

TOWN OF LOOMIS
ACTION MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
LOOMIS TOWN COUNCIL
LOOMIS DEPOT
5775 HORSESHOE BAR ROAD, LOOMIS, CA 95650

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 25, 2010

6:30 P.M.

Note: These are action minutes only. An audio copy of the meeting can be requested at Town Hall.

CALL TO ORDER Call to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Mayor Liss
Councilmember Kelley
Councilmember Morillas
Councilmember Scherer
Councilmember Ucovich

PUBLIC COMMENT: This time is reserved for those in the audience who wish to address the Town Council on subjects that are not on the Agenda. The audience should be aware that the Council may not discuss details or vote on non-agenda items. Your concerns may be referred to staff or placed on the next available agenda. Please **note that comments from the public will also be taken on any item on the agenda. The time allotted to each speaker is five minutes.** There was no public comment.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA A motion was made to adopt the Agenda. On motion by Councilmember Ucovich, seconded by Councilmember Kelley and passed by voice vote.

BUSINESS

1. Downtown Park Improvements

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

At the June 8, 2010 Town Council meeting, staff was directed to continue the design process of the downtown park and begin preparing the improvement plans, specifications and estimates

Recommended action: Approve the 60 percent downtown park plans and direct staff/consultant to complete the improvement plans and specifications with the findings that the project is exempt under CEQA categories 15303, 15304 and 15332 and authorize staff to advertise for bids

Public comment:

Perry Beck, Town Manager, stated the following:

- his concern is the State Grant, they want to have the project completed by December
- the State wants to get the projects done so there is plenty of time to obtain the money
- he would like to have a lot of shovels in the ground by then so we can show that we are under construction and at a certain stage
- he asked Council to give the consultant direction to proceed with a plan and suggested bidding as many things as they can with this plan (some being bid alternates)
- the process with the State takes about 3 to 4 weeks and during that time Omni Means can draw up the plans and maybe go to bid within 30 days
- the project should take about 90 days, if the weather is good

Brian Frাগiao, Town Engineer/Public Works Director, stated that Scott Robertson has revised some of the cost estimate stages to be more reflective of what is going on.

Scott Robertson, Omni Means project manager, stated the following:

- he handed out revised numbers that they just received this afternoon
- they have been working with PCWA and have been able to eliminate a meter cost and come down to a ¾ inch meter, which will reduce the cost
- the spray pad costs was an error in the document and the number has been revised
- irrigation numbers have also been revised, more realistic numbers now
- they were going to pull over the water service in the initial plan
- recently he talked with PCWA and they will allow the restroom, the spray pad, and drinking fountain off the same meter as the irrigation with two back-flow preventers

Nancie McLaughlin, McLaughlin Studios, stated the following:

- she requested to have 220 2- 20 amp breakers for outlets on two of the light poles (near one end) to accommodate their events
- also, asked for a couple of bars attached to the poles that could be used for flags and for lighting

Sandra Calvert, 4285 Indian Creek Drive, stated the following:

- extra lighting is a great idea for the future events
- she would hope Council would open this up for local bidding
- on behalf of the Park, Recreation and Open Space Committee , they were hoping to see more rural character
- they would like to see Boy Scout and Seniors at Del Oro get involved in a community park (example, making benches)
- the more we involve them, the better our park will be in the long run
- we need to look at planting strong trees where we can have a tree swing, this gives the rural character
- her son, Connor, suggested some kind of a platform/tree house, where kids can observe the train traffic as it goes by
- she would like the skate park referred to as a community plaza, in giving it this title it takes away some negativity that might be out there
- we could offer the boarders a tile and they can draw their favorite fruit and tile that area to give it character and give them ownership
- we do have remembrances, honoraries, deaths that we may want to honor with some of the walk-ways
- it would be nice to walk and understand the history of our Town and see some type of remembrance of individual s that have helped make our community
- we love our pets here too, I don't see any watering for our dogs, that would be great to have a place where we can give our dogs a drink and make it pet friendly

Jennifer Knisley, 4135 Hunters Drive, stated that if we want people to go somewhere to eat their lunch, the covered shelter would be more beneficial than the tot lot .

Jean Wilson, 4301 Barton Road, stated the following:

- suggested stubbing in the spray feature and the restrooms and not putting them in, at this time
- she likes the idea of using the water for the spray and for the irrigation, instead of paying for the re-circulation costs
- she agrees that the native oaks are not the best for active areas
- a North African Mediterranean oak and the Cork Oak from Portugal also does well in this area
- for some of the landscaped and heavily used areas we need to use trees that are going to work well there and put the native ones in the lesser used areas where they can survive
- she is hoping that the lights shown will meet our requirements of being down-lit, because we do have an ordinance on that
- if we do the community garden, there is a community garden association and a person from there would be happy to come and talk

Hilary Wallis, 5600 Tudor Way, stated the following:

- she suggested keeping it more natural
- she pointed out that kids like playing on boulders and she liked the tree house idea
- trash receptacles and picnic tables costs are high and suggested moving some of the benches we already have on the other side of the Depot moved to the new side
- we should be able to find trash receptacles for \$200 rather than \$1600

Janet Thew, 5572 St. Francis Circle, stated the following:

- she is trying to figure out where all the months and hours of public input meetings went, she fails to see a lot of the things that were discussed incorporated here (no volunteers anymore, standard plastic play equipment, or typical plants), where is Loomis in all of this
- there are plenty of native plants that can be used, certain Manzanita's, Toyon, and Coffee berries, there is no need to use standard typical plants here
- the lighting is not downlit as required
- what she thought was going to be a small multi-use plaza has grown into a very large skate plaza, it seems like the multi-use concept has disappeared
- where is the multi-use going to come in and if it is going to be a multi-use than can we rename it so it doesn't say skate plaza everywhere and really make it multi-use

Pat Miller 4395 Gold Trail Way, stated the following:

- there is a message coming out from the audience, she was looking forward to the volunteer opportunity
- there are plenty of contractors all over Loomis that would be excited about this park
- we don't want to see it look like any other park anywhere, we don't like the off the shelf type park
- she didn't hear about the backless benches and prefers benches with a back
- we are all hoping that the park will be unique to Loomis, she likes the idea of using boulders for kids to play on
- regarding the volunteers, it is not about saving money, it is about getting the community involved
- if you have the tot lot out there and no shade then there will be no tots, but if there is a shade structure than everybody will be there
- she also would like to see us maximize the use of native plants, they will be less care and maintenance

Nancy Beck, 6304 David Avenue stated the following:

- she too envisioned a different type of park from all of the meetings
- Loomis is a tight community, she has watched this community grow and she has seen the tots that are now young adults with their own families
- she sees them up and down the main street in the evenings, taking their children in strollers, or tricycles, or Radio Flyer wagons
- she has talked to quite a few of them and they are very excited about this, our town is known for volunteerism
- she would like to see our community, our school community (FFA), and Scouts involved with this
- the idea of calling it a Community Plaza is wonderful, when you look at the statistics, the young folks outnumber the old folks right now
- the whole family can share in this, she envisioned something that was more unique to our area and using our native plants
- I hope Council reconsiders this, she thought Ms. Calvert and Connor came up with some wonderful ideas
- the tiles are a good idea
- the prices for benches in our packet was overwhelming, we can also ask for donated benches again and be consistent with the ones we already have
- she concurs with the rest, we need to have it our park and not one you would see in Sacramento, Roseville, or Rocklin

Perry Beck Stated the following:

- option one is a basic kind of park, it builds about half of it although it lays out the site gradings and everything else
- it does a partial paving, undergrounds all the utilities and stubs it, and it comes in at a price of about \$516, 000, there is even a few things in there that could be set up as bid alternates
- again his concern is to get the State money completed, and suggested number 1, which would still allow us to build something that he believes the State will accept
- we can take our time on the money that we are planning to use
- we could extend that over the next 2 to 4 years as the situation will allow
- the Public Works director suggested that the CMAC funds can be used for parking facilities and pedestrian pathways and if we can pay for that in that manner than that stretches our park dollars to go a little further

Mayor Liss noted that Polly Emert had to leave and asked him to state if they have to cut back then just go with the basic park, with utilities stubbed in.

Councilmember Ucovich stated the following:

- he would like to keep the lawn and the iris garden and not the community garden
- he would just stub in for the restroom at this time
- it's important to get as much stuff as we can so the community can come out and use it as a park
- talked about using grey water for the spray area
- we don't need the benches, the drinking fountain does have something for the dogs
- for the lighting, he doesn't want to see the lights in the trees again
- he would like the lights along the pathway and in the parking lot (not all in the backside)
- most parks close when the sun goes down
- he agrees with having more natural plants
- regarding the plastic play structure, he has been in this business fifty years, rocks get hot to climb on
- he would like to see the tot lot put in and the shade picnic structure
- he suggested putting receptacles at each tree, it's nice during the holiday
- if you do it all the first time it is a lot cheaper, State law has come down hard with volunteers on any project because of liability

Councilmember Kelley stated the following:

- he has three different sets of sheets with numbers on it and he would like to see them all in a line
- we need to send the whole package out to bid and make them understand that we are looking at these options and when the bids come back we will want the numbers right in these same places, that will allow us to move forward and get things done
- he would like to get rid of all of the landscaping, look at the infrastructure for the water system and make sure that we can plant plants
- he would like to send it back to the Park, Recreation and Open Space Committee (PROSC) to figure out what plants will go there, along with the Town arborist
- we have funding for trees in Loomis and nowhere to plant them, this can become a community effort
- make sure that the lighting structures have outlets at the bottom for events
- suggested having all conduits larger than a ¾ conduit
- in the area that we want to have events/activities we need a couple of places where we can put job boxes (that have breakers built into them), this will allow flexibility for events
- suggested using a timed button, to conserve water, that can be pressed for the water feature
- we need to look at getting all the infrastructure in
- we need a priority order on what to do first
- we should never design a facility and leave any ADA options out
- he likes the idea of using the grey water and solar for some of the electricity use
- we should send out to bid now and do the substitutions (landscaping, etc.) later

Councilmember Scherer stated the following:

- the picnic tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountain and the barbecue grill total \$39,600, these are things that could be funded by community contributions
- if we put out there that there is an opportunity to fund these things than people will come forward
- he agrees with Councilmember Kelley that maybe we should take out the entire landscaping plan, it's not reflective of any of the input that was given and doesn't speak of Loomis
- the oak trees are not planted in high traffic areas, these are excellent opportunities for native shrubs
- if we go to bid without the option of landscaping than we can do the landscaping through community participation down the road (Arbor Day, etc.)
- there is talk about identifying the boulders and pulling them out and setting them aside but there isn't any place in the plans as to where they will be placed at this time and if they are not placed at this time than they won't be placed
- the input that has been given has been ignored and it isn't building confidence in this company's ability to do projects in Loomis
- we have no choice, we have to move forward because we are under a financial time constraint
- if rocks are there than kids will climb on them, he would like to see a landscaping plan go forward that can be done, that is reflective of the input that has been received
- suggested going forward with the bid, and then the different phased bids as well, and allowing us, in accepting a bid, to pull things out (can accept all or parts of a bid)

Perry Beck asked if all the shrubbery and trees were removed if the location of the landscaping would be okay?

Councilmember Scherer said yes.

Councilmember Morillas stated the following:

- the grass needs to go in, you can't have a park without grass
- she agrees with Ms. McLaughlin about the 220 2-20 amp outlets, there is never enough power for all the vendors at the Eggplant Festival, plays and the concerts
- she likes the idea of the homemade tiles that Ms. Calvert talked about
- she encouraged local bidding

- she agrees with Ms. Wilson on the Portuguese cork oak tree because some of this community was settled by a large group of Portuguese and Spanish
- also, the Mediterranean oak is something that the Portuguese and Spanish would have brought over
- she likes the idea of putting the shade shelter in first and then the tot lot, tots won't be playing on the rocks, there needs to be a place for the children under 5 years old to play
- she likes the tree house idea and the natural plantings and being more unique
- the acorn grinding holes in the granite rocks need to be emphasized (if there are any), because the Maidu Indians were the earliest settlers in this area, that could be built into the skate park area, some kind of Indian designs to show the heritage
- the volunteers should be used where feasible
- we need to have benches around the park and we can advertise again, if someone wants to donate a bench in memory of their family
- or people could buy trees to donate, there are lots of ways to get donations

Mayor Liss stated the following:

- he wants to stress the rural character because that didn't come through at all
- agrees with not going forward with the landscaping plan but to refer it to the PROSC and the Town arborist, take our time and use the Town money later for those kinds of things
- an important thing is that after the construction is done it needs to feel like a park and not incomplete
- he likes the idea of including the shade structure
- regarding the tot lot, maybe there is room for both plastic and boulders and maybe other things through donations
- agrees with having community participation with benches, tables, bike racks, water fountains and the barbecue grill
- these are wonderful opportunities for donations of cash and/or construction by contractors or students (over time)
- suggested moving some of the benches from the one side of the Depot to the park area to start and then more from donations
- he liked the tiles and the tree house suggestions, things that reflect our heritage, give the rural feel, and the different cultures
- stud out for the restrooms at this time, the electric outlets at the light poles and use solar when we can, like on top of shade structure
- he liked the timed button for the water feature area and use of the grey water
- he would like to incorporate the grinding rocks in the park, having it in the ground with a plaque giving a description
- he agrees that we have to be ADA compliant

Mr. Frাগiao suggested leaving the landscaping out (except for the grass) and putting the irrigation in at this time.

Mr. Scott pointed out that there are State mandates for erosion control of dirt running into the street that has to be dealt with.

Councilmember Kelley asked to isolate the part of the landscaping that relates to bio-swale and planting in those areas, we know those are critical items and maybe get the PROSC to look at it before we go to plant in that area.

Mr. Beck pointed out the following:

- he needs a decision so that he can take this plan to the State and have them approve it before we go to bid
- he will send the first page showing the plan, than the page showing the maximum cost estimate (1.3 million)
- only use site development, paving improvements (no detail, in broad categories) and stating this is what we expect this park to cost and what it will look like, eventually
- it will show that the work we will be doing will be primarily related to getting the infrastructure in

Following further discussion on the matter, a motion was made to authorize staff to send the plan to the State, as amended by the comments from Council and directing staff to work with the Town arborist, Janet Thew and Jean Wilson on the planting plan to come back at the September 14, 2010 Council meeting.

Council adjourned to close session at 8:28p.m. and came out of close session at 8:35 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION – Pursuant to cited authority, the Town Council will hold a closed session to discuss the following listed items. A report of any action taken will be presented prior to adjournment of the regular meeting.

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION.** Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision Section 54956.9:
 - Rocklin Crossing: Case #S CV 24099 Town of Loomis v City of Rocklin et al & Rocklin Crossings LLC et al

STATEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

- Council gave authority to submit a draft agreement to Rocklin.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. On motion by Councilmember Ucovich, seconded by Councilmember Scherer and passed by voice vote.

Mayor

Town Clerk