

Mayor Sobel stated this evening we have a public hearing regarding the Fireman's Field Rehabilitation and with us is Tim Gillen, CME Associates, Township Engineer. Mayor Sobel opened the Public Hearing.

Township Manager, Stuart Brown stated we had in our Capital Program a project to install new lighting at Fireman's Field. The lighting there now was put up by volunteers decades ago and is in need of replacement. We came across a grant offered by Monmouth County for recreational acquisition or development, which require matching funds and we identified Fireman's Field as a project which we have matching funds for already. The County has a total of \$2.5 million available for all of the grants. Our grant application is \$218,000 which is half of \$436,000 project. We will be hand delivering the application tomorrow.

Mr. Gillen stated we had discussions with the Recreation Director, Mr. Jim Colabelli as to the condition of the lights. Initially it started out as just a lighting application and we also review the condition of the infield and the additional drainage requirements. As a result of that the application expanded somewhat to include under drains for the infield, drainage system to carry that away, additional backstop, bleachers on either side, seven light poles and new fixtures and control system. Based on our experience with other facilities we prepared an estimate of \$436,000.00. In addition, there are improvements to the gravel area adjacent to the field. A portion of the field is not on municipal property it is on the right of way of the former railroad owned by New Jersey Transit which is under lease to Monmouth County Recreation. Monmouth County Recreation has a long term lease for the Henry Hudson Trail and what the County is proposing is to pave the parking lot and will serve as trail head where vehicles can come and people will walk or hike the trail. That will be available to the municipality for utilization for parking for the field as well.

Mr. Gillen stated right now it is in the concept stage. We just prepared the estimates, application and supporting documentation in order to provide justification for the funds. It is a fifty percent grant with a maximum of \$250,000.00 and the municipality has some funds available.

Councilman Raymond asked what the capacity of the parking lot is.

Mr. Gillen stated 35 vehicles are viable.

Joe Brereton
55 Fordham Drive

Mr. Brereton asked when was the beginning stage. How long ago was this done.

Mr. Brown stated this is the beginning stage. This is purely a concept plan to apply for funding. If the funding is approved and we proceed with the project we will involve all the users of the field in terms of getting input.

Mayor Brown asked if the grant is approved what do you see as the activities that will happen.

Mr. Gillen stated what normally happens before we finalize any design we review it with the

Recreation Director. The Recreation Director will advise whether or not he will have a public hearing or additional input from the organizations. The intent is that the field be available for continued use for softball as well as soccer based on my discussions with Mr. Colabelli.

Mayor Sobel stated right now it is primarily used as a softball field and the outfield is used for soccer. Who uses it for softball?

Mr. Gillen stated he understands it is used for girls, women and men softball teams. It is used between the hours of 3:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. On weekdays and 8:00 a.m. To 10:00 p.m. On weekends. Periodically youth soccer uses the field in between.

Mr. Brown stated to be clear there is no design yet.

Mayor Sobel asked as part of the grant application what kind of items do you include to support your request.

Mr. Brown stated CME Associates put together a cost estimate based on what it costs to rehabilitate the field. We do not actually go through a whole design concept.

Mr. Gillen stated we use historical numbers from other fields that we have worked on.

Mayor Sobel asked how soon after we send in the application do we find out if it will be accepted or not.

Mr. Gillen stated he is not sure of the time frame, but it could be several months. After that a formal design will have to be made. The County will normally keep an eye on the funds and concurrence submittal will be made to the town.

Mayor Sobel asked if the grant is accepted is this when you solicit input from the users.

Mr. Gillen stated he does not solicit the users, he goes to the municipality and they will set up whatever users they want to be involved.

Mayor Sobel asked Mr. Brown how we see engaging the users in the process.

Mr. Brown stated assuming we get the funding, we would invite all the users of the field to a meeting to talk through designs and do some brainstorming. Show them concept plans and what we are thinking about and get their ideas.

Mayor Sobel asked how long of a period would that be.

Mr. Brown stated early on in the design process before CME Associates undertake the work and in the end to see the final.

Mr. Brereton asked if we wanted to do some different things how does that work.

Mr. Brown stated that would be in the design phase. One thing I do ask from everyone involved is letters of support. The County takes support seriously. There is no design now and eventually it comes down to how much money is there at the end of the day and how the bids will come in. If you look at other fields in the municipality, as the soccer fields in Strathmore, there is a certain amount that the municipality did and a whole lot the league did. The league maintains the field one hundred percent. At the end of the day there is a partnership and the project does not have to stop with the municipalities funding.

Mayor Sobel stated the earlier you identify the items on your wish list the better for us.

Mr. Brereton asked you mentioned the Recreation Director getting the organizations together to brainstorm, do we do that now.

Mr. Brown stated we will do that when we know how much money we have and start the design process. This would be early next year. If we do not get any money than we only have money for the lighting and there will be no design phase.

Mr. Brereton asked if we get no money what do we do.

Mr. Brown stated we could ask the leagues for help in a fund raising campaign. We could go after other grants. We are very hopeful we will get the grant. The most help we need right now is the support of this project.

Jan Rubino
Cliffwood Beach

Ms. Rubino asked if we are including the parking lot as well.

Mr. Gillen stated no, we don't own the parking lot.

Mr. Brown stated the County will be paving the parking lot.

Ms. Rubino stated it is very dangerous.

Mr. Brown stated he does not disagree but it is legally not our parking lot.

Mr. Gillen stated he has the Soil Conservation Permit for the parking lot reconstruction. They are already persuing this and they have it in permitting. It should be constructed this year if not by the spring of next year.

Stan Kowski
23 Autumn Lane

Mr. Kowski asked if town property can be incorporated.

Mr. Gillen stated no, there is no town property.

Mr. Kowski stated there is room for the parking along the side of the parking for it to be

extended into town property. 35-35 parking spaces is not a lot.
Mr. Brown stated there is no room to maintain a playable field

Mr. Gillen stated there is only 20 feet of property and a second row of parking can not go in there. There will be no aisle.

Mayor Sobel stated the way it stands with property we own are in heavy residential areas. This is what is available now.

Mr. Komski asked how much are we matching and how much money is set aside.

Mr. Brown stated \$218,000.00, we have 100% match. The lighting will be constructed next year no matter what.

Bob Berardo
322 Edgeview Road

Mr. Berardo stated now it the time for us to start eh process for our wish list so when you guys come to us at the end of the year, we will be proactive and able to give you the list. It is also, the right time to look at sponsors who want to help.

Mr. Brown stated yes, the other leagues themselves contribution a good amount of money.

Mr. Berardo stated the businesses have stepped up very nicely and gave money.

Jim Carney
123 Washington Avenue
Matawan, N.J.

Mr. Carney asked if we gave you \$20,000 would we have control of the money.

Mr. Brown stated there are certain amenities that you would have control over, as a scoreboard, concession stand. There are things that you can come up with.

Mr. Komski stated we are the ones that use the field. There should be more of a say from the get go. Hopefully funds will be allocated. I could do things so we don't have to pay a contractor. The money goes quick.

Mr. Brown stated there is a public contracts law that we have to follow.

Mayor Sobel stated our fields are heavily used. They take a beating.

Mr. Berardo stated regarding supporting documentation for the grant, he has a letter of support for the grant. Is there anything else do we need? The County needs to know how much these fields are used.

Mr. Brown stated any letters of support.

Mayor Sobel stated we should identify the number of teams that use the field, the number of individuals, the number of residents impacted by this application.

Mr. Cairney stated there are at least 280 little league players and 140 players in the girls softball.

Mr. Komski asked when are they awarding the grant.

Mr. Gillen stated it will take several months.

Mr. Brown stated hopefully by the end of the year.

Martha Vogt
55 Juniper

Ms. Vogt asked when the County is meeting on this.

Mr. Brown stated he doesn't know. We will find that out.

Ms. Vogt stated in terms of the parking is it possible to shift the whole field over.

Mr. Gillen stated it would be potentially possible, we would have to look at it.

Ms. Vogt asked about an area across the street for parking.

Mr. Gillen stated it is owned by the Parkway Authority.

Ms. Vogt asked if this can be posted on the website.

Mr. Brown stated yes we will put it on.

Ms. Vogt asked if a petition or letters are better to submit.

Mr. Brown stated letters, the address will be posted on the website.

There being no one else present wishing to be heard Mayor Sobel closed the public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 19-2006 - INTRODUCTION

Councilman Vinci made a motion to introduce Ordinance 19-2006 on first reading by title and to order the same to be published in summary in the September 21, 2006 issue of the Courier and Asbury Park Press, together with notice of its introduction and passage on first reading by title, and that it will be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting of the Township Council to be held on October 3, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building of the Township of Aberdeen at One Aberdeen Square.

Seconded by Councilman Minutolo.

Thereupon the Clerk read the aforementioned ordinance by title, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ABERDEEN TO IMLEMENT INGRESS AND EGRESS RESTRICTIONS TO THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1168 ROUTE 34 (BLOCK 104, LOT 11) FROM LLOYD ROAD (A.K.A. COUNTY ROAD #3) IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ABERDEEN"

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmen Minutolo, Perry, Raymond, Vinci and Mayor Sobel

Nays: None

Abstain: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Perry made a motion to approve the consent Agenda all items listed under 7B.

Seconded by Councilman Raymond

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmen Minutolo, Perry, Raymond and Vinci

Nays: None

Abstain: Mayor Sobel

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2006-123 - BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council that it hereby appoints Marilyn Ratel as Registrar of Vital Statistics

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmen Minutolo, Perry, Raymond, Vinci and Mayor Sobel

Nays: None

Abstain: None

2. BA – 890 – Bingo for Auxiliary of the Basilian Fathers of Mariapoch, Aberdeen, NJ
3. BA – 891- Bingo for Basilian Fathers of Mariapoch, Aberdeen, NJ
4. BA – 892 – Bingo for Basilian Third Order, Aberdeen, NJ
5. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION - BE IT RESOLVED that the general public shall be excluded from discussion held during executive session -Contractual

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS/CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

Mayor Sobel asked any member of the public wishing to be heard to come forward and to state their name and address. There being no one present wishing to be heard, Mayor Sobel closed the public portion.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Raymond made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Minutolo and unanimously concurred by Council.

David G. Sobel, Mayor

Karen Ventura, Municipal Clerk