Minutes not yet approved.
Approval and any edits to be made in succeeding minutes.

BLOOMFIELD GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026, 6:00 PM
HYBRID MEETING

RECEIVED
OCT 30 2026
9:41am
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BLOOMFIELD, CT

I. Call to Order

Chair Klein called the special meeting to order at 6:00pm.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Bradley Klein; Robert Berman; Lynette Easmon (arrived at 6:04pm); Frank Merblum
Members Absent: None.
Also Present: Jonathan Colman, Director of Building and Land Use; Ciaran Carr, General Manager; Dennis Petruzzelli (arrived at 7:13pm), Golf Course Superintendent; Alex McGann; Chris Strand; and Rebecca Jones, Recording Secretary.

III. Wintonbury Hills Golf Course Update

a. General Manager Report

Mr. Carr reported that August was a good month overall, with nearly 5,400 rounds played and over budget revenue, though it was significantly below the previous year's record performance. September faced challenges due to weather issues, including a nor'easter that impacted the last few days and caused a $60,000 budget miss, with total operating cash reaching over $2.1 million at the beginning of October.

b. Superintendent Course Update and Ongoing Projects

It was reported that September precipitation was above average at 2.47 inches, though the course remains under the annual precipitation target. A significant discussion centered on problems with the robotic mower, which frequently gets stuck on slopes despite being a $17,000 investment. Mr. Petruzzelli is working to resolve these issues with the vendor. Chair Klein confirmed that it is controlled via GPS. The greens were recently aerated on October 14th through 16th, with the practice green completed on the 16th. Mr. Carr and his team proactively informs all golfers about the aeration through phone calls and online bookings.

The Committee discussed golf course conditions, with Mr. Colman noting that while the greens are recovering well and receiving positive feedback, they remain bumpy but quick. Tree maintenance work is planned between Holes 16 and 17, which requires Town approval and was delayed due to wetlands considerations. Mr. Petruzzelli has confirmed the vendor pricing and plans to proceed with the hand removal of trees in the wetlands area, with no machinery allowed in that sensitive area.

c. Marketing Update

Mr. McGann announced the upcoming Black Friday Scramble golf event, which typically sells out. The event is promoted through social media, email, and local communications. Mr.

Albertson will be at the next meeting to provide year-end data as it relates to marketing and recruitment efforts.

Mr. Petruzzelli reported that the golf course is nearly at its seasonal rainfall average after dry months in July, August, and September, with October trending dry which will help with fairway aeration. The course historically closes around December 12th, though with warmer weather trends they hope to stay open until at least Christmas.

IV. Old Business

a. Bunker Renovation Project – Update

Three vendors attended a pre-bid meeting with bids due November 2, 2026 at 1:00pm, and the project is scheduled to begin next fall with no timeline concerns from contractors. Mr. McGann shared information related to bid addendums.

b. Fairway Mowers – Update

The fairway mowers project has one bidder with the PO process in progress and equipment expected for spring. Mr. Colman confirmed that the Town approval process has been completed.

c. Irrigation Bid – Update

A consultant bid is out for assessing the 22-year-old PVC irrigation system, with total bids coming in around $300,000 including a 10% Troon-related discount. The committee reviewed three bids for irrigation consultants, ranging from $50,000 to $78,000, with the middle bid from GIS being the preferred option due to their previous positive work experience. The Committee agreed to let Troon make the final decision on the consultant selection, with the understanding that keeping the same firm throughout the entire project process would be beneficial. Commissioner Berman requested a report from Troon at a future meeting. The Committee also discussed funding options for future irrigation system installation, including potential bonding.

V. New Business

a. Recruitment of New Members

Chair Klein has recruited two potential new members. Discussion ensued regarding the state statute requirement regarding policial party majorities on committees. Chair Klein explained that interested parties do not need to be affiliated with the golf course, because it's good to have judgement of people evaluating this as a business and as an asset to the town.

b. Approval of 2027 Meeting Schedule

Ms. Jones explained that there have been revisions to the 2027 meeting schedule since distributing meeting materials. Generally, the meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month except for November and December.

It was moved by Commissioner Berman and seconded by Commissioner Easmon to approve the Golf Advisory Committee 2027 Meeting Schedule. The motion passed unanimously by a show-of-hands vote of 4-0-0.

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VI. Other Business

Mr. Colman stated that plans are being drafted for upcoming bridge and roof repairs. Mr. Carr estimated the cost to be around $350,000, which will require formal bidding due to exceeding the threshold.

VII. Public Comments

None.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

None.

IX. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Berman and seconded by Commissioner Easmon to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously by a show-of-hands vote and the meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm.