

# CLEM LEMIRE ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELD PROJECT BUILDING COMMITTEE

January 4, 2011

Town Hall Lower Level Conference Room L103

## AMENDED SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES\*

- I. Call to order – the meeting was called to order by Mr. Lenares at 5:08 pm.
- II. Roll call – Members present: Maureen Klett (arrived at 5:25), Mike Lenares, Jay Bottalico, Bill DeBlasio, Don Woods and Jeff Perillo, Others present: One member of the public; David Dickson, Milone and MacBroom; Bruce Till, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation; and Jeff Baron, Dir. of Admin. Services.
- III. Public participation – None.
- IV. Approval of December 16, 2010 meeting minutes – Mr. DeBlasio made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2010 meeting, as written. Second by Mr. Woods. The motion passed unanimously.
- V. Discuss and take action on turf manufacturer selection – The Committee had postponed selection from the December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in order to look at fields with products it was less familiar with and to negotiate pricing. Actual observation was hindered by the subsequent snow storm. The two firms with the lowest pricing were contacted and asked for their absolute best prices. During discussions it was apparent that ambient rubber was less expensive than the cryogenic rubber that was specified. Among the ambient rubber products, prices were negotiated down to where Field Turf was less than \$16,000 more than Pro Grass. **For the turf specified ProGrass has a 70% rubber and 30% sand mix. The Field Turf Prestige product has a 50% rubber and 50% sand mix, closer to the 70% sand and 30% rubber mix in the Town's specifications.** The higher the rubber content, the more muscle fatigue and the more spill. The Prestige product by Field Turf would be a compromise.

Mr. Woods reported that he had spoken with absent Committee member Kathy Zolad, who reported that the Guilford and Watertown Prestige fields are good fields for soccer. Mr. Till called Watertown and also checked on the quality of their field. Mr. Perillo noted that this was a youth field, not a field for college or professional athletes. He

also stated that the Prestige product is what the University of New Haven has had since 2006, and it is still in good condition. Field Turf has a significant presence in the area and has been a national leader for the past ten years.

Mr. Dickson was asked why Duraspine was better than straight monofilament. Slit film came after AstroTurf. It defibrillated and broke down. Field Turf developed Duraspine, which had rigidity. Duraspine Pro is a second generation product, a higher end product.

The difference between the products is in the infill and backing. Stitching of the Field Turf stays the same. The product is stitched in the field rather than glued. Stitching is specified and both Pro Grass and Field Turf will do this. All Field Turf installations are stitched, while Pro Grass has glued some fields in the past. The backing is perforated to allow water to flow through. The pricing the Committee was originally considering was in the range of \$4.25 to \$4.50 per square foot and had moved quite a bit lower. Mr. Perillo questioned the number of stitches per inch. Earlier calls to Pro Grass determined that the 1.89 stitches per inch in the information provided was erroneous. The correct number should be 3.88 stitches per inch, which is closer to the Field Turf number of 4.33. Pro Grass has 3/8" to 1/2" stitching, while Field Turf has 3/4 inch stitching.

Mr. Lenares made a motion that the Committee go with Field Turf's Prestige product for the new field in the Clem Lemire Recreation Complex, for the amount of \$319,062.50. Second by Mr. Bottalico. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 6 YES to 0 NO.

- VI. Discuss and take action on final plans, specifications and cost estimates –Mr. Dickson provided updated plans and details, as well as a revised estimate of construction costs. The \$319,800 figure in the construction estimate should be \$319,410. The overall price on the amount of the base bid items is down slightly from Milone and MacBroom's earlier estimate. Total construction costs are now estimated at \$1.481 million, including contingency and alternates. This figure is for construction only and does not include the design fee.

Mr. Dickson noted that the concrete bases for the lights will be difficult to access once the field is installed. As a result all four bases are now included in the base bid work under "Electric Work". The poles, the erection of the poles, purchase and pulling of wire, electrical connection, the control cabinet and the power supply are all that now remain in the electrical bid alternate item. The control cabinet will be off site but can be overridden manually and will have a remote option.

Mr. Till noted that lighting will be at 30 foot candles, which is standard for recreational use but may not be equal to what some High School and other programs are used to for high quality videotaping. Midget football does not have any known specifications for lighting. Power for the lights will either be paid for by Parks and Recreation or will be charged to the youth sports groups that use the field, as determined by the Board of Parks and Recreation.

The project will be bid as a lump sum with a schedule of values provided by the bidder. Security cameras are not in the project. Mr. Till is getting a cost estimate for them.

Mr. Bottalico made a motion that the Committee approve the final plans, specifications and cost estimates, dated January 4, 2011, to reflect the turf manufacturer selected earlier, and with a cost that incorporates \$68,500 in design fees. Second by Mr. DeBlasio. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 6 YES to 0 NO.

- VII. Other business pertinent to the Committee – Plans, specifications and cost estimates will now go to the Board of Parks and Recreation for their approval next week. They will then go to the Town Council for approval on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Till and Milone and MacBroom were asked to appear before the Town Council to answer any questions. The project can then go out to bid on February 2<sup>nd</sup> with a February 23<sup>rd</sup> bid opening. The next Committee meeting will be on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 PM to review the bids received.
- VIII. Public participation – None.
- IX. Committee response to public participation – None.
- X. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeff Baron*

Jeff Baron  
Director of Administrative Services

\* Items amended are in **bold** type.