

COVENTRY SOFTBALL FIELDS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 25th, 2021

Members Present: Jennifer Rodgers (Chair), Matt Hunt, Ashley Gagnon, Bonnie Edmondson, Mike Blouin

Others: Matt O'Brien, Wendy Rubin, Jon Hand, Todd Penney, Kevin Grindle, Emma Eaton

Jen Rodgers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Meeting was conducted through a Town Zoom account. Meeting minutes were approved from last meeting.

Current Topics:

Anchored Engineering Review

- Kevin Grindle presenting for Anchored Eng
- Plains Road – DPW Pit
 - o Field #1 wet land and water runoff concern (from street and parking lot)
 - o Earth slope instead of retaining wall
 - o \$272,211.28 (ready to play)
 - o 504,082.04 w/contingencies

 - o Field #2
 - o Retaining wall for wetlands necessary for storm water (Todd)
 - o Both fields at a northeastern orientation
 - o \$265,957.56 (10% of this is retaining wall)
 - o \$336,412.56 w/contingencies

 - o Recommended Total \$850,000

 - o Very good draining material (gravel pit)
 - o Assumption \$0 per cubic yard
 - o Possible 2weeks worth removing for excavation
 - o Possible \$2-3 a yard but also could be \$0 (use to the contractor)
- Landfill Field
 - o Softball Field #1 is on existing football field (better condition)
 - o \$182,973.31 (ready to play)
 - o \$399,370.81 w/contingencies

 - o Field #2
 - o 266,378.61 (ready to play)
 - o 328,446.11 w/contingencies

 - o Recommended Total \$730,000

 - o \$20 a yard (trucking and placing)
 - o Economic due it the same time the venting project to save money (topsoil, turf)
 - o Both fields are north/northeast orientation

- Overlays venting trenches
- Suitable on metrics, engineering, and costs

Questions and Concerns

- Concerns: foundations for fencing, dugouts, backstops, methane mitigation/venting project approx. 30yrs of off gassing, maintaining turf and monitoring cracks,
 - Venting Project is to lessen maintenance on site.
 - Once Football fields go away and is needed again, needs to start all over to develop
 - How often are the vents checking?
- What happens if we do not do the field project and the venting project at the same time?
 - More money if it is done separately
 - Venting project is state ran, taking longer, waiting on STEAP grant
- Can the venting project wait if needed so projects are done in conjunction? – answer not known
 - What is the requirements of the STEAP grant?, when does it need to be done?, 12-24months.
 - Field 1 Landfill, no drainage needed like field 1 on Pit
 - What happens if football program starts backup? – potential at other sites
 - Keep in mind is this going to cost more if we eliminate place for football
- Pit location could share bathrooms and concession stand with baseball – brings price down
- Phasing in of projects, what is more efficient?
 - Building both fields at once is cost efficient. With this plan, we are not talking about much money difference. \$40,000 est.?
- Concerns about taking the football field away
 - Future use for football/lacrosse/soccer – high possibility this can come back ending is more money to be spent in creating something that is already there
 - Taking an already laid out field that can easily be used by something else
- Is there a difference in cost turf vs grass? Overtime would that be a cost savings?
 - 50% more for installation, life expectance is 15-20yrs, short answer is no
- Option for sidewalks at Landfill?
 - yes, it is possible
- There is a well at Miller Richardson; can there be a well in the landfill?
 - Possibly in the northwest corner, drilled well. – it is an option at both sites

8:18 Ashley Motioned to make DPW Pit our recommendation

- Bonnie and Jen seconded

Actions:

- Next step: recommendation to finance, then finance to town council
- Follow-up to get on Town Council agenda
- Contact Recreation Committee

Adjournment: With no other business to discuss the portion of the Softball Field Committee meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Gagnon

Please note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Softball Fields Committee at the next Softball Fields Committee Meeting. Please see the next Softball Fields Committee Meeting Minutes for approval or changes to these minutes.