

Town of East Haven, CT
Recreation & Athletic Complex Zoom Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2020
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Members Present:

Chairman Pat Paulson
Commissioner Sue Crisafi
Vice-Chair Liz Franco-Spano
Commissioner Dom Milano

Staff Present:

Frank Butler
Atty. Mike Luzzi
Michelle Benivegna

Members Absent:

Commissioner Woody Esposito

Chairman Paulson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Milano to approve the minutes of the September 14th meeting. Commissioner Crisafi seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Chairman Paulson-yes
Vice-Chair Franco-Spano- yes
Commissioner Crisafi-yes
Commissioner Milano-yes

All were in favor; none were opposed and there were no abstentions. **MOTION CARRIED**

Status of Rink Request for Proposals

Atty. Luzzi stated he wanted to specifically go over where we are regarding the rink proposals but first had Frank Butler address the commission regarding the bid specs and the invitation to bid. Frank stated that there are two proposals regarding the rink. The first being to just repair what is needed in order to run the rink for 8 to 9 months like we have in the past or there is another proposal suggestion that would entail installing a warm floor which would allow the rink to be used year-round. Obviously, the costs of both need to be evaluated but the rink is a great revenue generator for the Town and Frank also stated that many area rinks are running the full 12 months. Right now, the ice is put down around the end of August and is pulled up around the end of March. With a warm floor, the unit keeps the ground under the ice above the cement warm, so it can't freeze and buckle. Atty. Luzzi stated that we can revise the solicitation of an alternative bid and he anticipates Frank making those edits and everyone is comfortable with them, the legal team can have a 24-to-48-hour turnaround and put the bids out, so the process begins.

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Atty. Luzzi thanked Frank for doing all the work to get the bid together. Chairman Paulson asked if the system would be recycling the water or would it be constantly running. Frank stated that it is a closed system and once it fills it stays that way and only goes on when the temperature drops below the set temperature and only runs when needed. Commissioner Milano asked if the bid for the 12-month use was approved, would it bring back the youth teams to the town. Frank stated that there are leagues in the summer that could help kids stay in town if the bid for the 12-month usage was approved.

Old Business

Michelle Benivegna stated that they will be starting to look for a new director after the first of the year. She has a meeting with the Recreation Director from Branford, who has a great recreation program, to see what kind of goals can be set for our town and give our programs a facelift. Vice-Chair Franco-Spano asked Michelle if she wanted any of the commissioners to attend with her. Michelle said not at this time as it is a mostly informational meeting but absolutely in the future to discuss programs for the town and to see what worked and what didn't and what they might like to see for the department.

New Business

None

There being no further business to come before the commission, a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Milano and seconded by Commissioner Crisafi at 7:23 pm. All were in favor; none were opposed, and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda S. LaLuna

Linda S. LaLuna
Clerk