we could move this forward, obviously, if this gets approved by the board, then what we would like to do is that we would the committee with then.

00:32:00.360 --> 00:32:06.930
Joseph Siciliano: meet and select the chairman and then chairman would then run the Committee, from that point on, and.

00:32:07.860 --> 00:32:23.010
Joseph Siciliano: With all the participation from the department and all the necessary support that we could provide so we're looking for some endorsement from the board tonight to move this forward and the possibility of appointing someone from the board of parks and recreation, to the open position.

00:32:24.060 --> 00:32:26.520
Joseph Siciliano: Here listed on in the membership.

00:32:28.140 --> 00:32:34.890
Scott Johnson: So so Joe how many voting members 999 people in the top.

00:32:35.130 --> 00:32:36.300
Scott Johnson: Yes, okay.

00:32:37.710 --> 00:32:42.360
Joseph Siciliano: Nine numbers voting to non voting members and the support team of project management.

00:32:43.980 --> 00:32:44.610
Joseph Siciliano: If not you.

00:32:44.970 --> 00:32:47.190
Joseph Siciliano: Know non voting project managers to.
Gary Dell'Abate: I guess if anybody's interested in the position they should contact scatter I we could discuss it and the opposite.

Scott Johnson: So that ultimately will do the same sort of structure that we did for us too much civic Center.

Joseph Siciliano: That is that's correct and the only thing is good about this as Fred is pre approved it, so you know if you guys will acknowledge it and fill in the the to beat cva for parks and border parks, recreation, then.

Joseph Siciliano: They can conduct a meeting and then choose chairman and move forward from there great Okay, so the back, work has been done so OK, the next thing I have is some information along weighted feel study that has been now completed.

Joseph Siciliano: it's been a lot of work Ryan Chmielewski who's been our consultant from Western and Samson did an excellent job on the and dedicated enormous amount of time to this.

Joseph Siciliano: back when we budgeted for this study my original estimate After talking to several consultants was $150,000 to do this study.

Joseph Siciliano: The BT appropriated $75,000 every one of the consultants that we interviewed so that they would do it for $75,000 but in actuality.

Joseph Siciliano: When they cost it it out, or when they Ryan gave me he said he's been keeping track of his hours he's had 130 $5,000.

Joseph Siciliano: So $150,000 estimate wasn't too far off, we will post it publicly shortly we just have a few corrections and a little tweaks to make and.
Joseph Siciliano: We want to make it as good as possibly we can be and make it correct so there's a few scriptures errors.

243
00:34:28.170 --> 00:34:35.490
Joseph Siciliano: You know, a couple little things that need to be adjusted and I'm anticipating that very shortly it'll be on it'll it will have it posted online.

244
00:34:36.180 --> 00:34:44.010
Joseph Siciliano: I am anticipating putting a little cover sheet on it to say that these are concepts that don't walk away thinking that.

245
00:34:44.280 --> 00:34:56.790
Joseph Siciliano: You know we're going to do, every one of these projects, and some of them are little little out there they're a little stretch as far as the thought process and maybe conventional type of things, but I think we get them on the table for discussion item.

246
00:34:57.780 --> 00:35:06.480
Joseph Siciliano: It also addresses some maintenance practices that we currently use considering drainage irrigate primarily drainage injury occasion.

247
00:35:06.990 --> 00:35:18.390
Joseph Siciliano: And some of the short term, money that we currently have it's been appropriated we have $350,000 that's currently in our budget we're asking for another 150 if we get that.

248
00:35:19.560 --> 00:35:27.300
Joseph Siciliano: We are going to apply that to doing some improved drainage projects and some improve irrigation projects immediately because that'll give us the biggest bang for.

249
00:35:27.300 --> 00:35:27.810
angela.swift: Our buck.

250
00:35:28.110 --> 00:35:38.910
Joseph Siciliano: While we're deciding prayer from a priority basis how many of these projects, we want to do, how many are really feasible to do and how we play it out over the 15 year capital plan.

251
00:35:39.300 --> 00:35:51.030
Joseph Siciliano: So the next phase in doing this and I've already talked to our consultant, and this is a, this is an out of pocket expense for us that we can we can cover is a small amount of money.

252
00:35:51.480 --> 00:35:58.530
Joseph Siciliano: For him to work with our internal staff and looking at the maintenance functions and prioritizing that the ones that need to be done.
Joseph Siciliano: immediately and looking at the more can do capital projects, because what happens here is that you know talks about eliminating a diamond and adding a square and you know, eliminating you know some some.

Joseph Siciliano: Smaller rectangles and adding something else and turning fields and reorientation.

Joseph Siciliano: Is a lot of information, but each move has a you know, an action and reaction, so we have to kind of be careful, on how we chart those and so we’re going to work internally just for a little bit.

Joseph Siciliano: And I would hope you know by mid you know mid summer we'd have.

Joseph Siciliano: well in advance of next year's budget preparation, we would have some prioritization of the maintenance and also prioritization of the future capital plan.

Joseph Siciliano: To go forward with some field improvements, we did not consider anything at Greenwich high school because that's.

Joseph Siciliano: Because of the remediation project, we did not consider anything at Western middle school because of the remediation project.

Joseph Siciliano: And we did not consider anything at central middle school because the board of education has a request for $2.3 million for the field renovation in their budget.

Joseph Siciliano: And they have a plan to do that, so all the other locations have been considered um it's an interesting plan, some of it is is, as I said, it's a little.

Joseph Siciliano: Little little out there, for, as far as the thought process of what we could do, but it's a it's a plan that could cover span of 15 years, so if it's not if it's not a two day thing it could be something that.
Joseph Siciliano: In the future, we would want to undertake and change, so I think it's I think we have a document that's working live document well, well done.

Gary Dell'Abate: I had a chance to look at I saw a copy of it, I think it is it's amazing a couple of questions, does the does the central middle school project on was the was it the idea butterfield has that been addressed, or is that still on the table for what they're thinking about.

Joseph Siciliano: One of the proposals out there is a combination natural grass turf.

Joseph Siciliano: field that's still in the discussion line, it would be a big help if we could get that.

Joseph Siciliano: There is some discussion about postponement because they're talking about a new school for central middle school, but you know I think that's that's that's out there 10 years, so we can't wait 10 years to kind of deal with this, but.

Joseph Siciliano: Hopefully that won't be the stalling of this project, I think it got pushed out from this year from this year's request to to 2022 only because.

Joseph Siciliano: We had too many projects not we but the town at too many projects in this year's capital request and they wanted to prioritize the high school remediation and Western middle school for remediation so that doesn't happen it gets got split out to next year, so.

Gary Dell'Abate: The money you talked about that we have 350 we're trying to get another 150 and we're going to do some projects that about drainage, is, I mean just roughly does that, let us do two fields 10 fields like around why.

Joseph Siciliano: I think it's what we're gonna do is instead of q1, obviously, if you want to do a complete drainage project, you have to lift the field, you have to do a whole bunch of thing.
Joseph Siciliano: This would be quick fixes Okay, and the quick fixes that i'm looking at are things that would improve the drainage, and also.

Joseph Siciliano: minimize the number down days that we have, after inclement weather Okay, because right now at some fields.

Joseph Siciliano: You can't get off to two or three days after a rain if we could decrease that to one day after rain and we've done ourselves a big favor scheduling.

Joseph Siciliano: Not only for our own sake of the scheduler Donald but also for the user groups who would have an increased use of that location so we're going to look for some of those quick fixes.

Joseph Siciliano: they're not that's nothing that would be a permanent fix because if we're doing some of these major field renovations in the future, we do need to include a whole new drainage system but they're going to be quick fixes to get to get us up and rolling so.

Scott Johnson: So, Joe when do you think this is ready for publication.

Joseph Siciliano: Well i'm hoping that by into next week we'll have all the little adjustments to it and i'm hoping that you know, the first week of February will have it online, with a little cover sheet and I want to tell people not to.

Joseph Siciliano: Read the plan you know but don't get too crazy about some of the concepts, because it will it will irritate some people who now board or some of those properties to say.

Joseph Siciliano: Oh they're going to turn a field i'm going to hear the noise they're going to they're going to.

Joseph Siciliano: they're going to increase the use on the field, because they're adding a larger rectangle they're going to be doing this they're going to be doing that.
Joseph Siciliano: It will definitely stimulate some people don't want to comment on the negative side.

Joseph Siciliano: But it's not really designed for that what it is, is it to take each interval concept and kind of play it out and to see you know I do know that four or five of the proposals in that plan will really, really irritate a few neighbors.

Joseph Siciliano: Around some of the fields, but you know, but so we'll have to fight those battles, as we, as we go get to them and also it makes the recommendation that the town.

Joseph Siciliano: As a town, based on the attendance in the number of participants, the number of field our schedule and all these other great things that are in that report, we should, as a town in order to.

Joseph Siciliano: Rest our fields appropriately in order to you know slightly span some of the scheduling time should have two more artificial surfaces in our inventory.

Gary Dell'Abate: Alright job before I see a heads up before we get to Miriam has her hand up first and so miriam's kind of question.

Joseph Siciliano: Oh, Mary hi Mary are you there okay.

Miriam Kreuzer: hi hi everyone happy Happy New Year i'm not even yeah i'm not going to turn on my screen I don't think I have to um so I just.

Miriam Kreuzer: One thing about fields and I actually had my hand up before, but I can ask later about another question about the.

Miriam Kreuzer: about the budget that I just want to throw out there, but on Central middle school just add a little meat to the bones what essentially happened is that just totally right, it was the.
Miriam Kreuzer: Reconstruction of the building was way out in the capital projects and the early 2030s and what the superintendent basically said is you know we’re going to spend a ton of money on maintenance on this building.

Miriam Kreuzer: And, to be frank it's such and like poor disrepair that we really should probably consider bringing it up in the pecking order of priorities, so they actually put in money to look into the building.

Miriam Kreuzer: This coming budget, so the one we're going to be voting on now for 2122, and so they basically put the field on hold because they're hoping, they will know.

Miriam Kreuzer: More about they they will basically know whether you know they can move forward with a field, or whether that's this consultant is basically going to really recommend that they bring that whole project up.

Miriam Kreuzer: And so, Joe Joe Kelly, to his credit felt very uncomfortable with basically telling the central middle school community that you know, we had a field last year, then it got put on hold for coven, and now it just disappeared from the budget.

Miriam Kreuzer: So he asked the board to put it for one year, just to give people that sense that you know if the consultant comes back and says, you know what this building does have a life of X number of years.

Miriam Kreuzer: And we can still just you know do some extra maintenance on it that they can keep it on the on the docket so that's, I just wanted to let everybody know that that's why it got kind of pushed off.

Gary Dell'Abate: Thank you Miriam.

Gary Dell'Abate: Thank you, Mary Mike you had a question.

Mike Bocchino: yeah just a quick question for Joe regarding Western middle school um it's been about three years since that fields been closed and I had dealt when I was in harford with dp with a Connecticut D department or deep should say and dp w back here.
Mike Bocchino: there's two quadrants that my understanding, where we're needing to be remediated but one of the things was a solution of turfing the entire.

Mike Bocchino: field area was one that the Connecticut deep was in favor of because it would be.

Mike Bocchino: A more of a expedited type of a thing, and it would be able to get it done is there any I don't I haven't seen obviously you know what you've done i'm sure it's fantastic but can you.

Mike Bocchino: elaborate a little bit on that, and is there a way for us to potentially I mean it's again been three four years for these kids not being on the field and.

Mike Bocchino: potential is magnificent over at Western if we could turn the entire thing we've we would gain I mean I couldn't even imagine, I know there'd be three there's different.

Mike Bocchino: Discussions of like three soccer fields across fields, the baseball field we even have the potential of possibly lighting it up.

Mike Bocchino: Is this something that is is looking you know, in the near future, or are we, like 10 years down the road.

Joseph Siciliano: Well Mike right now that the part of the remediation plan will be the restoration plan for the so there's an $8 million ask and next year's budget.

Joseph Siciliano: For the remediation and the restoration plan for the western middle school feels that's in the board of education budget.

Joseph Siciliano: They have completely handled this plan with their consultants on you know we've had minimal input, but the minimal input is OK, because our it's exactly what you said, has been our mission to remind them that.
Joseph Siciliano: At this location turfing as much of that field, as we can, based on our information that we had with a deep a couple years ago when you were up it's a capital.

315
00:45:44.490 --> 00:46:03.120
Joseph Siciliano: We do know that we can get credit for using artificial surfacing as capping for these types of remediation projects, it was done at the cost got park it saves a significant amount of money on trucking fill out and trucking fill in and establishing turf and.

316
00:46:04.170 --> 00:46:14.940
Joseph Siciliano: The beat the discussion with some B et members matter of fact, is most recently I had one with Mike mason and I said that I hope that when it when it comes in front of you.

317
00:46:15.480 --> 00:46:21.810
Joseph Siciliano: For appropriation and for maybe even execution, that you will ask the question you know, is it, how much.

318
00:46:22.080 --> 00:46:30.930
Joseph Siciliano: What would be a cost, you know get a cost analysis to see what the cost analysis would be in the savings to put artificial surfacing down in lieu of natural grass.

319
00:46:31.290 --> 00:46:38.760
Joseph Siciliano: and also the other value in that in that equation is the usability is not, you know how do you put a value on the usability and.

320
00:46:39.120 --> 00:46:49.230
Joseph Siciliano: This potentially could be one of those sites that could get lights, because of the surrounding area, you know there's not a whole lot of disruption, with the bakery in the transfer station and.

321
00:46:49.770 --> 00:47:00.090
Joseph Siciliano: offset of the housing there, and some of the neighbors it's pretty far in the distance and then you have the blockage of the school it's actually boxed in almost on three sides by.

322
00:47:00.390 --> 00:47:10.680
Joseph Siciliano: You know, some commercial type of operation which could be an absolute winner for us if we could get a light another light it not a lighted feel, even if there were some restrictions those lighted fields, you know.

323
00:47:10.920 --> 00:47:12.510
Joseph Siciliano: A curfew on times and because of.

324
00:47:12.810 --> 00:47:18.180
Joseph Siciliano: But any hour, we can gain after dark is it's just it's just a big a big plus for us.
Joseph Siciliano: So what you can what you can do is keep reminding the B team members and the Bo P Members that this should be a viable alternative in their proposal. Okay, thank you, thank you.

Gary Dell'Abate: Are you good.

Yes.

Joseph Siciliano: One more thing, one more thing, because it doesn't come up anywhere else I know we can talk about Eastern civic Center.

Joseph Siciliano: On we are because of our ability to have an you know, a new system with wreck track Vermont systems, we are in the process of updating our golf reservation system and.

Joseph Siciliano: So will be going to us a seven day forward reservation system or there's some other tweaks that we're going to be making to it and, again, all in the effort to try to satisfy the users.

Joseph Siciliano: This year because of coven you know 85% of our users were resident based.

Joseph Siciliano: And about 15% were non resident based and there's been some comments about you know competition for a TEE times and people manipulating the system and a whole bunch of things so.

Joseph Siciliano: Looking going forward in the next few weeks, we have worked out a lot of the issues and will be making an announcement to the golfing public primarily that when they renew they will be faced with a new.

Joseph Siciliano: TEE time reservation system and some new requirements on how to use it so just an fyi if you hear anything.
Gary Dell'Abate: Great excellent to say one more thing, before we move on, I didn't have a chance to look through.

Gary Dell'Abate: The field standard report when you're talking about lighting, in general, there are ways to light places now that are so different.

Gary Dell'Abate: than what we are used to that are so sensitive to what's going on in the neighborhood and so just pinned on what's going on area that you are, that you know lighting used to be a really tough discussion for us and it shouldn't be anymore, I think it's an interesting stuff going on.

Joseph Siciliano: yeah we we've been talking to a Moscow consultant they're the largest lighting company in the world and the right here in New York.

Joseph Siciliano: And they're willing to come down and give us a photo metric schematic of any field that we have.

Joseph Siciliano: very limited cost to do that we send them a plan survey they program it all out, they can give you like drop into one foot off the field where you're doing complete dark so there's some interesting concepts, but yes, we are aware of the improved led lighting systems out there.

Gary Dell'Abate: So that's exciting alright Joe Thank you very much.

Scott Johnson: Okay Scott you're ready to talk about the Foundation.

Scott Johnson: Oh yeah it's not not really a big deal, other than.

Scott Johnson: We need to integrate the Foundation with.

Scott Johnson: fundraising in general, particularly is to go civic Center so show and I and others.
Scott Johnson: took a crack at them marketing campaigns yo you can talk about that a little bit more where we set up a structure for possible donations.

00:50:14.580 --> 00:50:24.930
Scott Johnson: it's a pretty conventional marketing campaign you guys probably seen it's a like a pyramid structure where the top of the pyramid the largest kits let's just say.

00:50:25.950 --> 00:50:37.680
Scott Johnson: Multi million dollars, you can get X y&z for that you can buy a room for $100,000 you can buy basketball nets, whatever it is we'll.

00:50:38.340 --> 00:50:43.950
Scott Johnson: we'll go public with that shortly and then we'll integrate that with the Foundation there's no reason.

00:50:44.550 --> 00:50:53.850
Scott Johnson: that the Foundation, hopefully, like Angela and Sue can help with this can just go out to stakeholders and others or people we know in general.

00:50:54.270 --> 00:51:04.020
Scott Johnson: and say hey look we're trying to raise money for project, it can be whatever project we want and and here's the kind of format we're using.

00:51:04.560 --> 00:51:13.410
Scott Johnson: And you can use the Foundation and the heavy heavy hitters like you know dalio and those guys has their own foundations, but they can certainly use our foundation.

00:51:14.220 --> 00:51:22.410
Scott Johnson: So that's something I want to start to do we can start to us as a marketing program once we're final night.

00:51:23.130 --> 00:51:33.420
Scott Johnson: In terms of the civic Center component of that that's something that's going to be talked about right away i'm just to jump to that for a second.

00:51:34.080 --> 00:51:47.280
Scott Johnson: or a really sensitive stage with private donors, particularly the large ones that we've spoken to, so we need to coordinate very carefully with the tea and any potential.

00:51:47.760 --> 00:51:57.720
Scott Johnson: announcements we may be getting from BT and i've already spoken to Miriam and Mike about that, so we need to really work together so that somebody doesn't go out and say.
Scott Johnson: Well here’s what the T wants before we’ve gone to our potentially big donors, because it can scare away the donors if it’s not done properly it’s an extremely important thing that’s been confirmed by the consultants that we talking to you, I know, Joe and Fred have spoken to some of the high spoken to some, it has to do it in a correct way, so you can actually scare away certain people if it’s not done and coordinated away so we’ll develop more than on that shortly.

Gary Dell'Abate: All right, thanks Scott, I will talk about what’s going on in our subcommittees request to tell us what’s going on with the Dorothy hamrick.

Rick Loh: Alright, so there is some progress to report.

Rick Loh: The the architect has been finalized that will be the slam cooperative their headquarters is in glastonbury.

Rick Loh: it's actually a large company they've got offices all over the all over the country, but their headquarters is in glastonbury.

Rick Loh: Most recently, they did the.

Rick Loh: West Coast westport why they did the new canaan why and they did the sacred heart Bobby Valentine athletics and.

Rick Loh: So they've got a pretty good resume.

Rick Loh: They seem pretty well organized.
Rick Loh: Our next step.

Rick Loh: Right now, is that there is a topographic survey being prepared, of the the site, which includes the current animals site, the baseball field, the parking lot so that everything can be.

Rick Loh: Accurate accurately depict it on a site plan that will be developed that can be used to go to PNC for.

Rick Loh: site point approval, am I.

Rick Loh: and move us forward going forward, I was happy to listen in last night to fred's budget proposal and here that he actually mentioned the rank.

Rick Loh: We have in the budget wish list for next year, there is just under a million dollars, which would take us through the full design and get us ready to put shovels in the ground which as of last night's budget is scheduled for 2024.

Rick Loh: And I think.

Rick Loh: Based on my notes that's about what I have to tell us at this point in time.

Gary Dell'Abate: Great thanks rick.

Rick Loh: Any questions happy to answer.

Gary Dell'Abate: I am going to speak on behalf of the eastern Granite civic Center.

Gary Dell'Abate: As some of you might have heard or read you know, we had an appeal to the EMI inevitably the appeal was rescinded.
Gary Dell’Abate: I want to Pat the Subcommittee on the back, because at the end of the day, I think hard work and facts one.

Gary Dell’Abate: We were able to talk about over 25 meetings we had when they were public meetings or various sub committee members went to local RTL meetings and.

Gary Dell’Abate: You know, at the end of the day, the appeal was kind of like hey, this is what the Community wants, we were able to prove that we spoke to the entire Community.

Gary Dell’Abate: Several times over, and left room for people to come to have something to say, and so the appeal was rescinded which puts us in a good place and so now we're moving ahead we've got some more.

Gary Dell’Abate: You know more committees to go in front of, but I feel like we're well on our way I said at one of the meetings that I have now my.

Gary Dell’Abate: I know my 10th year on the board and my, the reason I got on the Board was to help get this built and.

Gary Dell’Abate: I cannot tell you how many times people told us, it would never happen and it looks like it's on its way fingers cross I talked to our if everything goes good maybe shovel in the ground by this time next year that, for me, is very exciting.

Gary Dell’Abate: So that's where we're at on that and but everybody, I mean a total subcommittee group effort, especially Scott, by the way, who is our resident free lawyer who had to write up a whole.

Gary Dell’Abate: response to the appeal which we you know we are using some of it, and everything we didn't have to go to the rpm poor so everybody's on subcommittee just work their butts off and I greatly appreciate it.

Joseph Siciliano: And then Scott, you.
Joseph Siciliano: can't build me for this, so all those hours that you put it.

Scott Johnson: And let me add a couple of things, one is we ultimately did send a response to the archean numbers about some of the.

Scott Johnson: inaccuracies that were discussed and promulgated our team.

Scott Johnson: By the GA if people so that's good so at least they saw our responses, one of them, I do want to talk about and that's they said that we did not have a master plan.

Scott Johnson: So we spent right now, without a ton and probably already spent what Joe for $50,000 of ad expenses.

Scott Johnson: yeah we'll probably have another $350,000 for phase two, but if you if you combine that with the field study that Joe just talked about which was another $75,000.

Scott Johnson: And pinpointed specifically instagram civic Center fields and other field that you know that really is our master plan.

Scott Johnson: you've got you had environmental studies, you had subsurface studies, you had parking studies traffic studies cycling studies wetland studies.

Scott Johnson: And, and that ultimately plans, plans to fit into the anvil openzone so for somebody to say that we didn't have a plan.

Scott Johnson: A thought careful thought thought through plan of what should go there it's just too bad, so I think we rebutted that properly everyone understood that.

Scott Johnson: We probably have the most comprehensive massive plan that you could ever have for one site and just one final thing on that field study it was by far.
Scott Johnson: Ryan, the guy who did it was by far the best guy I've ever talked to. He was a lane expert, he was a subsurface expert. He laid out potential reuse studies, he did parking he did.

Scott Johnson: An analysis of the potential uses.

Joseph Siciliano: He did all the Ada stuff, yeah.

Scott Johnson: Yeah, we really got a good bang for our buck, and it can be used. It'll be used for the next 10-15 years, so anyway compliments to that guy in particular.

Gary Dell'Abate: Thanks Scott. I'm here talking about the field committee. So Snyder but Sue come on, and I do have a question for you, before you start can we bring Sue in? I already.

Gary Dell'Abate: See you there.

Sue Snyder: Can you hear me.

Sue Snyder: Yes, okay, so you Scott, Mike, that's it.

Gary Dell'Abate: I can see how many Members are there currently on the field committee.

Gary Dell'Abate: lawsuit.

Gary Dell'Abate: So anytime you.

Sue Snyder: Okay, can you hear me now.

Sue Snyder: Yes, okay, so you Scott, Mike, that's it.

Sue Snyder: 00:59:38.130 -- 00:59:38.670
Sue Snyder: Right.

00:59:39.030 --> 00:59:39.450
All right.

00:59:41.430 --> 00:59:42.690
Gary Dell'Abate: And we lost your audio again.

00:59:44.070 --> 00:59:45.090
Sue Snyder: I don't know what.

00:59:47.010 --> 00:59:47.540
Sue Snyder: muted.

00:59:51.150 --> 00:59:53.690
Sue Snyder: Okay, so I had said frank.

01:00:01.050 --> 01:00:03.300
Gary Dell'Abate: Okay ready for your report.

01:00:03.390 --> 01:00:12.990
Sue Snyder: Okay, just two items I want to mention normally this time of year deals would be completely closed obviously grass fields.

01:00:13.920 --> 01:00:24.690
Sue Snyder: Because the Church is dormant but we wouldn't normally be scheduling anything on the synthetic turf fields, either because of the cold weather and potentially snow and ice.

01:00:25.710 --> 01:00:39.810
Sue Snyder: However, this year as blaze mentioned earlier, you know co it has changed a lot and the demand for services has increased, especially outdoors, because people don't want to be.
Sue Snyder: indoors where things are too close together and not as.

Sue Snyder: A safe so once the state ended their paws on team sports which that ended January 19 there was a pause from November 23 through January 19.

Sue Snyder: Once that ended, we began to or for for rents, the use of cost calm, then the noodle field only on weekends to those user groups which are already established user groups and that of course is weather permitting.

Sue Snyder: We started at this past weekend the weekend of January 23 and we're going to continue this through February 28 so it's basically groups that have that meet all of the requirements and as long as the weather and field conditions permit they can rent cost carbon Veneto fields on weekends.

Sue Snyder: The only other item, I want to mention which there's no rush on a decision for this, but we did receive a request from a Japanese Educational Institute.

Sue Snyder: They are going to be moving to riverside in March of 2022 and they will be looking to have fields for their visit classes.

Sue Snyder: So I did ask to get more information, such as the dates and times and what sort of fields, they would be wanting, and I also would like to get.

Sue Snyder: To find out their residency because, although the school is will be in Greenwich I don't really know where all of the the people who attend the school will be coming from so we always we do always request the.

Sue Snyder: Registration list to find out where people are so.
Gary Dell'Abate: So do you know you haven't had your is it on a grammar school or K through eight schools have any idea what the greater the school.

Sue Snyder: um I want to stay see I don't have in front of me because i'm home, but I think it was, I think it was K through eight I think that's what it was.

Rick Loh: Where they they go into St catherine's.

Sue Snyder: I don't know they just said they were be moving to riverside riverside location and March 2020 to.

Scott Johnson: pay so Scott, what, what are we doing your normal you guys have a million applications for.

Scott Johnson: You know, feel permits for me to say the spring and the summer.

Scott Johnson: Where those lots of put on hold because of covert in that.

Scott Johnson: or no or.

Sue Snyder: No, we had we had what we normally have a field users meeting in person we've done and I did do a zoom meeting early January and we shared the basically our usual information plus all the code information handed out.

Sue Snyder: or emailed out all the paperwork to all of the user groups that attended and they were actually all expected to get their information in starting now so we plan on doing things I mean you know with restrictions, based on code 19 whatever they will be at the time but we've.

Sue Snyder: With the current restrictions and then said as things change, I will of course update them with what other restrictions are, but they should also be checking the state's website and any.
Sue Snyder: Whatever their particular sport is, they should be checking the information provided by the national governing body of their sport as well.

01:04:31.380 --> 01:04:41.100
Sue Snyder: But they will all have to, aside from the normal paperwork, they will all have to submit a updated code 19 operation plan.

01:04:41.520 --> 01:04:53.490
Sue Snyder: which basically informs us how they plan to operate their program within the States code 19 restrictions, they also have to sign.

01:04:54.330 --> 01:05:04.080
Sue Snyder: An agreement and response to code 19 which were basically I have dictated everything we expect from them.

01:05:04.590 --> 01:05:18.780
Sue Snyder: And I provide them with the links to the websites with the current restrictions and then they have to sign off on everything that they are agreeing to abide by all of their restrictions so that's what is different.

01:05:20.400 --> 01:05:22.950
Sue Snyder: than normal routine requirements.

01:05:27.600 --> 01:05:29.880
Gary Dell'Abate: Nancy what to tell us what's going on at any park.

01:05:34.140 --> 01:05:36.630
Nancy Chapin: There I think i'm unmuted can you hear me.

01:05:37.770 --> 01:05:46.500
Nancy Chapin: Okay, so basically benny we're in sort of a wind down on our responsibilities are charged, if you will, so.

01:05:47.640 --> 01:05:51.900
Nancy Chapin: We have not met since this last board meeting I don't think.

01:05:52.980 --> 01:06:08.790
Nancy Chapin: And we do intend to meet in the spring and take a look at you know what we've accomplished and note anything that might need to be needing more attention it's been a great committee we've accomplished a lot so just really pleased with how that worked out.

01:06:10.050 --> 01:06:22.620
Nancy Chapin: there’s been some new signage that’s putting put up since our last meeting and a lot of really great things happened so hopefully people are starting to see it and enjoy it but it’s just been a great success story.

Gary Dell’Abate: Nancy you got that thing done in the nick of time because, again with these warm days this went to that place is more crowded than I have ever seen it.

Nancy Chapin: I bet I bet.

Gary Dell’Abate: Okay, great and then still as you more talk to us about politics talking.

Nancy Chapin: Sure, and just one quick note to blaze just to make sure we have tuchman spelled correctly and your documentation it's T you see ah it's not talking to you ch.

Nancy Chapin: And then.

Nancy Chapin: Because you have an end, thank you, that was a great your presentation was a great lead in for what i'm going to be talking about you know the the need for open space passive recreation.

Nancy Chapin: So I thank you for that great lead and so i'll just start with and then i'm going to let Scott sort of helped me I have.

Nancy Chapin: reached out to Joe had a meeting with Joe Dr Kramer was in attendance and Joe was phenomenal can't think of enough he kind of outline the steps to you know in.

Nancy Chapin: Getting a more formal committee created and then Joe and lenore and been doing.

Nancy Chapin: tremendous amount of work yeah Joe I think dug into this closet Stan his basement I have no idea where he found all this documentation, but.
Nancy Chapin: he's pulled up all the historical documentation related to not only tuchman and pomerance but the Montgomery county them as well.

Nancy Chapin: So for those who don't know these are three properties quiet at different times under different circumstances, the first property that was acquired was the monk i'm reminded him, and that was a gift back way back when.

Nancy Chapin: Next came pomerance that was purchase and then, more recently, the tuchman property.

Nancy Chapin: Just quickly overview Montgomery was won a State title intolerance was another State held by for Seton then worth time came in and expanded that property and tuchman apartments are worth time families to send us.

Nancy Chapin: So our committee has been sort of working as sort of a friends group, if you will, and calling ourselves and friends the PPT.

Nancy Chapin: we've been on the committee staff would be Dr Greg Kramer Darren wigglesworth he's the operations don't know his title operations manager supervisor both are phenomenal parks and REC staff, we also have Sarah CARA who is staff for the conservation Commission she's phenomenal as well.

Nancy Chapin: we've done a lot of sidewalks most recently we had pesto walk the entire property she was great she's agreed to support and help us as well.

Nancy Chapin: So we have great people involved the other committee members include staff from the grinch botanical Center there you know, so the other interesting thing about this property which.

Nancy Chapin: Is the fact that there are leases so you have the town owns these properties, but we also have leases and subleasing so it's kind of a complicated thing.

Nancy Chapin: it's in desperate need of a master plan Joe was great he's got into the capital budget that will be very helpful, so why we wait for master plan, we feel that we've got kind of buckets of priorities you have your things that we can do.
Nancy Chapin: not going to cost a lot work with town staff, and then there are strategic planning things that we're looking at.

Nancy Chapin: I have a purpose statement Joe said, you need a purpose statement I can either read it, or I can email it to all of you, and it has purpose statement and goals of our committee, how we're going to be working with the town.

Nancy Chapin: And then.

Nancy Chapin: Basically that's kind of where we are, you know we're going to be working together to talk about other committee members, so we have the Chair of the rts district eight on our committee.

Nancy Chapin: We have former land steward of the audubon graduate guys sort of embarrassing me sitting here it's my husband so second career for him was last heard for audubon Greenwich he was the former.

Nancy Chapin: As a board member of land trust he was in charge of their land stewardship committee he's in fact you've got the wrong person on our board, he should have Andy but anyway, so we also have you know someone who you know.

Nancy Chapin: has done we've got two people from the sustainability committee so.

Nancy Chapin: You I can name names I can get you names and bios, but we have started committee and then i'm going to hand off to Scott, because, in addition to relying on Joe lenore can't say enough things to learn, or I don't know how she does she does and the conservation Commission.

Nancy Chapin: That also has been kind of mentoring me and advising me so i'll hand off to Scott, at this time.

Scott Johnson: Well, what does a special questions is going from your friends group to more formal you know we call an ad hoc committee, so we did that, obviously, freezing my civic Center.
Scott Johnson: On there's one being form right now for fire on to, so I think a good idea is to send out to everybody your purpose statement.

Scott Johnson: Because the rest of the Board are not that familiar with it, then, if the board agrees and maybe should be at the next meeting, we can see if everyone's in favor of in converting this into a more formal committee with the blessing of the first selectman where we then.

Scott Johnson: We then basically say here's what the committee will do we then have to really pay attention to who's on it, and what staff people to do it, so that we can coordinate with Joe to make sure this is something that is okay with with him from the staff point of view, so that.

Scott Johnson: If we get to the next stage, we then on get Fred less a committee, who I think at this point what we're really talking about is for you to kind of take the lead in developing a master plan.

Scott Johnson: And then you've got what is it $40,000 right now that Joe was thinking if you're working for this, which is is great on we're also doing this, you know with with the master plan for fatah's point so what i'm what i'm a little concerned about subject everyone else's input is.

Scott Johnson: To get going on this with a narrow narrowly prescribed plan and then to make sure it's okay with Joe from a staff standpoint, because.

Scott Johnson: I mean I don't know the staff are doing their normal.

Scott Johnson: normal activities, meaning parks and REC staff, but then you've got Pat, so he needs to talk to pat about wetlands or particularly Sarah and then, if everyone agrees, after they see the purpose and I can maybe draft up.

Scott Johnson: A suggestion for a resolution to the voted on next time i'm.

Scott Johnson: If I hear you're right that the main purpose is to help to develop a master plan, which means take a look, you know we've all seen him for Bruce we've seen him for benny um.
Scott Johnson: Basically, can be a historical analysis usage landscaping and then what you see as recommendations going forward that, then you know by Charter has to be approved by the Board of parks and REC any money has to be approved through those.

Scott Johnson: Those agencies and then you might make recommendations to do X, Y and Z or prohibit X, Y and Z or have certain areas limited by conditions.

Scott Johnson: And then that has to be approved to once you have developed that master plan, so I think it's a really valuable tool to get to the next stage of a master plan which, to my knowledge, has never been done.

Scott Johnson: You know, for that property.

Nancy Chapin: So I just want to add a couple of things each property has, for example, there's deed restrictions associated with monk and refining them.

Nancy Chapin: Oh, and.

Nancy Chapin: The intent, so there are you know I think each property is different, I think, also to note that there was a pomerance plenty of the selectmen conference planning committee.

Nancy Chapin: That was established when they purchase a property, the one of the recommendations again this is adopted by the are tm their recommendations was also should tuchman be acquired or if they acquired a portion of tuchman, by the way.

Nancy Chapin: that the recommendation would be to form yet another committee so it's been years we were late in this it time is now.

Nancy Chapin: You know there's the park is you know there's wonderful it's getting used its greatest getting used but it's showing.
Nancy Chapin: Like every other open space park there's some some some good things happening, but a lot of bad things happening as well, so.

01:16:00.930 --> 01:16:05.580
Nancy Chapin: Which i'll i'll get into after we finish up this this discussion of the formation committee.

01:16:06.000 --> 01:16:13.350
Nancy Chapin: I do hope that we can get to the point where, at our next committee or an export in parks and REC meeting we’re ready to vote so.

01:16:14.010 --> 01:16:30.240
Nancy Chapin: I hope that people make University has my contact information, please feel free to reach out with any questions suggestions concerns i'd love to hear them if anybody wants to walk this park I love walking the park so can give you the love interest okay joe's got his hand raise.

Joseph Siciliano: So we did be and we had a very quick good discussion a lot of information is changed hands, which I did dig it out of the archives and lenore was very gracious to kind of put it all together and send it off to Nancy.

01:16:47.400 --> 01:17:02.040
Joseph Siciliano: One of the things and I, and I want to be very clear about this is that is that you know the the master plan committees or the work groups or whatever you want to call it, are all are all well intended.

01:17:03.060 --> 01:17:08.130
Joseph Siciliano: My Scott kind of led me into this conversation in the sense that we want to be cautious about.

01:17:08.760 --> 01:17:20.910
Joseph Siciliano: You know diverting that departments resources to you know some of these some of these interest in the sense that we still have to maintain our core mission for what to what the services that we provide for the entire town.

01:17:21.570 --> 01:17:25.590
Joseph Siciliano: You kind of found that out when you worked in the mini Committee, I mean there were some things that we would.

01:17:25.950 --> 01:17:32.460
Joseph Siciliano: engage with some things that we pulled back from some things that we ask the Committee members to actually go a little bit above and beyond.
Joseph Siciliano: Because we really have to, on balance, understand what the what the scope is what what's being asked of us, and how does that deflect from some of the core mission things that we do every day.

To keep the whole system operating so we'll figure that out along the way, I think you need to be very clear and defined into mission statement or purpose statement and have a diverse membership of the committee.

That is willing to roll up their sleeves and get their hands dirty because we find that the department works best.

I'll take our friends the junior league 100 times because they're their workers they understand how to structure things they're committed to do the work they're committed to help with the fundraising the execution and they do a great big project, and we can.

coordinate with them, because we have so many things on parks and recreation plate that we can't get to the detail level that.

Some of these committees or work groups or friends of groups can can get to so it's really helpful to kind of figure out where that balance is and how to make it work well for everybody.

My suggestion is that to get this phase done, I mean right now what we're talking about through the board of parks, recreation get whatever However, the organizational structure has to be.

completed.

get it approved.

Get the Charter kind of out there, put you know a little bit of background and some of the people that kind of been looking at the sit on the committee.
Joseph Siciliano: Is there other board members going to be part of the committee.

Joseph Siciliano: And also, maybe a couple of bullet points of like the more urgent things versus the things that can be scheduled out a little in future years.

Joseph Siciliano: I would not, I mean go and engaging with other organizations, maybe wetlands or conservation and to we get this settled.

Joseph Siciliano: It's not going to you know it's not there's no sense of bringing others into the mix they're going to have a seat at the table.

Joseph Siciliano: Obviously you've mentioned that but trying to gain their support, I don't think there'll be a problem with their support, as long as the structure has been organizational structure has been laid and it's been approved.

Joseph Siciliano: I think that I think that they should be want to fall right in because that i'm sure this is have some interest to other town departments and other organizations that are out there, so.

Joseph Siciliano: Just a little suggestion to try to keep it tight until we get this week till we get this phase approved through the board of parks and recreation and get the ad hoc committee.

Joseph Siciliano: designated by the first selectman is important that's why.

Nancy Chapin: yeah I think I think the involvement with pat.

Nancy Chapin: is partially recognizing you know, a suggestion that we're going to need to from time to time, depending what we're doing reach out to other town departments so, for example, if you're looking at any of the buildings within the park, you will be working with them anally.

Nancy Chapin: If you are let's say working on a project i'm going to use metal management.
Nancy Chapin: Really, we need to reach out to those with expertise in that area, you know the town is so full and rich with.

Nancy Chapin: talent that can address some of these issues it's a huge park it's diverse park.

Nancy Chapin: By virtue of the acquisition of these properties, there are different departments that have governance over them.

Nancy Chapin: I love you know, taking it from parks and REC because you're the you you basically maintain these parks so.

Nancy Chapin: It should start there it's been a great training ground coming from vinnie because it was such a successful partnership with volunteers and town staff and we've really worked hard not to.

Nancy Chapin: Add to their load, but really help them out bump by volunteer days and make their job easier and that will be the goal of this committee as well.

Joseph Siciliano: And I think I think that at the at the vinny park committee kind of in the beginning, there was a little pushing and pulling going on, but it found its place, you know.

Joseph Siciliano: Here you also have to consider that we do have general park chartered regulations that govern the parks so it's not that we want to kind of redevelop a bunch we might want to define some of them.

Joseph Siciliano: But they're they're kind of generic and they apply to most of the most of the park locations so and they are chartered and they are part of our operations and and very enforceable by.

Joseph Siciliano: By fines and arrest and other things that we can use to to enforce things which we would, for not to do.
Joseph Siciliano: about the graph get people to come along and but, at the end of the day, you can't count that out, because there is a there is an administrative oversight of all of the parks that comes into play here.

Scott Johnson: So if you want to send.

Scott Johnson: Your purpose status.

Scott Johnson: To care and, as I see that to two questions on one easy one one follow up, which is.

Scott Johnson: To do the master plan and then, as you know from our other master plans there's always recommendations in the master plan to do X y&z.

Scott Johnson: And the southern part of that which may be even more difficult is implementation.

Scott Johnson: So that's the one that I think we're going to have entered into departmental Tom challenges of who does this and who's the lead agency, you know because it's part it's parks and REC inventory, they were like I have to.

Scott Johnson: be seen, but.

Scott Johnson: Working with the advice and consent of the committee and and the board of parks and REC because we're you know we're by charter supposed to be policy oriented so.

Scott Johnson: The first step, I personally see as easy, and I would strongly recommended to do the master plan and to get the best assemblage of expertise, you can both.

Scott Johnson: You know you're I think you're gonna have to pay somebody to do some of this, but they can certainly by talking to all the involved people.
Scott Johnson: save a lot of time and effort, whether it's path, or whether it's Darren or whether it's Kramer whoever it is so, so I think that the next one, to get move forward on this will will take a look and i'll take a crack at a resolution so again if anybody on the board.

01:24:09.360 --> 01:24:18.630
Scott Johnson: doesn't like this, or has other suggestions say so now, because I think the next step would be to maybe I could I could draft a resolution.

01:24:19.350 --> 01:24:34.110
Scott Johnson: You know, talking to Joe obviously and my recommendation would be to do this as a committee, if also the first selectman agrees to to take the next step of the master plan to take it one step that talks about getting it.

01:24:37.710 --> 01:24:38.010
Gary Dell'Abate: Right.

01:24:39.660 --> 01:24:40.860
Scott Johnson: Nancy does that sound right.

01:24:41.220 --> 01:24:42.900
Nancy Chapin: That sounds great yeah Thank you.

01:24:44.370 --> 01:24:46.380
Gary Dell'Abate: All right, thank you Nancy Thank you very much.

01:24:46.440 --> 01:24:55.560
Nancy Chapin: hey before I sign off I do want to make it part of the discussion I just I do have a question, because I was I promised I would raise this issue.

01:24:57.180 --> 01:25:05.160
Nancy Chapin: Like all the parks, that is, traffic, and I know, at our last board meeting we spoke a lot about traffic issues in our parks.

01:25:07.200 --> 01:25:19.800
Nancy Chapin: There is great concern about the pomerance entrance and and how to address it one of the things that has a question and we don't need to answer now, but.

01:25:20.970 --> 01:25:44.550
Nancy Chapin: be able as lease stipulates that they will have a gate that they will maintain it's been some time, and maybe not necessary for that game to be shot but what's happening now is now the cars are coming into the park and the concern is the damage that they're doing to.
Nancy Chapin: You know these great trees tree lined.

Nancy Chapin: Road and wrote in as well as whatever understory any spring ephemeral are going to be gone so it's a question that we should I don't know who would know the answer on how to address it, what to do about the parking there.

Nancy Chapin: one suggestion you know there's alternative parking I don't want to be the traffic engineer on this, I think we need to defer to the professionals but it's a big concern it's becoming.

Nancy Chapin: Risk you know and we just, we need to look at it.

Joseph Siciliano: Okay.

Scott Johnson: Nancy if you can everybody, what is the which entrance you're talking about, because I know there's the one where people park and then there's the one with the historic entrance.

Nancy Chapin: Okay, so you have.

Nancy Chapin: parking lot entrance where you know for countries has a workshop and that's over on Bible street.

Nancy Chapin: There is also parking.

Nancy Chapin: You know down at lower Bible street, but this what we're talking about is it's on orchard street quite near central middle school.
Nancy Chapin: yeah and if anybody goes on a beautiful weekend day you'll see the issue and it really does need immediate attention.

Joseph Siciliano: So, so we were noticing that not only at orchard street but North street at Bob babcock and.

Joseph Siciliano: minus river park the.

Joseph Siciliano: park people have just you know they're using it at a higher level than they ever have before the cars parked on the road, I mean it's cars parked at the minus river.

Joseph Siciliano: entrance there's cars parked on North street there's cars parked on you know, on orchard street and.

Joseph Siciliano: You know, so it is an issue as a result of the overuse of Colvin and and they're not just town residents are people coming from far and wide their their you know their their people just you know how does you know open space kind of.

Joseph Siciliano: Focus folks that looking for these opportunities and will we can we can that's something the lease is something that the actually the leases are signed by the.

Joseph Siciliano: First selectman there are enforceable by the first selectman or their agent, which is either myself or our minnelli mostly it comes down to it's either.

Joseph Siciliano: mean me and Greg Kramer or alum and alien amy siebert as far as what's enforceable because it usually comes to us on the operational side and.

Joseph Siciliano: You know, we at some point, I think we can I just wrote a note, we can have a conversation with able list, I mean obviously they asked for that gate as a result of wanting to.
Joseph Siciliano: You know, restrict people from getting past that point up into where their they have their lease on their communal housing housing there and.

01:28:51.810 --> 01:29:02.190
Joseph Siciliano: And then, and then, but what is it you know, because the gate has not been operational years it's just allowed people who are looking for available space to to kind of move in a little further.

01:29:02.820 --> 01:29:13.770
Joseph Siciliano: I mean there's a several it is inconvenient they found out that putting up the gate is major inconvenience for them, because they wouldn't either multiple times during the day, and if the open close open close.

Joseph Siciliano: it's one of those remote gates may not be that practical, but maybe there's a couple ways to kind of you know immediately, you know, try to.

01:29:22.230 --> 01:29:34.890
Joseph Siciliano: attract people from going in a little further into we can get the the issue settled with ablest is what their intent is you know I mean obviously the gate could work, it is a walk around on Nike.

01:29:36.090 --> 01:29:40.140
Joseph Siciliano: And as long as we foot traffic was fine, but when we start getting the heckler traffic.

01:29:40.500 --> 01:29:48.660
Joseph Siciliano: Not only for the environment and some of the destruction that you're doing, also for the safety of some of the other park users who may not be paying attention.

01:29:49.050 --> 01:29:56.550
Joseph Siciliano: who drive into foreign to decide, I don't know where I am I need to back out or do something else so okay so that's that's more of an immediate topic.

01:29:56.880 --> 01:30:03.150
Joseph Siciliano: And there is some there is something in the lease so you know Greg and I can have a conversation and.

01:30:03.870 --> 01:30:07.230
Joseph Siciliano: We used to have a contact I used to have a real direct contact with a bliss.

01:30:07.740 --> 01:30:14.970
Joseph Siciliano: Luke friend Joan used to work for them, and I know Luke for a bunch of years I don't think he's working as their operations person any longer.
Joseph Siciliano: But I think, by calling a business, we could figure out who, that is, and you know we can set up a conversation with them about you know wanting to improve the situation or do something that you know would improve our situation so.

Joseph Siciliano: that's something we can put on the agenda sooner than later.

Nancy Chapin: So do Is there anyone here that is affiliated with a board event, one of the things that came up was in the conference planning committee they had recommended that overflow parking would roll over into Central middle school.

Nancy Chapin: And then someone said cannot do that now because of some sort of new regulation does anybody know anything about that.

Joseph Siciliano: I don't think I don't think that they appreciate that overflow during the week when students are at the school Okay, they don't want unknowns on the campus you know.

Joseph Siciliano: And that's Okay, but which you know, most of the overflow that we're talking about here really is that you know, maybe after school weekends definitely you know and there hasn't I haven't heard any opposition about parking on Central middle school property.

Joseph Siciliano: In those other times they are concerned about when the schools in session.

Joseph Siciliano: Okay, we do know that.

Nancy Chapin: that's great that's great to know okay.

Joseph Siciliano: Okay, so we can further this conversation offline and, yes, and let the board finish their business okay.

Joseph Siciliano: Thank you.
Nancy Chapin: Thank you for the time on this site.

Gary Dell'Abate: I appreciate it all right we're almost at the end, is there any new business.

Gary Dell'Abate: it's going to check and make sure your hands Okay, is there any public comment.

Miriam Kreuzer: i'm sorry it's actually not a public comment, but it was the second part of the question that I was going to ask earlier.

Miriam Kreuzer: When, in looking through, I guess, Joe and looking through the budget and and seeing the work down at Roger Sherman.

Miriam Kreuzer: baldwin park and there's obviously the park facilities down there when I you know when you think about like the portfolio properties for parks and REC what what's the latest thoughts on where that building is going to go.

Joseph Siciliano: Well we've looked at a couple alternate sites, one would.

Joseph Siciliano: Closer to Bruce park itself.

Joseph Siciliano: And that's an option what we're talking about connect site where we have kind of a storage area.

Joseph Siciliano: kind of an old barn they're connected be converted into a work site, but it's you know all of this will go to you know be vetted through you know public information.
Joseph Siciliano: Planning and zoning you know all the other things that we have to go through, but that is one of the possible locations in relocating or our Bruce are shut operation out of our street yeah.

01:33:00.840 --> 01:33:02.670
Miriam Kreuzer: Okay, so it somewhere near Bruce part.

01:33:03.030 --> 01:33:10.290
Joseph Siciliano: yeah why yeah it's there's no secret about it it's on the backside of Bruce part where we currently have our work area yeah.

01:33:10.380 --> 01:33:10.770
Okay.

01:33:11.940 --> 01:33:12.990
Miriam Kreuzer: But that's that's my.

01:33:15.690 --> 01:33:16.980
Nancy Chapin: So awesome.

01:33:18.900 --> 01:33:23.550
Gary Dell'Abate: Okay, any other public comment any unfinished business.

Gary Dell'Abate: Then I think that allows us to adjourn.

01:33:31.140 --> 01:33:33.750
Gary Dell'Abate: Fresh raising his regular Hannah virtual what's up frank.

01:33:34.950 --> 01:33:41.670
Frank DiVincenzo: Well, I, I just want to announce that I hit the lottery i'm in the form of a coven shot.

01:33:44.430 --> 01:33:45.480
Frank DiVincenzo: I don't know how many of you.

01:33:45.870 --> 01:33:49.440
Frank DiVincenzo: have had it, but I feel like a new man.
Gary Dell'Abate: Where did you go to get it.

Frank DiVincenzo: It was at brunswick.

Frank DiVincenzo: Okay there's several sites in town I originally had.

Frank DiVincenzo: A different field site on on my calendar, but when I saw that I could get one in town I switched over it was good it's great.

Scott Johnson: Was it a long way.

Frank DiVincenzo: No, I think that they are super.

Frank DiVincenzo: organized.

Rick Loh: yeah how did you do that you're only 55.

Frank DiVincenzo: yeah well I'll be 77 if you must know but anyway, I was lucky and and they're getting back to the organization.

Frank DiVincenzo: It felt like I was going to a high end hotel at brunswick there's people opening doors for you directing you here and there, and there's nurses checking you it's just well done.

Scott Johnson: well organized so frank, how did you sign up for it.
Frank DiVincenzo: it's online.

653
01:34:49.080 --> 01:34:51.840
Frank DiVincenzo: You go to my chart or Yale new haven.

654
01:34:52.920 --> 01:34:54.300
Frank DiVincenzo: Yale new haven health.

655
01:34:55.920 --> 01:34:59.700
Frank DiVincenzo: I got the email here, if you want it i'll send it to you.

656
01:35:02.160 --> 01:35:03.540
Scott Johnson: i've been rejected, is not being.

657
01:35:03.750 --> 01:35:16.140
Gary Dell'Abate: Not being 71 of the guys I work with who's 41 years old at 300 pounds listening Jersey, he got the shot, because he was obese he got the shot.

658
01:35:17.280 --> 01:35:19.230
Frank DiVincenzo: I should have said that instead of my age.

659
01:35:19.560 --> 01:35:20.280
Joseph Siciliano: Okay Gary.

660
01:35:20.910 --> 01:35:27.420
Joseph Siciliano: yeah, can I say something so along the lines it's a good comment frank made, I mean brunswick is up and running.

661
01:35:27.960 --> 01:35:33.540
Joseph Siciliano: At the eastern granted civic Center we are supporting the family Center operation for coven shots.

662
01:35:34.050 --> 01:35:41.790
Joseph Siciliano: And I want to give a big plug for their grantees health department who's doing them in a town hall they're working like clockwork it's perfect I mean people to make your reservations.

663
01:35:42.150 --> 01:35:53.730
Joseph Siciliano: The funnel room downstairs into the cafeteria area they got five shooting stations and I was down there today just to kind of check it out, hoping that they might put one of those shots in my direction.
Joseph Siciliano: But I got a 10 more years to go so.

Gary Dell'Abate: You know i'm curious so so the tasks, so the town is doing code which is right so we're getting them from the government we're getting from the state of Connecticut.

Joseph Siciliano: yeah what's happening is is that they're coming from the Federal surplus to this Connecticut to the town health department for town hall and then they're coming also family centers is getting a little bit.

Joseph Siciliano: So we're getting a lot of shooting at brunswick so there's there's three active sites right in town they're all working well very organized and they're pushing as many people per day, as they can based on the amount of vaccine allotment they get each week.

Gary Dell'Abate: ready.

Scott Johnson: hey Joe on behalf of.

Scott Johnson: rick rick Lowe said, can you put a word in the Caroline football.

people to be example.

Gary Dell'Abate: yeah.

Joseph Siciliano: So you have to be a smoker maybe then you can get a shot, I mean.

Gary Dell'Abate: Oh, by the way, they will be skyrockets is also smoker so that's a double.

It.
Nancy Chapin: or worried.

Gary Dell'Abate: Right, that would be meeting adjourned Thank you all thanks everybody.

Frank DiVincenzo: Thank you.

Lenore Caserta-McClester: Thank you.

Lenore Caserta-McClester: heather handy Derby.

Rick Loh: style Oh, you know.

Gary Dell'Abate: Oh so banker sorry meeting on a jerk super.

cute.

Sue Baker: Okay, I guess, I was just gonna say that it really does work out smoothly getting the shot at least at brunswick and you can also go on hospital Yale new haven.

Sue Baker: Health Center and get on that way to.

Gary Dell'Abate: glad you got a shot.

Thanks.

Sue Baker: To that comes.
Gary Dell'Abate: Your journey, thank you all.

Frank DiVincenzo: Thank you.

Frank DiVincenzo: goodnight goodnight.

Joseph Siciliano: goodnight goodnight off Thank you.