

Town of University Park

Report of Meeting

Council Committee on Public Facilities and Services

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

7:00 pm

University Park Town Hall

6724 Baltimore Avenue

Committee Members Present:

Len Carey, Council Member, Ward 4, Chair

Michael Cron, Council Member, Ward 6

James Gekas, Council Member, Ward 2

David Brosch, Council Member, Ward 1

Others Present:

Mayor John Tabori

Roy Alvarez, Council Member, Ward 7

Tom Ahmann, Ahmann Architects LLC

Ginny May, resident, Queens Chapel Road

Meeting called to order: 7:06 pm

1. Review bids for structural engineering evaluation of Riverdale Presbyterian Church

Mr. Ahmann distributed four (4) bids for the structural engineering evaluation for the Church. After careful review, he recommended the lowest and the high middle bid. The Committee discussed and agreed that the lowest bid was sufficient to determine the integrity of the building.

Motion: The Committee recommends Council approval of contracting with Simpson, Gumpertz and Heger, Inc as the most qualified and lowest bid for a Risk Category IV Structural Engineering evaluation of Riverdale Presbyterian Church, at the total cost of \$6,500.00.

Moved by: Mr. Cron

Yea: 4

Nay: 0

Seconded by: Mr. Gekas

Abstain: 0

2. Riverdale Presbyterian Church - Update

Mr. Ahmann informed the committee that the equipment for the lead testing for the Church was dropped and broken. The testing will be rescheduled. Because lead testing is instant-read, this delay should not delay the full results of the environmental

evaluation being received in a couple of weeks. The engineers doing the systems assessment requested a layout for the new uses of the Church; a preliminary layout will be provided to them in approximately one week.

Mr. Carey asked for different ideas of how to involve the entire town to make sure that everybody is aware of the decision that is coming up for the possible purchase of the Church, which is scheduled for January 20, 2014.

- A survey by snail mail to every registered voter
- Post card recommending everyone to come to the Community Conversation on January 18
- Survey Monkey via internet
- Newsletter
- Web site
- Hire a company or an individual from a local University to survey registered voters in the Town.

Mayor Tabori suggested that residents be informed of budget scenarios and possible building use prior to voting.

A resident expressed her concern that the people constructing the survey would not be neutral.

3. Next steps - Committee

Mr. Carey asked Mr. Gekas and Mayor Tabori to begin building a simple spread sheet on the costs and revenues for the Church. Mayor Tabori agreed to have this completed in early December.

Mr. Carey explained that the all of the questions and comments that were expressed from the Town residents at the Community Conversation will be available in a document and asked that the Committee work together to plug in answers where possible. This will be done at the next Committee Meeting scheduled for Saturday, November 30, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall. It was also suggested that the Council decide on how to organize the next Community Conversation.

Suggestions were given for the upcoming Community Conversation:

- Public Works distribute a flyer advertising the Community Conversation
- To be held at the Riverdale Presbyterian Church
- Provide sketches of future floor plans for the Church, though the design phase has not begun.

Mr. Ahmann raised the issue of parking capacity, since it is underprovided at the Church. Mr. Carey suggested that the conversation on parking be shared with the Church, and also that the Church—as owner of the building--should be informed of the final results of the building evaluations prior to being publicly released.

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Mr. Carey asked Mr. Brosch to email a draft document to the Committee on uses of the Church before November 26. This will be discussed at the November 30 meeting.

Since the final results on the Church will not be available until December 10, the Community Conversation should be rescheduled.

A recommendation to the Council was made, that they move the December 5, 2013 Community Conversation to Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned: 9:00 p.m.