

**THE AHS SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD & TRACK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT  
BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF AVON HELD A MEETING ON  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019 AT THE PROJECT SITE**

Present were: Mark Zacchio, Peter Ponziani, David Jadovich, Sarah Roberson and Assistant to the Town Manager, Grace Tiezzi.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Zacchio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 10, 2019**

Mr. Jadovich made a motion to approve the July 10, 2019 meeting minutes as written. Mr. Ponziani seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**3. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Tom Gibb, 533 West Avon Road, stated he is happy to report that the dust at his house has been controlled since the coverings have been put up on the fencing.

Sally, an Avon resident, stated that she feels this project has been well organized and quiet.

**4. PROJECT STATUS / SCHEDULE UPDATES**

Ms. Tiezzi stated that the contractor is currently installing the carpet on the field. The next step will be the rubber surface on the track, which will begin on August 19<sup>th</sup> and should take two weeks from start to finish. She stated that the project is on target for their substantial completion date of August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Substantial completion is defined as the field being ready for use, although the track will not be finished until the final completion date, which is September 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Zacchio stated that once the field is done and the track contractor is on site, the field will need to be covered so it is completely protected. He is hopeful that the field will be ready for an event over the Labor Day weekend.

Mr. Zacchio stated that Brandon Robertson, Town Manager, will be reaching out to the Sudbury Way and West Avon Road neighborhoods regarding the plantings and possible access onto their properties.

**5. BUDGET UPDATE**

Ms. Tiezzi stated that the July invoice of \$492,000 has been paid. To date, the total spent is \$1.2 million, which is 53% of the contract. She stated that beyond the \$115,000 that was spent for bases, \$7,300 of the contingency fund has been spent on

relocating the irrigation, relocating the living sign and a new water fountain. A small credit was received from the contractor for material that did not need to be purchased.

Ms. Tiezzi stated that there are several possible projects for this Committee to consider. She asked that they vote tonight to make a recommendation to the Town Council on the following: foul line netting for the baseball field, security cameras that the Board of Education has requested, a portable restroom enclosure, as well as aggregate garbage cans. These projects all total an estimated \$53,000.

Regarding the foul line netting, Ms. Tiezzi asked that the Committee members consider installing safety netting from along the baseball field to the end of the foul line in order to protect track users. This project cost is approximately \$38,000. Installation would be completed after the project's substantial complete. Mr. Zacchio stated that the netting would start after the third line bench and run out to the foul pole. It will be 25' tall and 22 ½' in from the foul line; it will be lined up with the paved area. Mr. Ponziani questioned if this netting was removable. Mr. Zacchio stated that it is installed in sleeves and is taken down with pulleys, although the netting will probably be in place for the whole season.

Ms. Tiezzi stated that the Board of Education is working to make security improvements district wide. They are requesting that two wireless security cameras be mounted at either the concession stand or new storage shed as well as the score board. Having these two additional cameras will offer a complete view of the field, along with a camera that is already in place on the school building. She stated that the total cost for this is approximately \$3,975. Mr. Jadovich stated that the security cameras need to be high quality cameras. A good quality camera will cost about \$3,500 each. He would also like to see even more cameras for complete coverage.

Regarding the portable restroom enclosure, Ms. Tiezzi stated that they could construct a stick build shed that would match the concessions stand and storage building. The other option is to place 8'-10' vinyl fencing to enclose the area. The fencing could be a white or buff color. Mr. Zacchio stated that the enclosure would be a three walled enclosure on a concrete pad. Ms. Tiezzi stated that the estimated costs for the fencing would be approximately \$8,000, which would include the concrete pad. The shed alone, without the concrete pad, would cost approximately \$10,000.

Ms. Tiezzi stated that if the Committee were to recommend these projects, there would be about \$101,000 left in the contingency fund. Mr. Ponziani stated that as the overall project moves toward completion, there will be less of a need to take from the contingency fund.

Sgt. Lazinsk stated that the Police Department has access to some of the cameras, but not necessarily all of them. He stated that Jim Connelly, Director of School Security, does have access to all of the cameras.

In response to a question regarding the foul line netting, Mr. Zacchio stated that it would start at the 10' fence and go approximately 30' just short of the 3<sup>rd</sup> base. Sgt. Lazinsk stated that most foul balls do not usually affect people near the outfield of the 3<sup>rd</sup> baseline, but the batting area. Mr. Zacchio stated that the netting will mostly guard against line drives toward the track.

In response to a question from Ms. Roberson regarding signage, Mr. Zacchio stated that all of the signage comes from Green Fields, although more signage could be added. Ms. Tiezzi stated that all language on the signage has been approved.

Ms. Roberson made a motion to make a recommendation to the Town Council for installing up to 5 high powered security cameras totaling up to \$20,000 to ensure proper coverage of the field. Mr. Ponziani seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Ms. Roberson made a motion to make a recommendation to the Town Council to approve the foul line netting as presented. Mr. Jadovich seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Ms. Roberson made a motion to make a recommendation to the Town Council to approve the vinyl fencing enclosure, of a neutral color to be determined by the architect, for the portable restrooms. Mr. Ponziani seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mr. Zacchio stated that Myles is getting quotes to power wash and/or paint the bleachers. Also, the Town Manager and the Superintendent will be walking around the project site in the upcoming days to make a punch list for the Building and Grounds employees to clean up, fix, organize, etc.

After a short discussion regarding the aggregate trash cans, Mr. Zacchio suggested that in the Committee's recommendation to the Town Council, it state that they are in favor of the trash cans, although more information is needed prior to making a recommendation.

Ms. Tiezzi stated that the Town will be planning opening events for the field. They are considering having a soft opening / open house, as well as a ribbon cutting that would coincide with an athletic event.

Regarding a policy for usage, Ms. Roberson stated that she feels a policy is needed; something that people can be directed to. Mr. Zacchio stated that having a policy of use will be very important. It will be a collaboration between the Town and the Board of Education.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ponziani motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Jadovich seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Ponziani, Vice Chair/Secretary

Attest: Alison Sturgeon, Clerk