

Vision Committee Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2016 6:30pm

Members Present: Bruce Meringolo, Peter O'Neill, Jerry Aroneo, Neil Henry, Lisa Scanlon

Don Farnell joined us.

Peter O'Neill moved to accept the minutes for 2/4/16 and 2/9/16. Lisa Scanlon seconded. All approved.

Report from the Administrator on the eminent domain and tax appeal settlements on the Kurz Property. The sale of the Kurz property was finalized for the price of \$4.3mm. \$257k of this amount represents the amount of the tax appeal award. The first payment on the remaining amount owed was made yesterday. Of the additional amount owed to the Kurz family based on the property valuation, the county did pay an additional \$247k toward the purchase. The County only contributed 25% of the amount in excess of \$2.8mm and not at the 75% which they contributed toward the original grant. They technically did not have to pay anything additional. The Township will bond for the additional \$1mm that is owed.

Commented [JP1]: I didn't think the deleted language was clear. If you put it back in, I would make it clear that the County only contributed 25% of the amount in excess of \$2.8m and not 25% of the full purchase price.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The balance in the Open Space...Trust Fund is between \$30k - \$35k. In July, an additional lump sum of \$243k will be coming into the fund from the taxes collected.

The Township Committee was presented with an option to add the approximate cost of \$350k - \$400k to the bond they were taking out to contract out for a concept design on Central Park. They decided not to add the money to the bond. The Township Committee is very supportive of doing the concept plan—just not in agreement of how to pay for it.

Peter O'Neill noted that in the back of the proposal from RBA, there are several very good designs. Peter feels this committee should review these and critique them.

The committee agreed that we cannot give SCE or RBA any direction at this point. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] It will be another 3-6 months before we can give them an answer.

In the meantime, our engineer has done a lot of the preliminary work for planning on the Kurz property. We'll need to pull some things together from materials he has already gathered to develop the preliminary master plan. We'll then have to decide whether or not to scale the project back, OR, we can decide to expand the project and include all of the adjacent properties the Township already owns.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm. Next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 5th, at 6:30pm.