

EXPANDED DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
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DRAFT MINUTES

CITY OF NASHUA
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE
May 20, 2021

6:00PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Scott LeClair, Chair of the Planning Board and Capital Improvement Committee, via Zoom at 6:00PM, and terms of the virtual meeting were reviewed by the Chair. Mr. LeClair explained the Committee's procedures, stating that the Committee is operating under the Governor's Executive Order via Zoom and explained how public access is available by telephone/Zoom and the method for contacting City staff in the event that connection is not possible.

Introduction of Members Present: (Roll Call)

Scott LeClair, Chair
Charlie Budris, Vice-Chair
Larry Szetela
Matt Sullivan, Secretary
Jan Schmidt, Aldermanic Liaison
John Griffin

Staff: Marcia Wilkins
Christine Webber

Excused: David Fredette, Alderman Tencza, Bob Canaway

Presentations: Julie Chizmas, Sarah Marchant, and Tim Cummings

Community Development Division:

Julie Chizmas, Long Range and Transportation Planner with the Community Development Division presented the following projects.

Mine Falls Park Gateway

This project is the purchase of 4.75 acre lot by the City, for \$325,000, which is currently owned by the Millyard Associates. Currently a portion of the lot is leased to Absolute Broadcast who maintains a radio tower on the site. The lot is located at the eastern entrance to Mine Falls Park and is easily accessible by vehicle, foot, or bike. The purchase of this property is an opportunity to preserve this as a gateway to Mine Falls Park. Funding for this project is from the Broad Street Parkway Capital Fund.

Spruce St Connector

Over the past 30 years the City has worked to improve the pedestrian and bicycle connections, especially in our downtown areas. The purpose of this project is to connect the Riverwalk and Heritage Rail East Trail projects, which are already entering into the design phase. This project will improve the section of rail-trail where the Riverwalk will terminate and it also improves the crossing of Temple St. to Spruce St. with a high visibility crossing signal or rapid flashing beacon. The construction of the multipurpose trail is a 1.25 Million dollar project which is planned to be funded through the Federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), which requires a 20% City match, which is \$250,000.

Tim Cummings, Director of Economic Development added the two abutting property owners to parcel 77-5 will have the option for 90 days to purchase land on the eastern side of the access-way Therefore, the final parcel may be smaller than currently displayed. The \$325,000 is direct payment for the land and the Absolute Broadcast lease will be transferred to Millyard Associates for management/maintenance. Therefore, the City will have a revenue gap with lease payments no longer being received from Absolutely Broadcast, bringing the 'all-in' project cost to approximately \$380,000.

Matt Sullivan asked for further clarification on the source of funds, the Broad Street Parkway Fund. Tim Cummings replied that no new taxes are going to be raised for this initiative, we are repurposing already borrowed and bonded funds for the Broad Street Parkway because the Parkway was constructed under budget.

Larry Szetela joined the meeting at 6:14PM.

Charlie Budris commented on the need for commuter rail and how there is a necessity for it.

Tim Cummings added that he is currently working on a project that may require CIC review, the implementation of the River Front Master Plan, which is in the Preliminary design.

Ranking and Voting of Projects

Matt Sullivan took a roll call vote for ranking of the Millyard Gateway and Spruce Street Connection projects. All members present ranked the projects with an A, resulting in a final project ranking of Short Term, A-1.

Scott LeClair made a motion to accept the vote count and ranking as presented, seconded by Charlie Budris. All members approved unanimously.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Matt Sullivan at 6:25 PM. Seconded by John Griffin, All members voted in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Scott LeClair, Chair

Date