

**STAMFORD PLANNING BOARD
APPROVED MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023
SPECIAL MEETING
VIA THE INTERNET & CONFERENCE CALL
9:00 A.M.**

ZOOM MEETING
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86038019682>

Meeting ID: 860 3801 9682
Passcode: 694367

Stamford Planning Board Members present were: Voting Members: Theresa Dell, Chair; Jay Tepper, Vice Chair; and Jennifer Godzeno, Secretary. Alternates: William Levin. Present for staff: Katherine LoBalbo, Board of Education, Director of School Construction; Lou Casolo, Engineering Bureau Chief/City Engineer; Dan Colleluori, Director of Solid Waste & Recycling; Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, Office of Policy & Management and Lindsey Cohen, Associate Planner.

Ms. Dell called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Ms. Dell introduced the members of the Board and staff present and introduced the first item on the agenda.

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION

SUPPLEMENTAL CAPITAL PROJECT APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:

1. DAVENPORT RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - LONG TERM FACILITY PLAN DEFERRED MAINTENANCE/ASSET RENEWAL - PROJECT #4000007 - TOTAL REQUEST \$1,259,662.00:

This is a request to increase the grant appropriation to support Davenport School restroom renovations and abatement for school construction.

Katherine LoBalbo, Board of Education, Director of School Construction, made a presentation and answered questions from the Board.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Levin recommended approval of the Davenport Ridge Elementary School - Long Term Facility Plan Deferred Maintenance / Asset Renewal - Project #4000007 with a Total Request of \$1,259,662.00. This request has been reviewed pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 8-24 and the City Charter Section C6-30-13 and finds this request to be consistent with CGS Section 8-24, and the City Charter Section C6-30-13, as well as consistent with the adopted 2015 Master Plan; Ms. Godzeno seconded the motion and passed unanimously with eligible members present voting, 4-0 (Dell, Godzeno, Levin and Tepper).

2. SOLID WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RECYCLING (SWIFR) FOOD WASTE COLLECTION/ COMPOST & SUSTANABILITY - PROJECT #001380 - TOTAL REQUEST \$2,016,940.78 (100% GRANT):

The SWIFR Food Waste Collection/Composting & Sustainability project's main goal is to reduce the amount of food waste the City of Stamford sends to landfills by collecting and composting it as well as through education and outreach in Stamford's thirteen (13) neighborhoods. This project is expected to eliminate about 667 metric tons of CO2 emissions that would have otherwise been emitted from landfills in the grant period. It contributes to Mayor Simmons' environmental goals. Stamford plans to purchase and install three (3) new composters to be made available in strategic public locations. The City also plans to purchase and install one (1) composter in a Stamford public school (Westhill High School) in a program that will encourage the next generation's (students') involvement in food scrap recycling. If successful, it could become a model for other schools in future projects. The City plans to hire six (6) part-time staff including a truck driver/laborer, four laborers, as well as a Food Waste & Sustainability Coordinator (FWSC) who will manage this project.

In addition, the City plans to purchase and install approximately 52 new food waste collection smart bins (which will be typically installed on street sidewalks and other locations, such as parks). The City plans to purchase a new truck to be used by the driver and two of the laborers to pick up curbside food waste containers from participating large multi-unit housing complexes as well as the interior containers of the smart bins (filled with food scraps). Plans are for the other two laborers to work with the public at two of the new composter sites for two days a week (including Saturdays) to accept food waste drop-offs and run the composting machines. The purchase of the food waste collection smart bins will be spread over the project period as community education and outreach efforts will continue to build awareness regarding and increase participation in food waste recycling.

The City plans to purchase a large number of the Home Food Scrap Recycling Kits and plans to give them away during community meetings throughout the grant period to help motivate interested residents to recycle food scraps. The City will partner with the Mill River Park Collaborative, Stamford Downtown (DSSD), and an ambassador for each of Stamford's thirteen (13) neighborhoods for this project's education, outreach, promotion, ideas, and collaboration efforts. The grant includes funding for marketing, public outreach, communications, and research to improve our food waste recycling program. Construction will be required for each of the composters to build concrete pads, roofs/overheads, area perimeter security (e.g., fencing), and install power. Smart bin installations require concrete foundations, so some small concrete pads will need to be built for locations that do not already have concrete.

Dan Colleluori, Director of Solid Waste & Recycling, made a presentation and answered questions from the Board.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Levin recommended approval of the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Food Waste Collection/Compost & Sustainability - Project #001380 with a Total Request of \$2,016,940.78 (100% Grant). This request has been reviewed pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 8-24 and the City Charter Section C6-30-13 and finds this request to be consistent with CGS Section 8-24, and the City Charter Section C6-30-13, as well as consistent with the adopted 2015 Master Plan; Ms. Godzeno seconded the motion and passed unanimously with eligible members present voting, 4-0 (Dell, Godzeno, Levin and Tepper).

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Next regularly scheduled Planning Board meetings are:

- November 14, 2023 - Capital Budget
- November 21, 2023 - Regular Meeting & Capital Budget Call-back
- November 28, 2023 - Regular Meeting & Public Hearing
- December 12, 2023 - Capital Budget Review

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Dell adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted
November 8, 2023

Jennifer Godzeno, Secretary
Stamford Planning Board

NOTE: These proceedings were recorded on video and are available for review on the Planning Board website at http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=20