



Meeting Notice of the Board of Parks and Recreation of the Town of Greenwich

**Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 6:30 p.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

- Call to order at 6:33 p.m.
- Approval of March 29, 2023 Minutes
  - Motion by Vivian Wu, seconded by Rick Loh 6-0-0
- Director's Report Joe Siciliano
  - Busy time: prepping islands, ferries and hiring seasonal staff
  - RTM P&R Comm. – Budget
  - Golf User Group Meeting-Need Board Liaison
  - Marinas opened April 15
  - Park cleanup/beautification projects
  - Baseball meeting-field assignments
  - Upcoming Special Events
  - Bible St. Baseball Field updates
  - Lifeguard training-state-wide shortage
  - RTM budget vote – May 8
  - Pickleball-new nets-additional court at Byram Park
- Western Middle School Field Complex Mike Bocchino
  - Letter of support from the Board (see attached Resolution)
- Chairman's Report Scott Johnson
  - Discussion/Vote-proposed Historic District-Bruce Park
    - Upon discussion:
      - M. Bocchino motioned to wait until the next meeting 9-0-0
- Recreation Programming Sue Snyder
  - Discussion moved to next meeting
- Sub-Committee Updates:
  - Dorothy Hamill Rink Rick Loh
    - BET Budget Committee-Approval of \$950,000 Board members support for the project has helped the funding to get this far-RTM to vote

- Eastern Greenwich Civic Center Scott Johnson
  - Fundraising
  
- Parks and Trees Nancy Chapin
  - Pomerance/Tuchman RFP-3 candidates for interview
  
- P&R Foundation Scott Johnson
  - Motion to have Sue Bodson as co-chair 9-0-0
  - Mianus River Park cleanup/beautification-good turnout-great staff
  - EGCC Business Plan liked on website-fundraising
  
- New Business
  - If anyone has old EGCC memorabilia, please let Scott Johnson know
  
- Public Comment
  
- Unfinished Business
  
- Adjourn-motion by Vivian Wu, seconded by Rick Loh 9-0-0

**Scroll Down for Zoom Transcript and Western Middle School Resolution**

**This Zoom transcript is computer generated and does not always accurately capture the words. Please refer to the posted audio of this meeting on our website.**

1  
00:00:02.300 --> 00:00:03.400  
Lenore Caserta-McClester: We're started.

2  
00:00:03.550 --> 00:00:08.450  
Scott R. Johnson: Okay, so this is the April 26 sixth, regular

3  
00:00:08.700 --> 00:00:23.600  
Scott R. Johnson: me to the board parks and wreck is by Zoom moon. They were all on zoom. and we have a fairly full and a little bit of an oddly weighted agenda.

4  
00:00:24.200 --> 00:00:25.420  
Scott R. Johnson: because we have a

5  
00:00:25.560 --> 00:00:32.520  
Scott R. Johnson: kind of bigger discussion item on this potential historic district. So.

6  
00:00:32.940 --> 00:00:36.550  
Scott R. Johnson: but that's okay, where everything else will fit in it as well.

7  
00:00:36.770 --> 00:00:40.820  
Scott R. Johnson: Why, Don't, we do? Just do our minutes first.

8  
00:00:40.960 --> 00:00:49.150  
Scott R. Johnson: So the minutes are for the March 20 ninth meeting, which the transcript was sent to everybody. So can somebody make a motion to approve that

9  
00:00:50.450 --> 00:00:51.170  
Vivian Wu: move?

10  
00:00:51.420 --> 00:00:55.130  
Scott R. Johnson: Who the minutes. Okay? And second, someone seconded.

11  
00:00:55.430 --> 00:00:56.250  
Rick Loh: I Second.

12  
00:00:56.760 --> 00:01:02.010  
Scott R. Johnson: Okay. So all in favor. Just we can raise your hands.

13  
00:01:03.650 --> 00:01:04.470  
Scott R. Johnson: Okay?

14  
00:01:04.560 --> 00:01:09.830  
Scott R. Johnson: Oh, that is okay, good. Okay. So that passes. Those minutes are approved.

15

00:01:13.220 --> 00:01:19.310

Scott R. Johnson: I have a couple of administrative remarkable. I'll I'll do that later. So

16

00:01:19.420 --> 00:01:23.450

Scott R. Johnson: Oh, so you're on. So why don't you so? What you do your video.

17

00:01:23.810 --> 00:01:30.210

Scott R. Johnson: So I want you to start with directors report. We have everybody here except for maybe Mike

18

00:01:31.080 --> 00:01:34.730

Scott R. Johnson: much you to your attention report that i'll do mine.

19

00:01:36.830 --> 00:01:39.950

Scott R. Johnson: Actually, you know what? Why, don't we jump to Sue

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00:01:40.080 --> 00:01:45.670

Scott R. Johnson: doing recreation before I do mine, because mine's gonna be a little like thing. So anyway. Chunk, the head start.

21

00:01:45.710 --> 00:01:51.830

Sue Bodson: I'm: I'm: I'm talking about from the hospital. Can you wait for me until I get back home?

22

00:01:52.470 --> 00:01:55.800

Sue Bodson: Yeah, yeah, yeah, No No problem. No problem. Okay, thank you.

23

00:01:57.590 --> 00:02:13.540

Joe Siciliano: So so just just a couple of updates from the Director's report. I mean, as you talked earlier. Well, Scott and I are. You are on the call. It is spring, and things are just very busy, and you know we have a lot of things going on with the opening up a lot of the facilities

24

00:02:13.540 --> 00:02:23.050

Joe Siciliano: program. Registration people wanting permits filing for special events dealing with, you know, dealing with the end of the year closing of our budget

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00:02:23.170 --> 00:02:26.110

Joe Siciliano: and projects and expenditures.

26

00:02:27.070 --> 00:02:35.590

Joe Siciliano: and you know it's just it's just a really busy time of the year. Next week we will go in front of the Rt. And Parks and Recreation Committee to talk about our budget.

27

00:02:36.370 --> 00:02:55.700

Joe Siciliano: We usually are. Get some intel from Kara, Kathryn, La Balbo, or what the group might be interested in talking about, or some questions. So we're waiting to see if Katherine will come forward with that. If not, we'll go and make a short presentation and answer questions at the meeting.

28

00:02:55.730 --> 00:03:00.480

Joe Siciliano: so that'll be next Tuesday evening in the Parks and Recreation Conference room

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00:03:00.630 --> 00:03:08.380

Joe Siciliano: Today we had a golf user group meeting. and I know that we we haven't had one in a while.

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00:03:08.390 --> 00:03:27.650

Joe Siciliano: But we're gonna start to reschedule those every 2 months, so we'll be putting out some information. I we. It would be nice if we had an assignment of a board member to who was interested in the golf, the golf user group, part of it, and we can talk about that going forward.

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00:03:27.650 --> 00:03:39.850

Joe Siciliano: We've we've talked about 4 meetings for the entire year, which would be about every other month approximately, I kind of want. On a Wednesday morning at around 10 or so.

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00:03:39.890 --> 00:03:46.930

Joe Siciliano: so we might be able to attract not only a board member, but some other general public users

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00:03:47.190 --> 00:03:50.190

Joe Siciliano: that would want to be on the committee. The committee consist of

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00:03:50.210 --> 00:03:57.830

Joe Siciliano: one member of each club meant the men's, and ladies, and then which is 4. There's 2 men's group and 2 ladies groups.

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00:03:57.900 --> 00:03:59.730

Joe Siciliano: 3 members from the public.

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00:03:59.770 --> 00:04:03.980

Joe Siciliano: and then some people that Lee is on with the with the with the board

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00:04:04.130 --> 00:04:11.760

Joe Siciliano: with the with the golf committee. So what we' to put that back together, and a pretty productive meeting this morning passed a lot of information

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00:04:12.190 --> 00:04:13.810

Joe Siciliano: also

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00:04:14.810 --> 00:04:21.510

Joe Siciliano: voting pro voting opened up on April fifteenth. We were as a Saturday. We were on schedule. Every all the facilities were open.

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00:04:21.540 --> 00:04:24.560

Joe Siciliano: ready to go for use by the public.

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00:04:24.600 --> 00:04:38.480

Joe Siciliano: Took a ride around myself this past week, and a lot of people to put their boats in already wanted, you know. And then, you know, just usually a big rush right up front. People interested in getting a boat in the water, maximizing the amount of use that they can get

42  
00:04:38.880 --> 00:04:42.580  
Joe Siciliano: from their from their both during the season.

43  
00:04:42.950 --> 00:05:00.370  
Joe Siciliano: You know we're working on boats in the shipyard. We're working on prepping out the islands. I know the folks. Everyone here at Staff Wise is working on hiring people for the summer, whether their lifeguards, each crew, camp counselors, some are, be, be some are maintenance people in the parks, etc.

44  
00:05:00.370 --> 00:05:06.980  
Joe Siciliano: So we got a big hiring push going on for temporary employees, temporary seasonal employees.

45  
00:05:07.990 --> 00:05:25.170  
Joe Siciliano: couple of other things we've been doing. You know there's a lot of projects going on. We, you know. We like as we've assisted this past week with the with the clean up project that Myanes River. We also have a few other planting projects going on around town.

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00:05:25.430 --> 00:05:30.860  
Joe Siciliano: So that's you know. There's a big 6, you know. Spring the places Arbor day on Friday.

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00:05:30.880 --> 00:05:41.640  
Joe Siciliano: There's a a event plan for for everyday Eastern Middle School, so there's there's been a lot of, you know, a lot of these one odd activities going on to, you know, in the season

48  
00:05:41.810 --> 00:05:46.610  
Joe Siciliano: we need to work, as you know, we did some work at Diane Park on the upper gazebo.

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00:05:46.710 --> 00:05:54.650  
Joe Siciliano: That was the recommendation of board member made an observation. So we it's been replanted out, and some of the

50  
00:05:54.810 --> 00:06:12.730  
Joe Siciliano: to some exciting that's been done. It's leveling off, and stuff looks very presentable, and it looks actually pretty nice. So it was kind of a. It was a suggestion that I received, and we executed that. And I think you know people would be really good with it really like the results

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00:06:12.730 --> 00:06:21.060  
Joe Siciliano: one from it makes it a little safer, and to just the presentation alone. It's just a lot nicer. So couple of those can do things that

52  
00:06:21.170 --> 00:06:35.190  
Joe Siciliano: we can, you know, get done. We also have a bunch of clean ups going on. There's a huge one at Grant's Point. This weekend. The friends of Fire and Park will be doing their annual clean up and planting May twentieth. I think it's a Saturday.

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00:06:35.520 --> 00:06:54.980

Joe Siciliano: and that's usually a nice event. The community folks come with some family members spend a couple of hours doing a little sprucing up around the beach, pool, area and entrance, and of course we provide staffing coverage. We do a lot of the planting in some of the planters, and you know it's just this is a nice feel good thing.

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00:06:54.980 --> 00:07:00.240

Joe Siciliano: We're glad to do it, and we out of that. We've generated some other. You know other health.

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00:07:00.350 --> 00:07:13.820

Joe Siciliano: People want to take care of the but the pollinator garden and the butterfly garden, and you know, so that they do that annually. Throughout the summer we get folks a permit, and that's kind of what's was an offspring of this clean up that we do. We've been doing since the

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00:07:13.880 --> 00:07:19.430

Joe Siciliano: cool with it's been installed. So you know that kind of all that kind of is going on.

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00:07:19.540 --> 00:07:22.010

Joe Siciliano: And, as I say, there's just a lot of activity

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00:07:22.310 --> 00:07:26.400

Joe Siciliano: we met as a group, Matt Tracy, myself to

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00:07:26.410 --> 00:07:29.490

Joe Siciliano: with some baseball folks last month.

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00:07:29.590 --> 00:07:39.200

Joe Siciliano: Talk about couple of assignment issues of practice of practice. Time interesting enough. It took them over

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00:07:39.800 --> 00:07:42.070

Joe Siciliano: one group. We've only heard from one group.

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00:07:42.180 --> 00:07:48.480

Joe Siciliano: we we it took him over 3 to 4 weeks to come up with the applications, but it got done.

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00:07:48.510 --> 00:07:52.870

Joe Siciliano: So we're at a point now where one of the groups of all of those people that we're in the room

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00:07:52.910 --> 00:08:09.360

Joe Siciliano: has a field, this a field permit assignment to practice, and I I don't have the assignment off it's not my head, but I think it's in it's in the costcob area, and I don't. I'm not sure how many days a week, or how many hours. But but it it was so difficult to get some of the the the

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00:08:09.360 --> 00:08:23.050

Joe Siciliano: information, especially the insurance. That's the primarily. What I'm usually really concerned about is to make sure that the group has insurance, and you know the roster is not a big issue, but the insurance is usually the the bigger issue for me.

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00:08:23.420 --> 00:08:29.380

Joe Siciliano: So we got some of it done in one group I know is using some feel time for practice.

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00:08:30.680 --> 00:08:38.850

Joe Siciliano: and you know that's kind of where we are. It's just a lot of activity at a bunch of different levels. All the superintendents are busy, their staffs busy.

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00:08:38.860 --> 00:08:57.930

Joe Siciliano: The office is is is busy. We have, you know we're we're issuing cards and voting permits, and you know all kinds of things like that. So it's it's just really active, but it's not unusual for this time of the year, and that will usually goes until, you know, we get into the beginning of July, when people kind of settle in and

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00:08:57.930 --> 00:09:04.700

Joe Siciliano: we get through the Fourth of July. So we're actually starting to plan for the Memorial Day Road race, which is coming up in a couple of weeks.

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00:09:05.050 --> 00:09:13.720

Joe Siciliano: We also are active with the town party car show, and also the fireworks are out there in the in the near distance, so

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00:09:13.740 --> 00:09:15.650

Joe Siciliano: all of that is going on.

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00:09:15.760 --> 00:09:33.970

Joe Siciliano: and and we we will get through. So so just, you know, good communication. Good planning. And you know people, you know, in in the house to in staff talking to each other. We we can get it done, but it's it's. This is the hectic time of the year. We have really hectic

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00:09:34.290 --> 00:09:36.100

Joe Siciliano: that's about it. I mean.

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00:09:36.130 --> 00:09:43.260

Joe Siciliano: if somebody has a question for me be more than happy to participate in some of the other topics. If there's something that comes up.

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00:09:43.730 --> 00:09:55.440

Scott R. Johnson: So I have a question on the fields outside of remediation. Are there fields that are closed right now because of

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00:09:55.720 --> 00:09:59.670

Scott R. Johnson: maintenance or repair activities where they basically already open?

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00:10:00.300 --> 00:10:19.640

Joe Siciliano: No, I don't. We don't have any fields that are close close, but we do from time to time have to take it offline to do overseating top dressing. You know that kind of stuff iteration. We try to fit that in, you know, during the day when people are not using the fields. Obviously, we don't do that kind of work on Saturdays and Sundays.

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00:10:19.790 --> 00:10:26.000



Joe Siciliano: and if there's something special that has to go on, Tim will coordinate with Donald. Schedules, feel time.

79  
00:10:26.210 --> 00:10:30.010  
Joe Siciliano: so we try to fit in our maintenance program

80  
00:10:30.030 --> 00:10:42.400  
Joe Siciliano: when there's not much activity on the fields that includes parks and also school school grounds. So you know, if they have a they have a pretty well worked out between Donald

81  
00:10:42.480 --> 00:10:50.550  
Joe Siciliano: and Tim, and if there's something special that comes up that needs special attention, then they have to work through the scheduling issued in order to get it to accomplish.

82  
00:10:51.650 --> 00:10:53.170  
Joe Siciliano: We are working on

83  
00:10:53.480 --> 00:11:05.980  
Joe Siciliano: 2 upgrade projects. One with one is going to be trying to develop a 50 70 field at Bible Street or a

84  
00:11:06.010 --> 00:11:10.120  
Joe Siciliano: This is a project that's gonna be quite nice. We're gonna, you know. We're looking at.

85  
00:11:10.500 --> 00:11:26.780  
Joe Siciliano: you know. Reoriented the in field putting up some netting along the neighbors houses, new backstop, new bleachers, new, a a variation of a a dug out at each location. At the location we're looking at putting irrigation in the outfit, in the, in, the, in, the in, the in and outfield

86  
00:11:26.780 --> 00:11:39.630  
Joe Siciliano: we were able to kind of get that done, because the Bts appropriated some money based on the field plan to do some upgrades, and this is one that we selected. It is a dire need to have 50, 70,

87  
00:11:39.720 --> 00:11:56.470  
Joe Siciliano: 50, 70 combination field. This there seems to be a lot of activity in that age group, and then the off season when baseball is not being played. We're going to be able to develop a large rectangle on that field so we can play other sports, whether it's soccer.

88  
00:11:56.580 --> 00:12:09.760  
Joe Siciliano: you know football. I mean kids football, you know, lacrosse those types of things. So it's a big. It's a large project we're talking about half a 1 million dollars to investment in a in an upgrade.

89  
00:12:09.930 --> 00:12:21.450  
Joe Siciliano: but I think it'll be well received when we met with the the the guys last week, or a couple of weeks ago on the baseball. I issue about practice. We I pitched the project, you know, softly.

90  
00:12:21.590 --> 00:12:25.760  
Joe Siciliano: and looking for their support. You know we need. We have some. We have some funding.

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00:12:25.860 --> 00:12:39.160

Joe Siciliano: We're we getting some more funding in July? We're gonna have to schedule the project in, because once we do the project, the field will be shut down for a while, because we can, you know, because we're going to have to. You do the construction, and we we establish this the the turf.

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00:12:39.220 --> 00:12:56.210

Joe Siciliano: But so they they. They seem to get a positive reaction from them, and they said that they would be there if we needed additional support for funding, or with the neighbors, or whatever you know, because we have to kind of get a get, a staff review of planning and zoning, and a few other things. So

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00:12:56.520 --> 00:12:59.270

Joe Siciliano: we're working on that project, and the other project would be

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00:12:59.440 --> 00:13:10.200

Joe Siciliano: if we have enough funding depending on how this plays out. We would do some improved drainage and new irrigation system on the upper hammer. Right now it performs. Okay.

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00:13:10.430 --> 00:13:21.170

Joe Siciliano: I think the drainage would help us make the field perform better and make it more playable during you know wet conditions, and of course, the irrigation system there is is pretty old.

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00:13:21.170 --> 00:13:36.740

Joe Siciliano: and we're having some problems with it. So why we're going to be doing some trenching for drainage. We're going to improve the irrigation system at the same time, so that we can grow grass during off season when it's not being used. So those are a couple of things that we have in the pipeline right now.

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00:13:38.080 --> 00:13:48.480

Scott R. Johnson: We just one more questions that I've been asked, are we going to be able to be fully staffed for life cards at the pool of the beaches this year?

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00:13:48.660 --> 00:13:53.520

Joe Siciliano: Well, we're trying our best. What we did this year is that during our lynch the swim program

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00:13:53.770 --> 00:14:09.980

Joe Siciliano: we have a we have a person, our life part supervisor, who works with us in the summer time is also a lifeguard trainer. So we tried. We went to this, so they went to the the expo at the High School. When they have a job expo and that kind of stuff. So we

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00:14:09.980 --> 00:14:21.030

Joe Siciliano: so we try to attract some kids that might be interested. I don't know how many we got, but I think we got like half a dozen kids, so we are doing at the same time. We're doing our learn to swim program at

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00:14:21.030 --> 00:14:37.670

Joe Siciliano: for for younger people. We're also having a life part training program at the High School, so that we can train some people, and then we can offer them a job immediately, so if they get through the training they're almost guaranteed to have employment for the summer with us. It doesn't exclusively

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00:14:37.790 --> 00:14:48.790

Joe Siciliano: make it with you. They have to work for us, but we're hoping that we could kind of foster them through the program. You know. Well, we're we're still accepting applications.

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00:14:48.940 --> 00:14:57.640

Joe Siciliano: You know I haven't heard our lifeguard training person, you know, cry out to say that we have a huge shortage. But what's happening right now is that

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00:14:57.840 --> 00:15:14.340

Joe Siciliano: groups that are trying to be successful on attracting lifeguards or or or self help. It's on a self-help basis. Because if you can train a maybe you can employ them. And so that's the tactic that's going on. I know I've seen some advertisement this week and local media.

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00:15:14.570 --> 00:15:22.060

Joe Siciliano: You know online that kind of stuff that the State of Connecticut is really hurting for a lifeguards and looking for people.

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00:15:22.110 --> 00:15:38.740

Joe Siciliano: I think we're we, You know it's a different approach of how many people attend, and they're trying. They're going to adjust the attendance at some of the State parks based on how much their staffing levels. That's what they're going to do this summer because they're you know they're they're concerned about the ratio of Lifeguards or other staff

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00:15:38.740 --> 00:15:56.480

Joe Siciliano: to the amount of people that are attending some of the State parks, and they're going to do an adjustment of the number of people that could access some of the State parts based on staffing levels. That's not really a great situation, but they don't really have a lot of other choices, either. So I mean to have a safe and environment, so

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00:15:56.550 --> 00:15:59.160

Joe Siciliano: we'll see how it kind of plays out.

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00:15:59.360 --> 00:16:15.130

Joe Siciliano: We'll. We'll know a little bit more a lot of times we get kids that accept jobs with us, and then they get a better job or get an internship, or get a job somewhere that they really want to work with. Their friends. Are all these other situations. So. But we've we tried to recruit

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00:16:15.360 --> 00:16:24.420

Joe Siciliano: and to see if we could foster training program, and we can keep doing this to see if we can get more and more kids involved, especially in that category.

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00:16:25.460 --> 00:16:30.340

Scott R. Johnson: Can you just give the last last one for me? Can you just give

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00:16:30.900 --> 00:16:36.350

Scott R. Johnson: a little bit of an update Bt update. Is it May Fourteenth that they

113

00:16:36.850 --> 00:16:47.980

Joe Siciliano: they formally vote on everything or no, No more public hearings? I guess right. So the committees will meet next week. All the committees of the Rtm. Will meet next week on Monday and Tuesday.

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00:16:48.080 --> 00:16:54.360

Joe Siciliano: Then there's the district meetings on Wednesday and Thursday, and on May eighth will be the Rtm. Meeting

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00:16:54.370 --> 00:16:56.230

Joe Siciliano: to vote on the entire budget.

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00:16:56.390 --> 00:17:02.460

Joe Siciliano: That'll be at 70'clock at the Central Middle School, and it'll be via zoom also. I'm sure.

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00:17:03.710 --> 00:17:06.240

Scott R. Johnson: Okay. And and Miriam

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00:17:06.250 --> 00:17:10.339

Scott R. Johnson: stay on if you can, because i'm gonna put you on the spot when we talk about

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00:17:10.849 --> 00:17:18.160

Scott R. Johnson: that sort of he's doing my but, anyway, so anybody have any other questions for Joe?

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00:17:18.910 --> 00:17:23.490

Vivian Wu: So I wanted to know. Can I ask about

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00:17:24.329 --> 00:17:25.290

Scott R. Johnson: not what

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00:17:25.520 --> 00:17:34.830

Vivian Wu: pickle ball nets, whether they what the status of the new nets are. Maybe you can ask them that question. I I I know, he told me, but I I

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00:17:34.900 --> 00:17:47.850

Daniel Carlsen: I have no recall. So good. Yeah, yeah, certainly. So we bought 3 new pickable nets that were like the high utility, easily movable nets. And then we actually bought a fourth heavy duty net. But after hearing

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00:17:47.850 --> 00:18:16.370

Daniel Carlsen: back from the user group and people, you know, people who utilize the courts, they thought that an an extra heavy duty net was a bit excessive. So we actually pulled back that order right now because we wanted to get more initial feedback. Then we got more input from other user groups about potential striping other potential issues that we may have to address. So we're gonna be kind of working as a group within the next few days to figure out

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00:18:16.370 --> 00:18:26.240

Daniel Carlsen: what our plan is going to be kind of with court usage and things like that. But essentially, I think our idea is to take that heavy duty net and purchase more

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00:18:26.240 --> 00:18:45.860

Daniel Carlsen: portable nets instead, so that will give us more flexibility with being able to kind of maneuver our courts. That's that's where we stood right now. But again we're we're kind of having a conversation within the next week to really define what our path is going forward. So we so we did by the 3 new ones. They have been installed.

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00:18:45.860 --> 00:18:54.730

Daniel Carlsen: That fourth one was put on delay to see if we need to to have the more mobile nets rather than the heavy duty nets. So that's kind of where we are in that.

128

00:18:54.990 --> 00:19:05.710

Joe Siciliano: And Vivian also. The 2 courts would be in next. The there were 2 additional pickleball courts put at. so we had. We had one tennis court

129

00:19:05.920 --> 00:19:10.740

Joe Siciliano: striped for 2 pickable accords. Now we have 2 tennis courts strike for

130

00:19:10.960 --> 00:19:18.010

Joe Siciliano: pick a ball courts, and then we'll have just one solid tennis chord. So there's there's actually 4 pickle ball courts

131

00:19:18.280 --> 00:19:25.280

Joe Siciliano: with one tennis court or 3 tennis courts, or you know it. It depends how you look at it. But we did add that expert

132

00:19:25.310 --> 00:19:30.830

Vivian Wu: pickable opportunity at Iron Park. Where did the extra nets go?

133

00:19:33.530 --> 00:19:38.720

Daniel Carlsen: I I don't have that information. I mean, I know there's a lot of movement right at the beginning.

134

00:19:38.720 --> 00:20:01.780

Daniel Carlsen: cause I do know that we put some end to replace some of the ones at Eastern the Franklin ones. We're breaking down relatively quickly, so we replace them with some more durable mobile net. I can certainly give that information to you guys. I just don't have that on hand, because there is a lot of shuffling right at the beginning of the season to make sure we have the nuts and the right place for programming, but also having the right nets

135

00:20:01.780 --> 00:20:09.910

Daniel Carlsen: for open plan and other availability. So I can certainly get that information now that the dust is kind of settled a little bit after that.

136

00:20:10.810 --> 00:20:12.170

Vivian Wu: Okay, thank you.

137

00:20:14.900 --> 00:20:17.140

Scott R. Johnson: Any other questions for Joe.

138

00:20:18.460 --> 00:20:22.080

Michael Bocchino: Yeah, Joe, I got one. Can you hear me?

139

00:20:22.170 --> 00:20:24.500

Scott R. Johnson: And my hand was up? But yes.

140

00:20:24.750 --> 00:20:25.630

Michael Bocchino: okay.

141  
00:20:25.710 --> 00:20:27.420  
Joe Siciliano: I have

142  
00:20:27.850 --> 00:20:35.930  
Michael Bocchino: not just for Joe, but for everybody on board right now, you know, Joe mentioned the Bible Street Project

143  
00:20:37.620 --> 00:20:50.710  
Michael Bocchino: Field Wise in town there is a huge discrepancy. We are at a really under advantage as far as fields go, and for this project to move forward

144  
00:20:50.770 --> 00:20:59.870  
Michael Bocchino: is really monumental for the town To get this thing to move forward. I think we all need to really be supportive of it.

145  
00:20:59.960 --> 00:21:02.660  
Michael Bocchino: It's an underutilized

146  
00:21:02.910 --> 00:21:13.660  
Michael Bocchino: opportunity to create an over utilized opportunity, in my opinion, as far as baseball goes, and I think it's a it's a great

147  
00:21:15.040 --> 00:21:22.810  
Michael Bocchino: movement forward on behalf of the Department of Parks, and to to acknowledge and visualize

148  
00:21:22.810 --> 00:21:35.980  
Michael Bocchino: that we can create this this opportunity for kids. Also, there's another Cristiano field that I know that they're looking into, that we should be very, very supportive of, but

149  
00:21:37.380 --> 00:21:48.360  
Michael Bocchino: more so importantly for us as a board of parks and recreation in front of us right now is an opportunity to create

150  
00:21:48.590 --> 00:21:55.930  
Michael Bocchino: probably one of the most impressive and monumental

151  
00:21:56.060 --> 00:22:04.130  
Michael Bocchino: movements forward for a sports complex in the town of Greenwich, and that is Western Middle School field

152  
00:22:05.990 --> 00:22:08.720  
Michael Bocchino: to meet the remediation.

153  
00:22:08.900 --> 00:22:13.730  
Michael Bocchino: And and again, most of You know I was in Hartford for quite some time.

154

00:22:13.880 --> 00:22:25.950

Michael Bocchino: and I dealt with the Divine, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and and it's incredibly difficult. And we've come to an agreement with them that this

155

00:22:26.580 --> 00:22:32.290

Michael Bocchino: proposal that they have in front of us right now is the most sound.

156

00:22:32.330 --> 00:22:37.200

Michael Bocchino: the most environmentally sound and healthy.

157

00:22:37.290 --> 00:22:46.060

Michael Bocchino: healthiest for our town to move forward with with artificial turf being overlaid

158

00:22:47.060 --> 00:22:54.010

Michael Bocchino: on this campus. I can't tell you, having been on the the

159

00:22:54.220 --> 00:22:55.800

Michael Bocchino: a Field Committee.

160

00:22:55.860 --> 00:23:04.860

Michael Bocchino: What this will do for our town as far as increasing the inventory of fields for the use

161

00:23:04.890 --> 00:23:06.260

Michael Bocchino: town wide

162

00:23:07.270 --> 00:23:08.820

Michael Bocchino: it's monumental.

163

00:23:08.890 --> 00:23:12.880

Michael Bocchino: The parking is there. It exists already.

164

00:23:13.250 --> 00:23:28.430

Michael Bocchino: This is something that is going very quietly through the Board of Education facilities going through planning and zoning. But this is something that really, really, in my opinion, needs

165

00:23:29.030 --> 00:23:37.460

Michael Bocchino: a letter or something of full support from this board To say we need to move forward with this

166

00:23:37.760 --> 00:23:45.440

Michael Bocchino: project. Artificial turf running, lighting conduits.

167

00:23:45.630 --> 00:23:52.340

Michael Bocchino: whether we use them or we don't, knowing that they're there if they need to be at some point

168

00:23:53.280 --> 00:24:01.730

Michael Bocchino: looked upon as a public private partnership, or if the town does have the funding for it, because you have to remember that we're not.

169

00:24:04.250 --> 00:24:09.440

Michael Bocchino: There are no residences that are but this property. This is

170

00:24:09.500 --> 00:24:15.530

Michael Bocchino: commercial school and a parking lot.

171

00:24:16.660 --> 00:24:24.200

Michael Bocchino: so we have an opportunity in front of us to really increase

172

00:24:24.340 --> 00:24:33.710

Michael Bocchino: the usability of parts and recreation fields. We can get 3. Excuse me 3 soccer fields out of this

173

00:24:33.740 --> 00:24:50.250

Michael Bocchino: utilize for lacrosse, utilize for field, hockey a softball field and a regulation-sized baseball, field, not to mention a. If we do it right, it regularize the regulation size football field.

174

00:24:50.250 --> 00:25:04.350

Michael Bocchino: If there was ever a need for high school to relocate for a particular game, if God forbid, something happened. this would give us the opportunity to do it. In front of us is

175

00:25:04.940 --> 00:25:17.310

Michael Bocchino: the opportunity of a lifetime. and I don't want to see us be silent on it. I want us to be proactive on it. I sat on the board of Children and environmental protection

176

00:25:17.520 --> 00:25:20.260

Michael Bocchino: my first year in Hartford, and we dealt with

177

00:25:20.520 --> 00:25:30.950

Michael Bocchino: the artificial turf arguments and the argument. The main argument was at that time from rubber, from rubber doesn't exist anymore.

178

00:25:31.040 --> 00:25:41.910

Michael Bocchino: We have many more more fillers that are there. The individuals that are throwing these arguments about artificial turf

179

00:25:42.290 --> 00:25:44.010

Michael Bocchino: are doing so

180

00:25:44.030 --> 00:25:50.940

Michael Bocchino: without the actual backing of scientific knowledge behind it.

181

00:25:51.750 --> 00:25:56.940

Michael Bocchino: This is an opportunity again for us, and I don't want to take up too much time.



182

00:25:57.060 --> 00:26:05.280

Michael Bocchino: but for us, as a parts and recreation to move this town into the future, where we can finally be proud of

183

00:26:06.290 --> 00:26:15.560

Michael Bocchino: a sports complex, a location, it just happens. Listen. It just happens to be on the western side of town. If this were happening

184

00:26:15.700 --> 00:26:22.870

Michael Bocchino: in the central part of town or eastern part of town, or whatever, I would still be, a 110% behind it.

185

00:26:22.890 --> 00:26:28.630

Michael Bocchino: But it's not. This is the perfect location for us ever to have

186

00:26:29.050 --> 00:26:35.320

Michael Bocchino: a sports complex worthy of the town of Greenwich, and that we always talk of.

187

00:26:35.360 --> 00:26:42.280

Michael Bocchino: We need to be supportive. Behind this we need to be outspoken, and we need to be heard

188

00:26:42.290 --> 00:26:43.160

Michael Bocchino: through the

189

00:26:43.250 --> 00:26:52.450

Michael Bocchino: planning and zoning to Board of Education to all the different entities in the first selectman's office. So

190

00:26:52.660 --> 00:26:55.540

Michael Bocchino: that's that's it. All that's

191

00:26:55.920 --> 00:27:00.080

Michael Bocchino: That's it in a nutshell. I I I can't stress to you.

192

00:27:00.140 --> 00:27:02.430

Michael Bocchino: Looking forward down the road.

193

00:27:03.740 --> 00:27:05.490

Michael Bocchino: To do this right

194

00:27:05.640 --> 00:27:10.560

Michael Bocchino: means everything to do it. Half asked to do it. Piecemeal

195

00:27:11.920 --> 00:27:19.880

Michael Bocchino: will be the biggest mistake we ever make in our lives. We have an opportunity to create the greatest.

196

00:27:20.630 --> 00:27:24.560

Michael Bocchino: in my opinion, a sports complex for the town of Greenwich.

197

00:27:24.720 --> 00:27:33.440

Michael Bocchino: At this location we need to as a board of parks and recreation the 110% behind this, and I know that

198

00:27:33.490 --> 00:27:39.510

Michael Bocchino: planning and zoning is looking for letters such as this, and I think that we should draft one

199

00:27:40.880 --> 00:27:42.480

Michael Bocchino: to to state that

200

00:27:43.470 --> 00:27:55.940

Scott R. Johnson: Hey. mike it i'm i'm not. Where are we? Administratively? So. It's it's now at what point of LED. Then it goes to the selectment, and then it goes to.

201

00:27:56.090 --> 00:28:10.770

Michael Bocchino: Now the board of that has it, and Joe can correct me. He knows more than I do, but the board of it has had it, and has moved it forward to planning and zoning and planning, and zoning has to give the okay for what we have determined

202

00:28:10.810 --> 00:28:25.760

Michael Bocchino: to be. The next steps forward. The Rtm. Is the final leg of the of the race. There are many steps a ahead of this, as B et is one of one of them. But

203

00:28:26.040 --> 00:28:27.570

Michael Bocchino: I will tell you this.

204

00:28:28.060 --> 00:28:36.720

Michael Bocchino: and and when i'm finished, Joe, please clarify all of the steps that we haven't processed

205

00:28:36.760 --> 00:28:43.340

Michael Bocchino: the Connecticut State, beep as determined that

206

00:28:43.910 --> 00:28:57.760

Michael Bocchino: for us to remediate this particular parcel of land, all of which sits in Western Middle school. The best case scenario is for us to cap it

207

00:28:58.360 --> 00:29:01.760

Michael Bocchino: and turf it. and in my opinion, light it up.

208

00:29:02.460 --> 00:29:19.720

Michael Bocchino: That's that's that's it. Deep has determined that this is our best case scenario. This is the most affordable, most economically sound, and the best way that they know how to safely move this project forward.

209

00:29:19.930 --> 00:29:24.920

Michael Bocchino: and for anyone to to say that that isn't true

210

00:29:24.950 --> 00:29:26.340

Michael Bocchino: just

211

00:29:26.780 --> 00:29:35.290

Michael Bocchino: is it isn't in the realm of what deep and the State of Connecticut whom we have to answer to is is putting forward.

212

00:29:35.730 --> 00:29:55.640

Joe Siciliano: Mike, you just let me jump in, and and just so we can give everybody just enough information, and another minute it's at the planning and zoning phase. I will send the board, and you know Gordon Weinstein, the principal down there is trying to promote some. Some, you know, support from

213

00:29:55.640 --> 00:30:13.040

Joe Siciliano: public and user groups, etc. We've sent him a list of all of the user groups that we support parts and recreation. He's reaching out to see if he can get some letters to support, so we'll get. We'll get that over to you tomorrow. I don't know. If you remind me i'll we'll get it done.

214

00:30:13.040 --> 00:30:21.150

Joe Siciliano: The and Mike's right. The sense that planning and zoning is trying to move the project forward. There is some a.

215

00:30:21.230 --> 00:30:26.780

Joe Siciliano: I almost think it's much of a debate about the artificial turf, but there are. They accept all public comments.

216

00:30:26.950 --> 00:30:41.290

Joe Siciliano: The this is the same methodology. We use the cost of park. Okay for the capping. There'll be a there'll be a membrane put down, and then there'll be to fill, and then there will be the artificial surface, and

217

00:30:41.290 --> 00:30:59.040

Joe Siciliano: that was determined that methodology was determined at Co. Costco Park because of the content of the subsoil that we were dealing with. It also manage the cost of how much material had to be trucked out, and how much new material had to be put back in place. It's a viable solution

218

00:30:59.190 --> 00:31:13.710

Joe Siciliano: economically, you know, Sound right now. If i'm not mistaken, there's 18 million dollars appropriated for this project that includes the remediation. The capping and the installation of the turf.

219

00:31:13.800 --> 00:31:22.840

Joe Siciliano: and that's there. The Budget Committee and the Budget at the Budget Committee, and the budget itself is supported. Getting this done.

220

00:31:22.920 --> 00:31:27.470

Joe Siciliano: the the methodology is, as Mike said.

221

00:31:27.540 --> 00:31:32.070

Joe Siciliano: back in the day there was rubber chrome. Now there's all kinds of infills.

222

00:31:32.350 --> 00:31:36.260

Joe Siciliano: We use an infill at the high school field call in Virophil.

223

00:31:36.330 --> 00:31:54.830

Joe Siciliano: It's just a another process that's out there that doesn't seem to have either the reputation or in some cases what people believe is the toxicity that the river chrome has. But and as people, the industry is trying to keep up with the environmental concerns, and also.

224

00:31:54.830 --> 00:32:09.650

Joe Siciliano: you know, demonstrate that they can be progressive, and there are 4 or 5 infills on the market right now that could be used. Each one performs differently, so you'd have to work that angle. But they're all more environmentally friendly than than rubber Chrome.

225

00:32:09.730 --> 00:32:23.430

Joe Siciliano: So the I. I support what Mike said. We are anxious to support the project. One of the things that's kind of ironic here is that you know that Parson Recreation is not able to give all the field time

226

00:32:23.440 --> 00:32:34.160

Joe Siciliano: that, you know everybody's scheduled. We can't meet all the practices. We can meet all the games. So a lot of the user groups that parks and recreation supports go to private school fields in Greenwich.

227

00:32:34.160 --> 00:32:54.070

Joe Siciliano: Private schools have been putting in turf everywhere without question by anybody from the public, because guess what it's on private property. So but our kids that are that we can service through our clubs and sports are playing on private fields right now in Greenwich, on Pr. On artificial turf.

228

00:32:54.070 --> 00:33:13.290

Joe Siciliano: So it kind of defeats the argument of Why are we putting turf in at at the Western Middle School? Because some of these children, whether it's at the High School. Our own cost got park, or they're practicing one. They can't get time for us at private schools are doing it all in private on artificial turf. So it kind of defeats the argument.

229

00:33:13.290 --> 00:33:31.860

Joe Siciliano: I am not a believer of a 100% artificial turf. Okay, but in this application it makes 100% sense to do the capping with it. Be done with it and move on, and you know, and the benefit obviously is huge to us as far as scheduling and opportunity of use. So

230

00:33:31.860 --> 00:33:48.120

Joe Siciliano: that's that's pretty much, my spiel. We can try to give You give you some updates, but it is, they've kind of split the baby here in the sense that part of it's going through, and then they want to talk about late at a later date. Well, you know, lights would be a very viable

231

00:33:48.130 --> 00:34:01.990

Joe Siciliano: part of the opportunity here, and, as Mike said, if it's not today, at least get the infrastructure in the ground while the excavation is going on so that it can. We want to debate this in the future? We can but once we

232

00:34:02.000 --> 00:34:15.630

Joe Siciliano: s once we, you know, go through this whole process of securing the you know the field and capping it there's not going to be a lot of in the opportunity to put infrastructure in, so at least get the infrastructure in. At this time.

233

00:34:16.370 --> 00:34:20.620

Joe Siciliano: My me also mentioned that Matt and Matt had his hand up.

234

00:34:20.929 --> 00:34:24.420

Scott R. Johnson: Joe and I and Don Moore went to the hearing

235

00:34:25.130 --> 00:34:33.969

Scott R. Johnson: the Tp. Public hearing where and i'm sure you were there. There had to be 250 people there there wasn't one voice in opposition

236

00:34:34.380 --> 00:34:37.570

Scott R. Johnson: based on anything. So

237

00:34:37.620 --> 00:34:43.090

Scott R. Johnson: that that's a fact. That's relevant. The other thing is, I My personal opinion

238

00:34:43.480 --> 00:34:52.250

Scott R. Johnson: is that the turf battles are better suited for the other locations, whatever they may be. Because I agree with Joe.

239

00:34:52.350 --> 00:34:54.480

Scott R. Johnson: we can't turf the universe.

240

00:34:54.719 --> 00:35:02.220

Michael Bocchino: Yeah, 100. And that's the biggest thing. We're not looking to turn the universe. But we are looking to turn this one specific.

241

00:35:02.340 --> 00:35:05.370

Michael Bocchino: a project that that the

242

00:35:05.520 --> 00:35:17.680

Michael Bocchino: Department of environmental protection actually has recommended that we do such and it will, it will inevitably give us

243

00:35:19.190 --> 00:35:26.530

Michael Bocchino: an increase in our in inventory for fields. And if we do it right, and we're able to get a a

244

00:35:26.760 --> 00:35:31.940

Michael Bocchino: regulation-sized ball field. an opportunity for our

245

00:35:32.420 --> 00:35:35.190

Michael Bocchino: high school baseball to

246

00:35:35.290 --> 00:35:54.500

Michael Bocchino: compete at the level that everyone else is competing at right now. We decided to do AstroTurf, or astral or artificial turf, whatever you want to call it, for all our high school fields. But we stopped at the baseball field, and the baseball field is probably one of the most

247

00:35:54.500 --> 00:36:13.910

Michael Bocchino: needed to be turf being to have a competitive program in the northeast. Now you'd actually have the opportunity to do that for the High School. Maybe it's off site, but it is what it is at this moment in time.

248

00:36:14.010 --> 00:36:20.320

Michael Bocchino: but the the opportunities for us moving forward. And, as Joe had said.

249

00:36:20.460 --> 00:36:36.720

Michael Bocchino: we're over there using all of the private schools, you know entities because we just Don't have this for our regular schools. It's it's absolutely mind boggling, that we're not moving in the direction for this, when especially

250

00:36:37.190 --> 00:36:53.460

Michael Bocchino: the fact that we don't have any residential neighborhoods around us, You know you're You're a budded in Western by Bimbo Bakery, the high school and a parking lot. Now, the Putnam green area is not abutted to the field.

251

00:36:53.460 --> 00:37:03.600

Michael Bocchino: You've also got the transfer station at the other end. So there's no better place to create this athletic complex.

252

00:37:03.680 --> 00:37:07.130

Michael Bocchino: Then this location, and if we don't take

253

00:37:07.310 --> 00:37:15.700

Michael Bocchino: the opportunity now to do it, we're never going to get this opportunity again, and I will tell you 1 One more thing is that

254

00:37:17.300 --> 00:37:20.840

Michael Bocchino: the Legislature had put forward

255

00:37:21.160 --> 00:37:32.070

Michael Bocchino: in 2,016. I think it was then all fields to have natural grass cannot have pesticides. So the cost

256

00:37:32.400 --> 00:37:35.230

Michael Bocchino: to maintain a field

257

00:37:35.240 --> 00:37:51.930

Michael Bocchino: at the level that you need, especially just the baseball diamond are astronomical by a utilizing non pesticides, you know to to deal with your crab grass and your your your regular maintenance. So

258

00:37:51.950 --> 00:37:55.280

Michael Bocchino: this to me is a is a home run across the board.

259

00:37:55.440 --> 00:38:01.020

Matt Popp: So i'm gonna

260

00:38:01.110 --> 00:38:02.900

Matt Popp: with, Mike said.

261

00:38:02.940 --> 00:38:17.230

Matt Popp: I just like to add one more point. I know that there's a number of trees that are going to be taken down like between a 100. 300. I don't. I think they never. There's not 300. I'm. I'm sorry in that, but there are not 300 trees being taken down.

262

00:38:17.260 --> 00:38:30.620

Matt Popp: That's why they came up with planning and zoning. Just let me finish my point, please. Fun to make sure that would be in support of a letter. Not only if there was a replanting plan that was a part of the project.

263

00:38:30.680 --> 00:38:37.810

Matt Popp: and I would want to. That would have to be part of the planning and zoning approval, and that we, it needs to be.

264

00:38:37.990 --> 00:38:47.890

Matt Popp: The plantings need to be installed, or the trees need to be installed before the projects can get as CEO, you know a porter Bed projects have a history of, you know.

265

00:38:48.150 --> 00:39:01.130

Matt Popp: promising trees, and then not installing them. So again, I think i'm in general agreement with you. It's a great opportunity, but we also need to get the trees put back that they're taking out. No, it could be on site or somewhere else.

266

00:39:01.130 --> 00:39:10.010

Joe Siciliano: I'm sure there's room for that, Those trees, you know. Maybe at the next meeting we can ask Dr. Grey Kramer to comment, because I know that this discussion

267

00:39:10.060 --> 00:39:13.710

Joe Siciliano: about this exactly what Matt is talking about has been.

268

00:39:14.840 --> 00:39:22.380

Joe Siciliano: Oh, you know, Greg's been working on this for months now, meeting with the architects meeting with the their landscape people

269

00:39:22.640 --> 00:39:40.530

Joe Siciliano: or to bed. People that you know project people to talk about. You know the assessment of trees that are gonna have to go. I mean they did a whole assessment. They were like 300 trees. Then there's like what really needs to go versus what's could stay, and then and then what's what's gonna move forward. So

270

00:39:40.530 --> 00:39:43.420

I know that this is this conversation is very active.

271

00:39:43.460 --> 00:40:02.120

Joe Siciliano: Greg has had several many meetings with the the architects or the at the environmental Company, their landscape folks, and he can comment on that either tonight or at a later meeting to give people some more comforted information that it's it's it's it's it's a very active discussion going on

272

00:40:02.370 --> 00:40:10.700

Scott R. Johnson: Well, let's let's hear from other board members because I don't think it's. You know we don't. I don't think it's fair for us to go on it right now.

273

00:40:11.110 --> 00:40:18.040

Scott R. Johnson: unless there is simple and unanimous support. But yeah, let's hear from other board members. Rick your hands up.

274

00:40:18.270 --> 00:40:25.300

Rick Loh: I just want to say, I agree with Mike for a lot of us. This may be the last opportunity in our lifetime

275

00:40:25.510 --> 00:40:34.600

Rick Loh: to get lights installed on an athletic field in our town. Our town deserves to have a full size. Baseball field that has lights on it.

276

00:40:36.100 --> 00:40:39.680

Rick Loh: It's it's kind of crazy that we do not have a

277

00:40:39.780 --> 00:40:48.180

Rick Loh: full size time in with the lights in our town this day and age. So Mike, happy to help with the letter, whatever you want to get done.

278

00:40:50.190 --> 00:40:53.230

Rick Loh: But this is a very, very important

279

00:40:53.250 --> 00:40:57.830

Rick Loh: project that we need to be on top of Make sure those conduits are in the ground.

280

00:40:58.680 --> 00:40:59.910

Scott R. Johnson: Hey, Tracy?

281

00:41:00.340 --> 00:41:03.780

Tracy Freedman: I just so. Yeah, I just want to say, I also agree with Mike.

282

00:41:03.820 --> 00:41:10.060

Tracy Freedman: and just from being on the Field Committee, and just having, you know, 2 or 3 meetings with

283

00:41:11.340 --> 00:41:18.750

Tracy Freedman: with Sue that we desperately need fields in this town, and this is this is our opportunity.

284

00:41:20.100 --> 00:41:21.740

Scott R. Johnson: Nancy. How about you?

285

00:41:23.410 --> 00:41:24.190

Scott R. Johnson: Hi!

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00:41:24.950 --> 00:41:36.560



Nancy Chapin: I'm. Always the no artificial turf person, but I think, and I can remember having long conversations with Will Johnster when he was chair

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00:41:36.690 --> 00:41:42.170

Nancy Chapin: about the need to artificial turf Costco Park, and

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00:41:42.310 --> 00:41:46.820

Nancy Chapin: he kind of won me over realizing, you know, that capping made a lot of sense.

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00:41:46.900 --> 00:41:57.530

Nancy Chapin: So I think also important to talk about that wasn't is that we are doing for the first time. The Bible Street is an engineered natural, you.

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00:41:57.790 --> 00:41:59.800

Nancy Chapin: And so we're doing that.

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00:41:59.860 --> 00:42:07.110

Nancy Chapin: and then we're going to do so. I think it's important to say we are as a board looking to do natural turf where we can.

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00:42:07.300 --> 00:42:19.340

Nancy Chapin: and I think Mike made great comments, but I would also support what Matt Pop said. If we're going to move a bunch of trees. Let's make sure we can have a plant back plan to offset

293

00:42:20.030 --> 00:42:26.510

Nancy Chapin: that. But you know everybody knows I am the usual. No artificial turf, so.

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00:42:26.560 --> 00:42:35.690

Nancy Chapin: But it does seem like it. This is the place that it makes the most sense, and I would support also getting. If you're going to do this get the conduits in.

295

00:42:35.730 --> 00:42:39.990

Nancy Chapin: whether lights happen if it If there's no neighbors. If there's no

296

00:42:40.120 --> 00:42:46.190

Nancy Chapin: natural parks. If there's no wildlife that's going to be impacted by lights, I would definitely support that.

297

00:42:46.650 --> 00:43:03.520

Joe Siciliano: Yeah, Greg is on the call, if you want to. I mean, he maybe give us a minute or 2 if you want to, or if not, I'm sure we can bring it on the next meeting, if if that's if we have, if we've run out of time.

298

00:43:03.870 --> 00:43:16.370

Scott R. Johnson: if we're going to approve this or reject it. which I think we should do one way or the other, it's going to get a little complicated if we start attaching conditions.

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00:43:16.890 --> 00:43:30.990

Scott R. Johnson: because, as you know, P. And C. Will have 500 conditions. and they certainly review, give. They thought, to landscaping plans. In fact, as you probably know, Matt there than all of us.

300

00:43:31.040 --> 00:43:36.500

Scott R. Johnson: It's part of a whole bunch of new regulations that I mean approved right now I. P. And Z for

301

00:43:36.700 --> 00:43:38.310

Scott R. Johnson: for landscaping.

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00:43:38.610 --> 00:43:40.600

Scott R. Johnson: So

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00:43:41.060 --> 00:43:46.610

Scott R. Johnson: let me just go through the port. How about Sue? And I just want to get sensitive of the board?

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00:43:47.350 --> 00:44:02.990

Sue Bodson: I hi! I really like what Nancy said about sort of a no one. Size fits all approach, not a blanket like we're either all for natural or all for artificial, and and I I love that.

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00:44:03.350 --> 00:44:22.550

Sue Bodson: pointing out that we are enhancing natural where we can and when we can, that we're all you know. We're about about doing that. So I I like what Nancy said. But, Mike, of course I agree with you. We we desperately need a decent, appropriate P. Playing field for

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00:44:22.600 --> 00:44:23.880

Sue Bodson: fall

307

00:44:25.110 --> 00:44:30.870

Scott R. Johnson: so good, great. Can you try me a little bit on? I i'm not sure how involved You've been on the

308

00:44:31.280 --> 00:44:41.620

Scott R. Johnson: the site plan. But can you try me on this. Thanks. Thanks. Good evening. Everybody.

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00:44:41.740 --> 00:44:46.970

gkramer: Yeah. Just to kind of give away some quick background. I met with the

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00:44:47.290 --> 00:44:57.240

gkramer: the the firm, I would say about 4 months back, with a with a plan that I that they had shared with me, and the plan didn't have any

311

00:44:57.300 --> 00:45:03.120

gkramer: restoration to it. It it just had pretty much removals and soil removals from

312

00:45:03.130 --> 00:45:05.510

gkramer: from the fence at the

313

00:45:05.590 --> 00:45:15.560

gkramer: the bakery, across the field and down the hill to bit to the north and to the south, you know, to where the property line ends. So I said, You know this is a

314

00:45:15.860 --> 00:45:19.230

gkramer: you know this is a complete removal of all the trees. Can we

315

00:45:19.370 --> 00:45:31.880

gkramer: look at this in more detail, and see what we can do in order to save some of these trees and come up with a you know, a landscape plan that speaks to the ecology and also to the restoration of project.

316

00:45:31.970 --> 00:45:43.160

gkramer: So get fast forwarding. They went back and looked at some of the areas and realized that some of the soil wasn't contaminated and some of the trees could could remain

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00:45:43.480 --> 00:45:47.220

gkramer: so at the initial evaluation I had hired.

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00:45:47.530 --> 00:46:00.720

gkramer: David. Resource was doing our tree evaluations through town to go through and do a number of count on the species, the size, the conditions. So they went through and through the initial plan. It was 324 trees that would be removed

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00:46:00.890 --> 00:46:02.620

gkramer: at it estimated

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00:46:02.740 --> 00:46:05.670

gkramer: ecological value of over 1 million dollars.

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00:46:05.980 --> 00:46:10.420

gkramer: So the architects went back, and they they looked at the plan and

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00:46:10.450 --> 00:46:17.960

gkramer: and made some adjustments. And where we reside. Now again, there's there's been nothing resubmitted to me to look at.

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00:46:18.040 --> 00:46:20.460

gkramer: but our last walk about

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00:46:20.490 --> 00:46:27.850

gkramer: they estimated that it's probably half the amount of trees that initially needed to come out. So P. And Z. Also

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00:46:28.050 --> 00:46:32.390

gkramer: the bifurcated the permitting. So they've permitted the

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00:46:32.400 --> 00:46:39.810

gkramer: fields to move forward in terms of restoration. But the landscape plan still needs to be submitted for a second

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00:46:39.820 --> 00:46:55.990

gkramer: permit approval. So they're working on that now. I met with Pat Laureau a few days ago to talk more about the project. So both him and I are waiting for for this. This additional landscape plan to review it's gonna have to be tweaked. It's a big project. There's a lot of moving parts to it.

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00:46:55.990 --> 00:47:06.370

gkramer: But I think we're going in the right direction, and I think the architects now understand that you know this is a Restoration project. If this is going to be the amount of soil and disturbance that that's going to occur.

329

00:47:06.820 --> 00:47:09.700

gkramer: so that that's kind of a quick, a quick overview.

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00:47:10.540 --> 00:47:12.790

Scott R. Johnson: So let me ask a question. Does it?

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00:47:13.390 --> 00:47:17.190

Scott R. Johnson: Is there a a feeling at the board

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00:47:17.570 --> 00:47:21.480

Scott R. Johnson: that it's premature to say something like this?

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00:47:21.780 --> 00:47:34.730

Scott R. Johnson: And we support the application by the board of add to P. And Z. Okay, cause Again, most of us really should be aware of it. I I certainly am, and I think the rest of us are. It's been around for a long time.

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00:47:35.220 --> 00:47:44.550

Scott R. Johnson: and with so to give our support from the Board of Parks, and I know this is extremely important to the Park.

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00:47:45.210 --> 00:47:57.940

Scott R. Johnson: and maybe say something like to give. to continue to give to consideration, to minimize impact on trees where possible. Is that something that's palatable, or

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00:47:58.370 --> 00:48:00.280

Scott R. Johnson: what? What does everybody think about that?

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00:48:00.670 --> 00:48:03.310

Rick Loh: Can we also mention the lights on there?

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00:48:04.190 --> 00:48:06.830

Scott R. Johnson: But I i's part of the application.

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00:48:09.370 --> 00:48:10.780

Scott R. Johnson: I don't think they are.

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00:48:12.050 --> 00:48:13.960

Scott R. Johnson: I don't know.

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00:48:13.990 --> 00:48:17.110

Rick Loh: Then let's bring up the idea.

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00:48:17.650 --> 00:48:22.140

Joe Siciliano: No, I think there's the ideas out there. There's no doubt about it. I just think that

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00:48:22.200 --> 00:48:34.350

Joe Siciliano: the the remediation part of it is like in the As Greg said. They bifurcated the application, and I don't think it's in the it's it's in the first part, because they really want to get to the shovel in the ground in July year.

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00:48:34.580 --> 00:48:49.400

Joe Siciliano: The good part about this project that I I think. At least, I've I've been in the discussion line is that they're going to be able to work this project 12 months out of the year, not just in the summer time to do the remediation, so that'll expedite the whole

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00:48:49.560 --> 00:49:09.140

Joe Siciliano: project moving forward. It won't be over 3 or 4 summers. It's going to be throughout the season. They have the methodology down Pat, that you know the Dp. As a. As it is suggested that that that's a that's a method that they might want to consider is they extend the the the actual excavation season. So

346

00:49:09.380 --> 00:49:28.730

Joe Siciliano: but but I but you might. You know we can. We can before we tweak this, we can figure out where the light sit in the application project at some point that may either now or it later might be important to mention that that we would also be in support of a lighted field or feels, and we know how this is going to go.

347

00:49:28.730 --> 00:49:40.150

Joe Siciliano: There's no town in Connecticut right now, installing lights that don't come up. That won't that don't have to come up with a an agreement of curfew. Okay, I don't. I don't know of one town.

348

00:49:40.170 --> 00:49:44.480

Joe Siciliano: including the one I live in, the one I live next to which is Wilton, etc.

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00:49:44.490 --> 00:49:56.700

Joe Siciliano: When lights become the topic. Then there's the parameter. How are they going to be used? What are they going to be used? You know what days of the weeks, what hours that kind of thing. So I mean that's for a later discussion.

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00:49:56.700 --> 00:50:08.670

Joe Siciliano: But there's not going to be a free for all on light to just put them on every day, whether you need it or not. Put them on to 110'clock at night, whether you need it or not. You know that those days are over with. But I think there's there is a middle ground here

351

00:50:08.670 --> 00:50:28.000

Joe Siciliano: to come up with something that would work for everyone, especially during the time of the year where we don't, we lose sunlight, or we don't have it in the spring, or we lose it in the fall. It's very, very applicable, maybe not so much during the middle of summer, because we have light until 8390'clock at night. I don't. I don't know there's some ways to create this like an agreement.

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00:50:28.150 --> 00:50:40.310

Joe Siciliano: And, Greg, I want. I just want to touch on something. I like what Greg said, and we've been. He's been talking about. This is that there's not just a tree replacement, but an environmental enhancement.

353

00:50:40.310 --> 00:50:52.920

Joe Siciliano: and sometimes that doesn't necessarily mean that it has to be all trees. So you know, there are other ways to do environmental enhancements to get something back from doing this kind of excavation and this kind of

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00:50:52.920 --> 00:51:07.680

Joe Siciliano: massive project, and it may not just be planting, you know, a 150 trees, but there are other ways to environmentally enhance the property, which is very creative in my world. I mean, you know. Usually it's a one for one or 2 for one on the trees.

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00:51:07.710 --> 00:51:17.440

Joe Siciliano: But this this may opt to look at other ways to in environmentally enhance the property, make it pleasing. So it's just not looking at one big green.

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00:51:17.650 --> 00:51:37.200

Joe Siciliano: you know. You know area that's not broken up, maybe with certain plantings or enhancements for wildlife birds, or you know, butterflies, or you know there's a whole bunch of ways to deal with it, and that that that should be given some credit in in, you know, because I think it's pretty creative to get it to do it that way.

357

00:51:37.310 --> 00:51:38.690

Scott R. Johnson: So let me

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00:51:39.220 --> 00:51:43.520

Scott R. Johnson: let me suggest this to me if this makes some sense. But

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00:51:43.960 --> 00:51:45.330

Scott R. Johnson: But first of all, I

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00:51:45.730 --> 00:51:49.790

Scott R. Johnson: this is probably at P. And Z. Very, very soon isn't it.

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00:51:50.660 --> 00:51:54.570

Scott R. Johnson: So what's there, so I I so I think there's a

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00:51:54.830 --> 00:51:59.120

Scott R. Johnson: there's gravity to having us make a decision, and I I can do it

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00:51:59.310 --> 00:52:09.690

Scott R. Johnson: Well, let me just think out loud that we support the current application so long as there's there's continued consideration and concern for minimizing impact on landscaping.

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00:52:09.850 --> 00:52:11.490

Scott R. Johnson: and as

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00:52:11.540 --> 00:52:23.360

Scott R. Johnson: semi. Footnote: that the board is at that. The board is also in favor of continuing discussions with lighting, because lighting is something that you know we're in favor of

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00:52:23.520 --> 00:52:26.760

Scott R. Johnson: with again proper medication.

367

00:52:26.950 --> 00:52:31.650

Scott R. Johnson: because it, it adds so many usable hours to our facilities.

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00:52:31.740 --> 00:52:32.610

Yeah.

369

00:52:33.010 --> 00:52:39.720

Joe Siciliano: that increases that increases our inventory right there. But just having lights, you know.

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00:52:40.320 --> 00:52:50.710

Joe Siciliano: you know it's just it without buying new property without develop more development. We're going to use the existing property that we have in a more efficient way. So let me let me do this in a sense for the meeting.

371

00:52:50.900 --> 00:52:54.470

Scott R. Johnson: The start is that something that's palatable to everybody.

372

00:52:57.030 --> 00:53:10.130

Scott R. Johnson: Okay. So so I I don't want to overlay this. But I think let's do this. Let's let's vote on what I just said. and i'm not going to try to be a word. Smith on the exact stuff. I think everyone knows what I need.

373

00:53:10.230 --> 00:53:18.940

Scott R. Johnson: I will follow up with writing. and that actually can be conical, because i'm sure i'm going to get 15 comments on drafting, but

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00:53:18.950 --> 00:53:26.410

Scott R. Johnson: the basic essence is there. So i'll restate. Let me let's see if this works and we're in support of the basic board of that application.

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00:53:26.480 --> 00:53:35.700

Scott R. Johnson: so long as it has continues to have due consideration to minimizing negative impact on landscaping, and with our

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00:53:37.430 --> 00:53:39.910

Scott R. Johnson: desire

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00:53:39.970 --> 00:53:51.570

Scott R. Johnson: to have you continue the discussion for lights, because lights are something that have a tremendous benefit to the department

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00:53:51.850 --> 00:53:55.260

Matt Popp: recreational activities in the tab.

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00:53:55.580 --> 00:53:59.240

Scott R. Johnson: Okay, does that sound reasonable? Go ahead, Matt. Naomi.

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00:53:59.620 --> 00:54:07.910

Matt Popp: I think that sounds good. I would just put at the end where it the lights will also have minimal impact to residential properties.

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00:54:08.600 --> 00:54:17.160

Michael Bocchino: but we can't. We can't say minimal. We say best efforts to minimize impacts.

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00:54:17.410 --> 00:54:28.900

Nancy Chapin: I just one comment that is, I think, important to you know, reiterate what Greg, saying, this is a re remediation, You know we are actually improving

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00:54:29.220 --> 00:54:30.650

Nancy Chapin: the property.

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00:54:30.770 --> 00:54:33.640

Nancy Chapin: and that might be something to point out

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00:54:34.340 --> 00:54:36.450

Nancy Chapin: it was fine. So let's

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00:54:36.950 --> 00:54:42.900

Scott R. Johnson: all right at 7 30. So let's let me do this. and I apologize for the

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00:54:42.990 --> 00:54:49.690

Scott R. Johnson: you know that the quick drafting. But let's do a sense of the meeting right now. Now let's vote on this unless everyone feels uncomfortable.

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00:54:49.710 --> 00:54:54.840

Scott R. Johnson: So yeah. all in favor of that. Hi, Professor Lucian.

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00:54:55.060 --> 00:54:59.630

Scott R. Johnson: which we could find to layer. Put Raise your hands. We let's see.

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00:55:00.300 --> 00:55:00.960

Matt Popp: So

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00:55:01.480 --> 00:55:02.890

Scott R. Johnson: I've seen.

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00:55:03.240 --> 00:55:07.840

Scott R. Johnson: Yes.



393

00:55:08.520 --> 00:55:09.700

Rick Loh: yeah, Got it.

394

00:55:10.800 --> 00:55:25.120

Matt McCarty: Matt Bakarti. Can I? Can you see? Are you? I know you're here. Yeah, but i'm a i'm in a place where video will just make it a mess. But i'm a: Yes, i'm sorry. All the theater which is, are we 9 tonight. We actually have.

395

00:55:25.590 --> 00:55:29.100

Scott R. Johnson: Yeah, we're full board. Okay. So i'm seeing 9 in favor.

396

00:55:29.250 --> 00:55:36.050

Scott R. Johnson: No extensions and no opposition. So I I will craft this. I won't be a wise guy, but i'll be able to, to.

397

00:55:36.070 --> 00:55:42.440

Scott R. Johnson: I think i'll be able to rep. Okay, what? We just said. Okay. Mike, I'll get it right to you. And let me say to Joe Kelly, what?

398

00:55:42.740 --> 00:55:47.190

Michael Bocchino: Yeah, I think that's great. I did, and just get it to Joseph, too.

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00:55:47.400 --> 00:55:54.630

Joe Siciliano: But the thing is that Gordon Gordon, i'll send you the information that Gordon Weinstein sent to us. It's a it's a place to submit

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00:55:54.720 --> 00:56:10.540

Joe Siciliano: the the the what we're writing. Okay, it. It's on my email, and i'll send it to you guys tomorrow. And so, as a as a group, if you wanted to, you are going to submit something, or individually, you can submit something also, so we'll get that out tomorrow

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00:56:10.590 --> 00:56:18.620

Joe Siciliano: tomorrow morning, and then we can use that vehicle to

402

00:56:19.270 --> 00:56:23.430

Scott R. Johnson: the chairman. She like she actually does that. So

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00:56:23.510 --> 00:56:43.490

Joe Siciliano: that'll help. Okay, Scott, one's one. Sec. If we get. If we're running along tonight, you know, we can always ask you to make a presentation on next month if we need to. You. You decide, because I know this discussion on the historic dish is going to go on for a little bit, so if we have to

404

00:56:43.490 --> 00:56:52.300

Joe Siciliano: move that to next month, i'm sure we could get Sue's agreement to to wait a month and and give her a little presentation.

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00:56:52.450 --> 00:56:57.570

Scott R. Johnson: Okay, so let's do some of the easy ones. Oh, God! I'm afraid to even ask about the rink.

406

00:56:57.880 --> 00:57:00.270

Rick Loh: Why do you say that?

407

00:57:02.460 --> 00:57:06.840

Rick Loh: All right. So here's our right. So here's an overview.

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00:57:07.330 --> 00:57:11.250

Rick Loh: We made it through the bet by the skin of our teeth.

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00:57:11.660 --> 00:57:20.530

Rick Loh: The Budget Committee actually voted to take our \$950,000 design fee request out.

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00:57:20.570 --> 00:57:22.930

But there was some horse trading that went on.

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00:57:23.020 --> 00:57:26.000

Rick Loh: and they put it back they put it back in.

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00:57:26.480 --> 00:57:28.710

Rick Loh: So it's there.

413

00:57:29.970 --> 00:57:36.470

Rick Loh: But I am told that there is actually people at the Rtm. Level that want to strip it out.

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00:57:37.030 --> 00:57:39.870

Rick Loh: So. Not quite sure what's going to happen.

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00:57:41.810 --> 00:57:51.880

Rick Loh: If any of us know our Tm members. you might want to contact them. and just. you know, tell them that it's important to stay in.

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00:57:52.400 --> 00:57:55.310

Rick Loh: One thing I did forget that

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00:57:55.820 --> 00:57:57.680

Rick Loh: with Scott's introduction there

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00:57:58.220 --> 00:58:02.930

Rick Loh: was, I'd like to thank everybody on our group or everybody in our group

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00:58:03.580 --> 00:58:07.960

Rick Loh: for approving

420

00:58:09.890 --> 00:58:15.340

Rick Loh: the expenditure of the 950 K. Saying that we, as the parks and record, agreed with it.

421

00:58:15.590 --> 00:58:18.320

Rick Loh: It made a difference.

422

00:58:19.110 --> 00:58:23.400

Rick Loh: it. you know. Maybe if we had not done that.

423

00:58:23.700 --> 00:58:32.050

Rick Loh: we we wouldn't have escaped past the Bt by the skin of our teeth. I'm not quite sure. But for everybody here that supported the project. I just want to say thank you

424

00:58:32.750 --> 00:58:37.910

Scott R. Johnson: that that that's good. I I really like to hear that, because sometimes you wonder?

425

00:58:38.340 --> 00:58:40.930

Rick Loh: Right? Right so.

426

00:58:43.020 --> 00:58:44.360

Rick Loh: But we

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00:58:47.010 --> 00:58:57.760

Rick Loh: we are not in. We're not in the clear yet. There is this rank core that's going on between political parties, and has been going on for a few years.

428

00:58:58.220 --> 00:59:05.390

Rick Loh: is in every level of our town government. and it is really following things up.

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00:59:06.940 --> 00:59:07.800

Rick Loh: So

430

00:59:11.550 --> 00:59:12.750

Rick Loh: I think it first.

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00:59:13.260 --> 00:59:20.560

Tracy Freedman: Rick. I I mean i'm, you know i'm on the Rtm. And I actually haven't heard anything, although I am

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00:59:20.580 --> 00:59:24.440

Tracy Freedman: anticipating very much for it to be an issue.

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00:59:25.990 --> 00:59:28.700

Tracy Freedman: But one of the things I just want to ask you about

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00:59:28.800 --> 00:59:33.280

Tracy Freedman: which I certain I found surprising was that the rink

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00:59:33.370 --> 00:59:40.990

Tracy Freedman: one of the reasons why it passed it went from 22 million in cost to 11 milliondollars, as the new

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00:59:41.100 --> 00:59:42.280

Tracy Freedman: cost on it.

437

00:59:42.580 --> 00:59:43.800

Rick Loh: Yeah. So

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00:59:43.830 --> 00:59:47.990

Rick Loh: at at the bt level. This is what I mean by horse tree.

439

00:59:50.890 --> 01:00:00.890

Rick Loh: So the cip sheet from department of Public Works calls for 21 million at the bt level When the Bt. Was finalizing the budget.

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01:00:02.470 --> 01:00:15.260

Rick Loh: They pressed. and they decided. and I guess that's how I can say it. They decided that the budget for this project should be 11 million. and that's what they approved.

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01:00:17.470 --> 01:00:22.260

Rick Loh: There is a one member of the vet that

442

01:00:23.560 --> 01:00:26.250

Rick Loh: really came down hard

443

01:00:27.980 --> 01:00:33.760

Rick Loh: and has become somewhat of an expert

444

01:00:36.130 --> 01:00:47.460

Rick Loh: sort of in that person's own line on what it cost to build a rink. and is looking at other projects taking place around the state that are of a different scope.

445

01:00:47.750 --> 01:00:51.130

Rick Loh: and using some of those figures to

446

01:00:51.740 --> 01:00:54.460

Rick Loh: come up with the figures in

447

01:00:54.750 --> 01:00:57.630

Rick Loh: in this person's mind. So

448

01:01:01.530 --> 01:01:03.270

Rick Loh: yeah, trace it's

449

01:01:03.970 --> 01:01:06.810

There's pockets. There's pockets of people that are

450

01:01:06.850 --> 01:01:13.200

Joe Siciliano: what once the project is designed. The key to this is we did this at the Eastern Civic center

451

01:01:13.320 --> 01:01:27.400

Joe Siciliano: the project was designed. We had a tangible drawings, and then we gave it to a private estimator. Okay, and we had an estimation company. Come in. We paid them 5 grand, I think, to do this, and they did a professional estimate

452

01:01:27.590 --> 01:01:35.540

Joe Siciliano: based on the drawings in hand. So you have something tangible right now we're using per square foot estimates from

453

01:01:35.800 --> 01:01:55.330

Joe Siciliano: Dpw's estimate to our contract our engineer design team to these other projects that are running around the State of Connecticut. It's all based on a square foot basis. So if we get the design, we can give it to a professional estimate. See? Is that 11 million dollars in number? Or is it more? Is it less, I mean.

454

01:01:55.330 --> 01:02:07.590

Joe Siciliano: But until you get to that point, and you saw this article in newspaper this week already, the the Bt. Is now using this methodology for for schools. Let's get a drawing that we can agree on.

455

01:02:07.610 --> 01:02:18.270

Joe Siciliano: and let's give it to a private estimator, so we can get prices on hand in the timeframe that we're talking about. I mean, this number has been kicked around so many times that we're not. Nobody's really sure

456

01:02:18.600 --> 01:02:27.120

Joe Siciliano: the to about the 21 million dollars. It it was a square foot estimate for the 17, based on the inflation part in in Covid, and all of that

457

01:02:27.250 --> 01:02:42.770

Joe Siciliano: it boot. It went to 21 milliondollars, and it's just these are all square foot estimates. So if we what may happen to that 11 is that when we get a square foot estimate in hand. I mean when we excuse me, we get an actual estimated dollar amount in hand. Maybe the number will change.

458

01:02:42.920 --> 01:02:58.450

Joe Siciliano: based on what, what's, what's been, what's being requested based on what's being designed with what's, what's being designed and based on what the town wants to approve? Maybe that number is just the first number in this, next in the next phase of

459

01:02:58.730 --> 01:03:01.720

Joe Siciliano: of getting the drawings and getting a professional estimate.

460

01:03:01.870 --> 01:03:05.570

Rick Loh: Yeah, I One of the other things that's been taking place is that the

461

01:03:05.760 --> 01:03:12.020

Rick Loh: because of the largely because of the large school requests that are in this budget cycle

462

01:03:14.620 --> 01:03:24.160

Rick Loh: people are looking. They're focusing on the total cost of the rank, not on the fact that we're asking for \$950,000. And so

463

01:03:24.600 --> 01:03:36.130

Rick Loh: it's it's almost as if we're seeking the 21 million right now. And that is not the case. So that's been another factor. I think it's it's in people's perceptions. Also

464

01:03:37.290 --> 01:03:41.470

Rick Loh: you hear something. They believe what they want to hear, but they don't have all the

465

01:03:43.530 --> 01:03:51.480

Michael Bocchino: that's a big part, and Rick's a 100% correct. There is a lot of perception going on because it's been dealt

466

01:03:51.700 --> 01:03:53.950

Michael Bocchino: and hand it out.

467

01:03:55.790 --> 01:03:59.310

Michael Bocchino: In my opinion, in the wrong manner.

468

01:04:00.240 --> 01:04:04.020

Michael Bocchino: We as a committee, we're not privy to

469

01:04:04.210 --> 01:04:21.310

Michael Bocchino: dropping the price tag from the 21 million to 11 million and dpw still to this day when they ask what is the cost of the rink they're going with the 21 million. So no one really understands where

470

01:04:21.400 --> 01:04:24.810

Michael Bocchino: the 11 million came. It was just done

471

01:04:24.950 --> 01:04:33.320

Michael Bocchino: so that they could keep the placeholder for the 950,000. If going forward with this, if you, if we, if we had

472

01:04:33.460 --> 01:04:34.470

Michael Bocchino: done it

473

01:04:34.490 --> 01:04:47.380

Michael Bocchino: properly, and just said we need 950,000 for the a. And and whatever it is, the design going forward with that I don't think there would have been

474

01:04:47.820 --> 01:04:50.760

Michael Bocchino: any of the hiccups that Rick has talked about.

475

01:04:50.840 --> 01:04:52.910

Michael Bocchino: or or.

476

01:04:53.170 --> 01:05:04.970

Michael Bocchino: you know, bumps in the road because people would have known that. Listen, we're looking for this 950,000 placeholder, so that we can figure out the best location for this rink.

477

01:05:05.000 --> 01:05:23.100

Michael Bocchino: Now we're talking about flipping it over to the ball field, and we're talking about building up the ball field. And there's a lot of discourse right now. and the biggest part of this, regardless of all those other things is that the bet has put

478

01:05:23.430 --> 01:05:25.730

Michael Bocchino: very strict

479

01:05:25.740 --> 01:05:29.270

Michael Bocchino: conditions on the releasing of these funds

480

01:05:29.300 --> 01:05:34.890

Michael Bocchino: and these funds, meaning the 950,000, not

481

01:05:34.940 --> 01:05:39.600

Michael Bocchino: 1121,000,000just 950,000.

482

01:05:40.500 --> 01:05:52.560

Michael Bocchino: Our fear at least, mine. My biggest fear is these: this 950,000 isn't going to be met by these conditions, and we're going to be scrapped and be waiting another year, because the

483

01:05:52.870 --> 01:06:00.300

Michael Bocchino: proposal that has been put forward and continues to be put forward is just

484

01:06:00.950 --> 01:06:16.400

Michael Bocchino: ridiculous. There's questions can't be answered by members of the Rtm. Questions can't be addressed by the bet. No one knows where this 11 million dollars came from.

485

01:06:16.470 --> 01:06:18.300

Michael Bocchino: and

486

01:06:18.350 --> 01:06:22.710

Michael Bocchino: even in our committee meetings they're trying to have side bars

487

01:06:22.740 --> 01:06:36.420

Michael Bocchino: with some of the people who are asking these questions so it's it's it dire straits right now. In my opinion, we're we're in trouble, and we shouldn't be

488

01:06:36.550 --> 01:06:43.380

Michael Bocchino: if we move forward in the in the right manner. But we. We are in a lot of trouble with this

489

01:06:43.640 --> 01:06:47.570

Michael Bocchino: being stricken from the budget, and I can't.

490

01:06:48.580 --> 01:06:54.220

Michael Bocchino: I can't stress that this is the coming down the point.

491

01:06:57.050 --> 01:07:02.040

Scott R. Johnson: Speaking of conditions, the PET, let me just mention briefly.

492

01:07:02.920 --> 01:07:05.950

Scott R. Johnson: as you probably know.

493

01:07:06.390 --> 01:07:13.410

Scott R. Johnson: the Bt. Was talking about not funding the interior of the center.

494

01:07:13.770 --> 01:07:20.600

Scott R. Johnson: So there's a request for 1.8 million dollars to do that. and I got a call from some of the

495

01:07:20.700 --> 01:07:27.080

Scott R. Johnson: more conservative members of the at saying, Would you mind if we put a condition that we don't fund

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01:07:27.590 --> 01:07:34.350

Scott R. Johnson: the interior? Now we're finished the building until you make

497

01:07:34.640 --> 01:07:40.030

Scott R. Johnson: fundraising contributions equal to 1.1 billion of the 1.8.

498

01:07:40.460 --> 01:07:49.480

Scott R. Johnson: And I said, oh, I don't think that'll work. If you want we can. We can build half a tennis court and half half a basketball court in half of a of a rec room.

499

01:07:49.940 --> 01:07:56.640

Scott R. Johnson: and thank you to Miriam and her cohort that they actually got to reduce All we have to do is show

500

01:07:57.190 --> 01:08:00.170

Scott R. Johnson: plan. They were trying to raise money.

501

01:08:00.780 --> 01:08:07.090

Scott R. Johnson: so enter that crystal, thanks to Miriam in your group, because otherwise

502

01:08:07.360 --> 01:08:18.939

Scott R. Johnson: we wouldn't have funded funding for the interior, because it would be contingent upon private fundraising which we're not going to raise that kind of money. So enter Sue Box and

503

01:08:19.420 --> 01:08:21.460

Scott R. Johnson: our market or



504

01:08:22.439 --> 01:08:26.439

Scott R. Johnson: without equal. Who, by the way, is has

505

01:08:26.640 --> 01:08:37.990

Scott R. Johnson: the volunteer to be co-chair of the foundation yay everybody in favor of subots and being culture. So she's our energizer. Funny.

506

01:08:38.450 --> 01:08:41.970

Scott R. Johnson: and she's tremendous, and she's in doing a lot of stuff. So

507

01:08:42.080 --> 01:08:46.260

Scott R. Johnson: since we're a little short on time, Sue and Nancy talk about your

508

01:08:47.050 --> 01:08:52.939

Scott R. Johnson: talk about this stuff you've been doing, and particularly the the Saturday plantings.

509

01:08:53.390 --> 01:08:57.279

Scott R. Johnson: which was kind of kind of part of the foundation effort.

510

01:08:57.800 --> 01:09:03.600

Sue Bodson: Okay, all right. I unmuted. Yes.

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01:09:03.649 --> 01:09:08.399

Sue Bodson: yes, it definitely was part of the foundation effort, and

512

01:09:08.430 --> 01:09:16.550

Sue Bodson: I have to thank my fellow Board member, Nancy. She's turning me into a nature girl. She's trying very hard to turn me into a nature girl.

513

01:09:16.560 --> 01:09:29.240

Sue Bodson: So, as I reported last month, I met with Dr. Kramer and Darren Wittlesworth, we walk the trails on the Greenwich side of my aunt's River Park.

514

01:09:29.240 --> 01:09:43.260

Sue Bodson: and to our wonderful surprise, it was it was actually very clean. There really was no debris in no garbage at all. So we decided that this effort for Earth day, which is this past Saturday of the Park.

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01:09:43.450 --> 01:09:52.640

Sue Bodson: would we pivoted to be more of a beautification which included weeding and plantings.

516

01:09:53.279 --> 01:10:09.880

Sue Bodson: A. I enlisted the help for of a Greenwich High School senior, Shawn Cowie, who helped me organize and promote the volunteer opportunity. He actually drafted the press release for my review and help me distribute it and post on social media.

517

01:10:09.880 --> 01:10:21.550

Sue Bodson: He contacted Jen Donnelly at Greenwich country day, and Karen Foster at Greenwich High School to advertise the opportunity to their school populations.

518

01:10:21.550 --> 01:10:39.470

Sue Bodson: We had a little bit of a competing event down at Greenwich Point, the Live Luke clean up event so, which was very popular. And so it it. I definitely took away from what what we were able to get, however, having said that we had

519

01:10:39.470 --> 01:10:56.690

Sue Bodson: like 30 volunteers there, so we were. We were thrilled. So wait, thank you, Shawn, for helping me do that we had. In addition to Dr. Kramer and Darren, I have to recognize the incredible support

520

01:10:56.690 --> 01:11:04.560

Sue Bodson: that we received from the parks and rack employees who participated, and I'm told by Darren that they are part of the I need them.

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01:11:04.990 --> 01:11:20.740

Sue Bodson: I need them crew, and if I pronounce their names incorrectly, forgive me. Kevin Kurio, who is the Park gardener, foreman

522

01:11:20.740 --> 01:11:35.150

Sue Bodson: These gentlemen were, and Nancy couldn't attest to this. These gentlemen were really great, and help guide the 30 or so volunteers that showed up, who, who, by the way, included several families with with very young kids.

523

01:11:35.190 --> 01:11:41.880

Sue Bodson: We had several Junior Leagueers. We had high school students. We had younger couples, older couples.

524

01:11:41.880 --> 01:12:07.020

Sue Bodson: of course Josis to Ciciano showed up, and Scott, I could swing that pickaxe. There's no doubt about that. And a State representative for the 140 ninth. Rachel Connor also came, and you saw that we had great coverage by the Greenwich time there one of their photographers, Christian, came and did a wonderful slide show which ended up in Sunday's paper.

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01:12:07.020 --> 01:12:19.590

Sue Bodson: And our resident, wonderful, most creative person ever Lenore has now posted that to the foundation website with a link.

526

01:12:19.600 --> 01:12:35.240

Sue Bodson: and I have to also give Leonora a shout out for helping me create those graphics and get that the Graphic posted on the town of Greenwich website. The people that came there, and Nancy talked to a lot of them, too.

527

01:12:35.260 --> 01:13:05.170

Sue Bodson: really were just felt, you know. I mean what's better than planting a tree on Earth Day. It was like just so cool. But they they wanted to know more about what else you guys are gonna do. And are you gonna do more here? And we talked about, you know, in the future doing something at the Secret Garden and Pom Rance. And so I think this is a great launching pad for us to get the word out there and get support. That doesn't necessarily mean

528

01:13:05.230 --> 01:13:23.560

Sue Bodson: a financial contribution that you can give sweat equity without you know, giving money. Having said that. Obviously, you know we're a 501, C 3, and we want. We want to support the town and the Parks Department with fundraising. So

529

01:13:24.000 --> 01:13:39.850

Sue Bodson: I am actually going to meet Joe tomorrow at his office to discuss plans about what we can do to set up a fundraising packet plan for Eastern Governor Civic Center and start that discussion.

530

01:13:41.570 --> 01:13:53.010

Nancy Chapin: So, Nancy, thank you for your help, by the way, so I just want to say that so did an excellent job, and I think Joe kind of talked about parks and trees, so I Won't take too much time. I think it's

531

01:13:53.060 --> 01:14:02.710

Nancy Chapin: want to just congratulate to, and I think it was great to have so much of the Park staff there. I think there was another staff member. I'm sorry for at his name.

532

01:14:02.810 --> 01:14:13.540

Nancy Chapin: but getting the community engaged. It was just a great day and much warmer, because from there I went to the live like loop, clean up day at the point.

533

01:14:13.790 --> 01:14:26.400

Nancy Chapin: Great turn out there a lot of clean up. It was pretty amazing, but it was freezing there, so it was much nicer working in the woods. and there was a lot of projects, I think Joe touched on around him for birthday events.

534

01:14:26.640 --> 01:14:36.670

Nancy Chapin: I'll just briefly update the Homerance Tuckman. Rfp: so we have identified now

535

01:14:36.700 --> 01:14:55.720

Nancy Chapin: 3 candidates, and there will be interviews taking place. I just want to say that Dan and Greg are just great to work with a really us and you know, talk. You know they really are great. I just feel really great about our our staff right now. So

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01:14:55.750 --> 01:15:03.400

Nancy Chapin: I had not known Dan or I worked with Dan, but he really contributed and participated well in that process. So thank you for that

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01:15:03.750 --> 01:15:22.860

Nancy Chapin: Darren is always the talk about. Ever ready, Bunny. It's all over town there. He had projects. We've mentioned a couple of privacy, this all over town doing projects. I don't know how he did it right, Greg. So hats off to the parts and trees Department, and I think we'll dedicate most of the time to the up and coming

538

01:15:22.870 --> 01:15:27.880

Nancy Chapin: Historic District Commission and Bruce Park for my my time, anyway.

539

01:15:32.250 --> 01:15:40.750

Scott R. Johnson: Alright. So let me let me try to continue on 1 One thing that's who's been also good at is Eleanor

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01:15:40.880 --> 01:15:45.930

Scott R. Johnson: is If you go to the website, including the foundations.

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01:15:46.000 --> 01:15:47.210

Scott R. Johnson: Link.

542

01:15:47.250 --> 01:16:03.460

Scott R. Johnson: you'll see that there is a list of current projects, and in that in that link there's a reference. For example, he used to go to Civic Center and now connection to our fundraising package.

543

01:16:03.650 --> 01:16:05.900

Scott R. Johnson: which includes

544

01:16:06.620 --> 01:16:12.790

Scott R. Johnson: donation suggestions to name rooms, or to name part of the facility.

545

01:16:12.860 --> 01:16:18.970

Scott R. Johnson: So it's an idea that's worked a lot of other projects. It's it's been there forever. It's part of the business plan.

546

01:16:19.110 --> 01:16:23.580

Scott R. Johnson: So we had to submit to P. And so now it's there a little bit easier to find.

547

01:16:25.160 --> 01:16:28.280

Scott R. Johnson: Did you want to mention. Okay.

548

01:16:29.820 --> 01:16:42.020

Scott R. Johnson: Okay, so that's our basic agenda. Let me let me jump to this historic district. So we talked about it the last meeting. And Here's why it's come up.

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01:16:44.560 --> 01:16:54.140

Scott R. Johnson: There is a submission to a request to Fred Camillo. which he endorsed to consider.

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01:16:54.730 --> 01:16:56.770

Scott R. Johnson: having Bruce Park

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01:16:56.940 --> 01:17:00.230

Scott R. Johnson: excluding the museum and excluding the playground

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01:17:00.690 --> 01:17:05.900

Scott R. Johnson: as part of a town historic district, not a State one, not a Federal one.

553

01:17:06.860 --> 01:17:16.390

Scott R. Johnson: and Fred was very much in favor of it originally, because there was discussion, which now, I think, is somewhat, I say.

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01:17:16.680 --> 01:17:25.710

Scott R. Johnson: of moving some some facilities over towards the eastern section near the mosquito barn, what we call the mosquito bar, which is a storage shed

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01:17:26.210 --> 01:17:31.900

Scott R. Johnson: for a replacement to the facilities, and Roger Sherman Baldwin, the brick building

556

01:17:31.930 --> 01:17:45.430

Scott R. Johnson: which is now apart from the building and the neighbors in each point and elsewhere objected to that. So the suggestion, kind of like came up, which was not unreasonable to have it as a historic district

557

01:17:45.790 --> 01:17:49.290

Scott R. Johnson: regulated by the Town Historic District Commission

558

01:17:50.030 --> 01:17:58.900

Scott R. Johnson: that has the ability to review proposals basically improvement proposals like construction and buildings

559

01:17:59.450 --> 01:18:04.290

Scott R. Johnson: in Bruce Park. Again excluding the Museum.

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01:18:04.750 --> 01:18:08.230

Scott R. Johnson: So we talked about it before I went to a meeting

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01:18:08.430 --> 01:18:13.830

Scott R. Johnson: it. Joe Clinton 10, which is attended by the plain zoning representatives.

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01:18:13.940 --> 01:18:23.840

Scott R. Johnson: the town attorney and 2 representatives from his Fork District commission. and I gave a little bit of a

563

01:18:23.870 --> 01:18:28.600

Scott R. Johnson: the discussion of the applicable regulations which basically

564

01:18:28.950 --> 01:18:31.860

Scott R. Johnson: or this, if it's a historic district

565

01:18:32.690 --> 01:18:38.820

Scott R. Johnson: whatever anything of significance, and norm normally it's. The construction of a building

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01:18:39.530 --> 01:18:46.780

Scott R. Johnson: occurs before it can be done. It can be approved. It has to be reviewed by historic District Commission.

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01:18:47.320 --> 01:18:52.000

Scott R. Johnson: or it's appropriateness for a store district.

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01:18:52.020 --> 01:18:54.070

Scott R. Johnson: And that basically means

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01:18:54.420 --> 01:18:58.740

Scott R. Johnson: is sensitivity to the historic landscape

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01:18:59.120 --> 01:19:10.500

Scott R. Johnson: and to the historic nature of the park. So they prepared the Start District Commission prepared a study which is going to go before P. And Z.

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01:19:10.910 --> 01:19:14.390

Scott R. Johnson: I sent it to everybody. I only got it

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01:19:14.410 --> 01:19:24.170

Scott R. Johnson: prior to our last meeting. They don't expect people to read it. I know Nancy knows that we did this before, when we had a Martha Lions do

573

01:19:24.570 --> 01:19:29.990

Scott R. Johnson: the historic landscape plan, and I don't need to go into the history of the project.

574

01:19:30.460 --> 01:19:42.360

Scott R. Johnson: but basically it was done many years ago. It was done, I believe, in a well known landscaper. It might have been my and friend of law who said i'm not sure. One of his subordinates

575

01:19:42.890 --> 01:19:55.690

Scott R. Johnson: and the Martha Alliance report pointed out that it was a historically headscape, and it had a lot of valuable resources. Greg, I don't know if you read the report the recent report.

576

01:19:56.360 --> 01:19:59.140

Scott R. Johnson: or asks to

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01:20:00.190 --> 01:20:05.850

gkramer: not as of yet. It's got it. Now you weren't okay. Well, it's a recitation of what's there.

578

01:20:06.530 --> 01:20:12.050

Scott R. Johnson: and I don't think anybody questions that there are. There's there's real marriage into

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01:20:12.420 --> 01:20:18.600

Scott R. Johnson: the landscaping, and the park like setting of the Park, not much like

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01:20:18.700 --> 01:20:20.500

Scott R. Johnson: Central Park in New York City.

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01:20:21.240 --> 01:20:22.880

Scott R. Johnson: So

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01:20:22.890 --> 01:20:27.500

Scott R. Johnson: T. And Z and Fred have asked us to basically say

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01:20:27.820 --> 01:20:30.610

Scott R. Johnson: whether we will.

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01:20:31.230 --> 01:20:42.680

Scott R. Johnson: Okay on happiness the part of this historic district that can the boundaries of our Bruce Park.

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01:20:45.160 --> 01:20:49.030

Scott R. Johnson: It's a little complicated by the fact that all of the trees

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01:20:49.430 --> 01:20:55.380

Scott R. Johnson: and essentially landscape in the park really is in the primary jurisdiction of Greg

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01:20:55.580 --> 01:21:07.350

Scott R. Johnson: as it's. You know the state of Town Mandated Tree Ward. so we require his sign off also, plus he's the person with expertise on that.

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01:21:07.490 --> 01:21:11.420

Scott R. Johnson: So one of the things I did is, I said, okay, instruct people.

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01:21:11.930 --> 01:21:17.360

Scott R. Johnson: You need to remember that Greg as primary jurisdiction

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01:21:17.490 --> 01:21:19.820

Scott R. Johnson: on landscape, and they agreed on that.

591

01:21:20.460 --> 01:21:24.270

Scott R. Johnson: So it would really be focusing on new instruction.

592

01:21:25.490 --> 01:21:31.590

Scott R. Johnson: So we've been asked to vote on this I gave you, you know, a resume of this before.

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01:21:33.220 --> 01:21:46.080

Scott R. Johnson: Ask me any questions. Tell me, tell me what you guys think I I don't think it's a significant thing. It's a it's a bit of an impediment to Joe, because if if boy show us to do something that you would normally do.

594

01:21:46.250 --> 01:21:58.920

Scott R. Johnson: it would probably have to go through. Am I? You go to P. And Z anyway. but that would be an extra step to this historic district commission which you know many of us are used to dealing with. Anyway.

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01:21:59.290 --> 01:22:02.720

Scott R. Johnson: You know there are several historic districts, and

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01:22:03.090 --> 01:22:09.470

Scott R. Johnson: you can't change a building in that historic district. That is, a is a contributing building without

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01:22:09.620 --> 01:22:14.990

Scott R. Johnson: going to the Commission. So let me know your thoughts. We don't have to do this tonight.

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01:22:16.970 --> 01:22:19.430

Scott R. Johnson: If if people are hesitant.

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01:22:19.740 --> 01:22:26.860

Scott R. Johnson: let's have a discussion. It's a little bit of a tough thing for us, because this is not something we normally do.

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01:22:27.270 --> 01:22:30.820

Scott R. Johnson: But let me know your thoughts.

601

01:22:31.460 --> 01:22:42.140

Scott R. Johnson: Mike Mike, you weren't at the last meeting, so you might have more questions than anybody else. But. Matt, you You're probably an expert in this area, W. You? You must have some thoughts on it.

602

01:22:45.130 --> 01:22:47.920

Scott R. Johnson: You what, Matt you want to chime in.

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01:22:49.160 --> 01:22:56.300

Matt Popp: I think I I would like to delay it to the maybe the next meeting. Just so. It's like, now that I have a little bit more background on it

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01:22:57.850 --> 01:22:59.680

Matt Popp: in some history, I think

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01:22:59.720 --> 01:23:13.380

Matt Popp: i'm again. I wasn't I missed some of the last meetings. I think I missed this part of of it. but I do like the idea of having like an overlay over it. Bruce parks out. It's a general concept of that.

606

01:23:16.260 --> 01:23:26.090

Matt Popp: I think it may avoid having issues like the when they put the pedestrian bridge that I think that no one really likes. Maybe it could avoid things like that in the future.

607

01:23:26.860 --> 01:23:33.270

Scott R. Johnson: So again

608

01:23:33.660 --> 01:23:46.450

Scott R. Johnson: and so when our water Company did a project up off Toconic Road. it's sort of district, because it is a historic district out there, too. basically makes things are way way more compatible.

609

01:23:46.920 --> 01:23:48.170

Scott R. Johnson: So that's a good point.

610

01:23:48.440 --> 01:23:49.280

Matt Popp: So



611

01:23:51.130 --> 01:23:56.020

Scott R. Johnson: this is gonna come up on other parts. It's certainly gonna come up again on to his point.

612

01:23:57.740 --> 01:23:59.400

Scott R. Johnson: Nancy, what do you? What do you think?

613

01:24:02.100 --> 01:24:09.200

Nancy Chapin: I think, Joe? Maybe had his hand up earlier. But I I just because I I kind of do like this concept

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01:24:09.620 --> 01:24:11.510

Nancy Chapin: if it

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01:24:11.710 --> 01:24:16.290

Nancy Chapin: help to preserve a character of a park.

616

01:24:16.380 --> 01:24:22.630

Nancy Chapin: So my question really would be. What's the downside? I hear that it might make Joe's job a little bit difficult.

617

01:24:24.940 --> 01:24:29.350

Nancy Chapin: but i'm trying to understand what the negatives are, and I think that would be helpful to hear.

618

01:24:30.910 --> 01:24:32.860

Scott R. Johnson: So what you're trying in.

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01:24:33.090 --> 01:24:42.250

Joe Siciliano: So so in in the additional steps, I mean, I don't see us doing a major interesting enough. The concept of using that

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01:24:42.270 --> 01:25:01.410

Joe Siciliano: mosquito slash rect barn area was just a concept on paper. It wasn't, you know we didn't get any traction whatsoever, but it got out of the box, and then people kind of came in on the back side and said, oh, we want never want this to happen to the end result is that it wasn't really even that feasible to do it there

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01:25:01.410 --> 01:25:16.440

Joe Siciliano: it would it would it would have been. It would have taken a lot of character away from the the location. There are only 2 buildings in Bruce Park, that building and the restroom building down by the Bowling Green. So when you're looking at buildings, those are the only 2 in the park.

622

01:25:16.470 --> 01:25:20.710

Joe Siciliano: The other historic structures, like the small bridge on the small pond.

623

01:25:20.730 --> 01:25:32.500

Joe Siciliano: you know there's been some discussion about that bridge has a very low rating of safety at the moment there's been some discussion. Dpw. Has the the

624

01:25:32.590 --> 01:25:49.720

Joe Siciliano: charge to replace that bridge at \$750,000 and higher. They've been looking at other opportunities of how they could keep the facade of the bridge, but you know, maybe reduce the cost. That is a completely arch concrete bridge underneath.

625

01:25:49.720 --> 01:26:07.390

Joe Siciliano: you know, for the day that was built in a 100 years ago, very sophisticated, very labor, intensive, very expensive to replace now. So there has been an ongoing conversation that that bridge needs to be replaced, and and you know what are the other options of doing that. So

626

01:26:07.390 --> 01:26:24.550

Joe Siciliano: we've I've been completely in support of trying to keep the at least the historic. The value of the facade of of the bridge. I don't really care about the undercarriage, whether it's square, whether it's around. But I don't want to lose that that look. I mean it's it. The bridge is 100 and

627

01:26:24.680 --> 01:26:28.050

Joe Siciliano: 100 years old, so

628

01:26:28.060 --> 01:26:47.070

Joe Siciliano: you know there's there's certain facets, I mean. I would I not having all the information, you know, 10 scores, baseball diamonds, bowling greeds, fences, those kind of things i'm not too sure they they rank up there in the classification of the historic district acknowledgment. But

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01:26:47.070 --> 01:26:50.600

Joe Siciliano: because we don't really go to planning and zoning for any of those things, either, you know. Those are.

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01:26:50.660 --> 01:26:57.330

Joe Siciliano: you know, those are things like we want to do maintenance or improvements unless it's a a a significant improvement.

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01:26:57.350 --> 01:27:00.520

Joe Siciliano: We we've never gone to planning and zoning for any of that. So

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01:27:00.570 --> 01:27:13.950

Joe Siciliano: a lot of this falls on actually on Dpw. For the buildings and the bridge, you know. So yes, it's our it's our asset parks and recreation. It's a town asset, but on in many cases they're They're

633

01:27:13.950 --> 01:27:23.000

Joe Siciliano: responsible for doing the execution of the improvement so, and construction. So it would be a shared responsibility on on some of those things.

634

01:27:27.110 --> 01:27:32.100

Rick Loh: Yeah, I took it down. But I do have a question. Does this? I mean in the future, if

635

01:27:33.870 --> 01:27:41.420

Rick Loh: if they want to widen 95, or they want to enhance 95, or do whatever they want to do. Does this give us some more leverage?

636

01:27:41.820 --> 01:27:45.580

Rick Loh: Yeah, that's a good question. And that came up

637

01:27:47.330 --> 01:27:50.790

Scott R. Johnson: it. There is, there is State law

638

01:27:51.400 --> 01:28:02.740

Scott R. Johnson: that whenever there's an improvement that is subject to a State comment issuance. if it is adjacent to or on historic

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01:28:02.750 --> 01:28:15.570

Scott R. Johnson: district or her store property. It has to be done with consideration to minimize impact on that negative impact on that historic property. That's a good example. The other example is show raised

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01:28:16.010 --> 01:28:28.450

Scott R. Johnson: was probably the best example that came up with a discussion which is the bridges that everyone really wants to make sure those bridges are done in that historic character

641

01:28:28.690 --> 01:28:31.750

Scott R. Johnson: which, interestingly.

642

01:28:32.020 --> 01:28:37.520

Scott R. Johnson: if you guys have seen it's recently completed the branch over any.

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01:28:38.340 --> 01:28:47.800

Scott R. Johnson: It was not. The facade is nicely done. I don't think I had the arch. but there's been other examples where which is in

644

01:28:49.000 --> 01:29:04.050

Scott R. Johnson: kind of all time character. The town has really tried to maintain that character. The state.no. they they don't. So that was the best example that the historic people gave

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01:29:04.510 --> 01:29:10.230

Scott R. Johnson: where they would have jurisdiction to try to make them continue that historic character. I I think that's a good example.

646

01:29:13.490 --> 01:29:14.630

Rick Loh: Like you guys.

647

01:29:14.730 --> 01:29:19.750

I don't think we need to vote on this tonight. But what? What is everyone else's? Thought

648

01:29:19.920 --> 01:29:21.420

Rick Loh: Mike's got a sand.

649

01:29:21.630 --> 01:29:25.160

Scott R. Johnson: Yeah, Scott, can you hear me?

650

01:29:26.540 --> 01:29:35.490

Michael Bocchino: My one question would be if it if this is pursued. How would this affect any

651

01:29:35.500 --> 01:29:39.240

Michael Bocchino: infrastructure upgrades that the town would wind up

652

01:29:39.370 --> 01:29:42.340

Michael Bocchino: pursuing later on? I know

653

01:29:42.360 --> 01:29:47.320

Michael Bocchino: ever Source was looking to run new trunk lines

654

01:29:47.480 --> 01:30:01.800

Michael Bocchino: through Bruce Park to get to the next yard that they had from cost cop to Greenwich to increase the availability of electricity

655

01:30:01.900 --> 01:30:04.240

Michael Bocchino: for the

656

01:30:04.650 --> 01:30:08.500

Michael Bocchino: the one district, you know, for Riverside or Greenwich area.

657

01:30:09.820 --> 01:30:11.690

Michael Bocchino: My question would be.

658

01:30:13.380 --> 01:30:15.140

Michael Bocchino: How does this impact

659

01:30:15.240 --> 01:30:27.490

Michael Bocchino: those types of improvements, ie. Not only just an ever source kind of an upgrade where they're looking to do underground trunk lines.

660

01:30:27.560 --> 01:30:45.460

Michael Bocchino: but dpw whether it's a a water company, you know, trying to go through and doing that is, is there going to be any imp on those companies to do the work?

661

01:30:45.840 --> 01:30:51.960

Michael Bocchino: I would hope that there wouldn't be if they were underground, and they are just restoring everything to the

662

01:30:52.100 --> 01:30:58.100

Michael Bocchino: a historic nature that we're we're talking about. But there may be when you get to those

663

01:30:58.270 --> 01:30:59.510

Michael Bocchino: bridges

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01:31:01.300 --> 01:31:07.050

Michael Bocchino: connecting lines that go underneath that no one sees.

665

01:31:07.060 --> 01:31:12.830

Michael Bocchino: I think those are questions and things that we need to make sure our address, because I know that

666

01:31:13.620 --> 01:31:17.620

Michael Bocchino: technology is going to require

667

01:31:17.830 --> 01:31:27.080

Michael Bocchino: larger usage of electric lines, and that you know, through ever Source. And I know that they're looking to go through

668

01:31:27.100 --> 01:31:30.110

Michael Bocchino: Bruce Park area if they haven't already. So

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01:31:30.260 --> 01:31:41.690

Michael Bocchino: that would just be a question, you know, outside of that, I think it's a great idea to you know. Designate and keep our our green space, and Don't allow the encroachment from 95.

670

01:31:41.840 --> 01:31:56.610

Michael Bocchino: But when it comes to you know, doing the work, and things that we need to do, whether it's a sewer system, whether it's aquarium doing water lines or every source doing electrical lines. There's got to be something in place saying that you're allowed to do

671

01:31:56.910 --> 01:31:59.460

Michael Bocchino: a certain amount of work

672

01:31:59.490 --> 01:32:02.520

Michael Bocchino: maintaining our historical district.

673

01:32:02.540 --> 01:32:09.080

Scott R. Johnson: That would be my only the great

674

01:32:09.220 --> 01:32:16.630

Scott R. Johnson: First of all, the utilities in the State have the right of condemnation. They they can make us do that.

675

01:32:18.810 --> 01:32:25.240

Scott R. Johnson: One thing that came up with the Utility bridge is that

676

01:32:27.050 --> 01:32:32.330

Scott R. Johnson: Cmp. Had the option of drilling under the pot under the

677

01:32:32.640 --> 01:32:34.040

Scott R. Johnson: under the

678

01:32:34.610 --> 01:32:40.370

Scott R. Johnson: Goose Park Pond, which would have been very complicated.

679

01:32:40.790 --> 01:32:43.960

Scott R. Johnson: and that's where they, I think, opted for the bridge.

680

01:32:44.180 --> 01:32:46.680

Scott R. Johnson: What the short answer is.

681

01:32:46.900 --> 01:32:54.420

Scott R. Johnson: is, any of those improvements would have to be done to the language and the statutes to the greatest extent practicable

682

01:32:54.910 --> 01:32:57.780

Scott R. Johnson: to minimize adverse impacts.

683

01:32:57.960 --> 01:33:06.610

Scott R. Johnson: So if, for example, they want to put a utility line under the road, and it's going to kill 5

684

01:33:07.070 --> 01:33:10.630

Scott R. Johnson: elm trees that, Craig says is really important.

685

01:33:10.750 --> 01:33:13.770

Scott R. Johnson: They're going to try to find a way around it.

686

01:33:14.800 --> 01:33:20.990

Scott R. Johnson: and and I think generally, and I know from the experience up in Toconic road, and in that historic, they actually

687

01:33:21.090 --> 01:33:23.910

Scott R. Johnson: that was the water company. They actually were pretty good about it.

688

01:33:23.980 --> 01:33:29.630

Scott R. Johnson: Yes, you probably know they impacted the riding trails up there. You're looking for something to eat.

689

01:33:29.760 --> 01:33:33.020

Scott R. Johnson: and and Steve Steve Bishop

690

01:33:33.600 --> 01:33:38.290

Scott R. Johnson: made them, you know, minimize some of the impacts, plant trees that kind of stuff, so

691

01:33:38.900 --> 01:33:42.710

Scott R. Johnson: it's a valid concern, but we can't, you know. Generally we can't stop them.

692

01:33:43.280 --> 01:33:49.710

Scott R. Johnson: It may, and maybe, nor should we, but it's a balancing test, and Greg, You probably come across this

693  
01:33:49.980 --> 01:33:54.680  
Scott R. Johnson: hundreds of times with utilities wanting to do work that

694  
01:33:55.140 --> 01:33:59.080  
gkramer: you know you say to them, here's a better way to do it.

695  
01:34:02.680 --> 01:34:07.140  
Scott R. Johnson: What? What? What? What's everybody else think I don't want to pressure anybody because

696  
01:34:07.570 --> 01:34:19.620  
Scott R. Johnson: P. And C. I don't think it's on the current agendas what it's gonna come up. But we can certainly wait people to think about it. I I will say, reading the report.

697  
01:34:20.080 --> 01:34:29.780  
Scott R. Johnson: I don't think it's going to answer anybody's question. Is it just talks about the landscaping there. Martha Alliance report, I think, was actually even better. Better done.

698  
01:34:32.850 --> 01:34:38.070  
Scott R. Johnson: Do people want to delay this to people, feel what what we could?

699  
01:34:38.460 --> 01:34:43.730  
Scott R. Johnson: What the vote would be is that we would, if you vote for or against

700  
01:34:44.830 --> 01:34:49.250  
Scott R. Johnson: the designation of Bruce Park as a historic that that's it period.

701  
01:34:51.020 --> 01:35:02.430  
Vivian Wu: Can I say something. I just don't understand enough as to what the pros and cons of designating it as a historical

702  
01:35:02.540 --> 01:35:05.480  
Vivian Wu: district or historic district is

703  
01:35:05.960 --> 01:35:11.530  
Vivian Wu: to to say, you know what are the consequences of what things

704  
01:35:12.020 --> 01:35:22.900  
Vivian Wu: does? Does it inhibit us from being able to do? If it is the historic district. and you know what are the pros, so that it it's a clear list

705  
01:35:22.990 --> 01:35:28.760  
Vivian Wu: one way or the other. before really deciding which way to go.

706  
01:35:29.880 --> 01:35:35.860  
Scott R. Johnson: Well, here's Here's something I mean, that's a good question. Here's something that can help if you want to do the research.

707

01:35:36.390 --> 01:35:37.360

Vivian Wu: Okay.

708

01:35:39.140 --> 01:35:46.970

Scott R. Johnson: the State Historic Preservation Office as a handbook on historic preservation.

709

01:35:47.130 --> 01:35:52.040

Scott R. Johnson: and they give details on what needs to be done in the

710

01:35:52.440 --> 01:36:01.720

Scott R. Johnson: the keywords. Our certificate of appropriateness. That's what has to be issue. So you wouldn't

711

01:36:03.030 --> 01:36:06.340

Scott R. Johnson: come to play on small things like maintenance.

712

01:36:06.620 --> 01:36:14.530

Scott R. Johnson: restoration of stuff. minor upgrades. Certainly something Don't require any kind of building permit.

713

01:36:15.480 --> 01:36:24.030

Scott R. Johnson: but the certificate of appropriateness would come into effect. If there's something that is a structure.

714

01:36:24.680 --> 01:36:28.470

Scott R. Johnson: and this is called a significant improvement to the park

715

01:36:29.110 --> 01:36:43.250

Scott R. Johnson: that would have to go to the Town Historic District Commission. So if you want to read more about it. that's that's it. It's a handbook that's that's issued by the State Historic Preservation Office.

716

01:36:43.420 --> 01:36:50.370

Scott R. Johnson: and that has a lot of frequently ask questions. a an example along with what you're saying

717

01:36:50.550 --> 01:37:03.770

Joe Siciliano: got. Is there a download version? Maybe we could ask Leonard to research it. Okay. So maybe maybe if you don't vote tonight we can, just for the sake of time, and and where we are in the evening

718

01:37:03.950 --> 01:37:05.760

Joe Siciliano: we can download the

719

01:37:05.960 --> 01:37:14.670

Joe Siciliano: the booklet and send it around to people. Maybe that'll give them a make it more comfortable. What they what they're really voting on, and what's included in what Isn't included. So

720

01:37:14.760 --> 01:37:16.520

Joe Siciliano: because we would be Scott.



721

01:37:16.610 --> 01:37:24.320

Michael Bocchino: i'll make. I make a motion. We'll put this off to the next to the next meeting for a vote, so that we can review the

722

01:37:24.640 --> 01:37:26.020

Michael Bocchino: all the information.

723

01:37:26.070 --> 01:37:26.990

Michael Bocchino: Okay.

724

01:37:27.780 --> 01:37:29.180

Scott R. Johnson: this this

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01:37:29.670 --> 01:37:32.930

Scott R. Johnson: does everybody everybody agree that I, I I that

726

01:37:33.160 --> 01:37:38.230

Scott R. Johnson: everybody else. So if you want to vote on it right now?

727

01:37:38.690 --> 01:37:39.550

Joe Siciliano: No.

728

01:37:39.600 --> 01:37:42.020

Scott R. Johnson: okay. I so let's do that.

729

01:37:42.560 --> 01:37:45.240

Scott R. Johnson: That. That's that's reason why you know it's a

730

01:37:45.450 --> 01:37:52.070

Scott R. Johnson: I don't want. To get out of your reading assignment, but it's very easy. It's very easy to get answers to these things if you go through the the material.

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01:37:53.490 --> 01:37:54.890

Joe Siciliano: Okay, that's good

732

01:38:02.920 --> 01:38:05.260

Scott R. Johnson: anybody want to bring up the new business.

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01:38:07.940 --> 01:38:09.830

Michael Bocchino: I just want to say

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01:38:10.400 --> 01:38:23.190

Michael Bocchino: if we ever are going to have an in-person meeting I would love to invite all of you up to Cobra north to the restaurant at the Griff for one of the meetings. We were just talking about love to have you guys.

735

01:38:23.580 --> 01:38:28.610

Scott R. Johnson: So let me know, and we'll make it happen.

736

01:38:28.850 --> 01:38:33.890

Scott R. Johnson: That's right, and drinks.

737

01:38:34.610 --> 01:38:41.620

Scott R. Johnson: We can get the foundation to catering. Actually, we have. I'm afraid to say I think we have \$40,000 in that account.

738

01:38:41.700 --> 01:38:49.360

Vivian Wu: We'll take care of that. No worries. Just get you guys up there to see what a nice, nice place we have.

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01:38:49.550 --> 01:38:54.640

Nancy Chapin: I'll support that. I've been there. It's a great place to go get back up there.

740

01:38:55.200 --> 01:38:57.080

Scott R. Johnson: Well, and we shall know about it.

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01:38:57.300 --> 01:39:01.190

Scott R. Johnson: Okay, so anything else, any public comment.

742

01:39:03.860 --> 01:39:10.130

Scott R. Johnson: Miriam? I'm not going to put you on the spot, but lot of lot of bad press for the bt. Do you want to mention anything

743

01:39:11.350 --> 01:39:12.590

Scott R. Johnson: you don't have to.

744

01:39:15.030 --> 01:39:26.790

Joe Siciliano: This is just part of the comedy section of the bark board apart from Rick, and then we'll oh, i'm sorry.

745

01:39:26.900 --> 01:39:30.960

Scott R. Johnson: Give a shout out to I'll call it your cohort.

746

01:39:31.510 --> 01:39:38.800

Scott R. Johnson: That was very helpful in these 2 by 6 center interiors, because otherwise I don't know what it would have been so. That's thank you for that.

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01:39:38.920 --> 01:39:49.580

Joe Siciliano: So I also want to comp. I also want to say thank you to Mary. During the whole process of the Bt Review. We were communicating in various ways, so to give updated information

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01:39:49.580 --> 01:40:08.900

Joe Siciliano: that was lacking in some of the discussion that was going on to be team. So so it was very helpful to have that connection. So thank you, Marion, and also Karen Fast, you notice from time to time was communicating with us for certain other information. So it it was. It was good it was. It was a good way to to deal with some of the voids.

749

01:40:08.900 --> 01:40:16.660

Joe Siciliano: Just that, you know the when the bt was kind of fumbling with what? What's the real information they were. They were on our site people. So

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01:40:16.780 --> 01:40:35.980

Joe Siciliano: next month we're gonna we'll take up Sue. I'm sorry that you spent time preparing, but we'll we'll. We'll find that maybe we'll we'll have a We we could do it at the Covid North, either in May or June, and and we'll have the we'll have to make a short presentation on the recreation program going on.

751

01:40:36.130 --> 01:40:38.600

Joe Siciliano: The you know spring summer

752

01:40:38.920 --> 01:40:39.990

Joe Siciliano: programs

753

01:40:40.840 --> 01:40:48.900

Scott R. Johnson: 1 one minor thing I neglected. If anybody, it will probably be the category of me. Mike and Joe

754

01:40:49.310 --> 01:40:57.340

Scott R. Johnson: has any photographs or memorabilia of. He used to go to the center where it was Hekman Center. You know me.

755

01:40:58.460 --> 01:41:01.710

Scott R. Johnson: Mike. You probably went to some rendezvous right. I know, Joe, you did.

756

01:41:01.940 --> 01:41:08.650

Scott R. Johnson: If anybody has to do a little bit of a display thing

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01:41:08.730 --> 01:41:12.790

Scott R. Johnson: of the good old days, I know. I know there's a lot of stuff out there.

758

01:41:13.230 --> 01:41:16.910

Scott R. Johnson: I don't think the Historical Society would have it. But guys like us might.

759

01:41:17.610 --> 01:41:26.420

Joe Siciliano: Well, we stash some of that stuff. We may have something that we when we packed up. I know that we have some photo albums in the department that we

760

01:41:26.510 --> 01:41:30.600

Joe Siciliano: that have been. You know we have stored somewhere.

761

01:41:30.620 --> 01:41:35.010

Joe Siciliano: You know, we we probably have some some things. Yeah, everything. So

762

01:41:35.080 --> 01:41:38.570

Scott R. Johnson: find that. Let me go through it because

763

01:41:38.680 --> 01:41:45.020

Scott R. Johnson: there's somebody who's asked to me to make a kind of museum case of some of that old stuff if it's worthwhile.

764

01:41:46.030 --> 01:41:53.050

Joe Siciliano: Okay, we could. If we get a minute we could take a peak. I like tickets to the the rascals. Okay.

765

01:41:53.750 --> 01:41:55.400

Scott R. Johnson: all right. Anybody anything else.

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01:41:55.770 --> 01:41:59.150

Scott R. Johnson: So let me make a motion to adjourn, so we can get out of here.

767

01:41:59.500 --> 01:42:08.220

Scott R. Johnson: Motion to adjourn. All right, all right. Good night, everybody. Good night. Thank you All.