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BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

GOVERNANCE, POLICY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above-mentioned subcommittee held on Monday, July 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in a hybrid meeting format via the Zoom webinar virtual platform. The in-person location was Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee Members present: ***In-person:*** Mayor Anthony Harrington, Chair; ***via Zoom:*** Councilor Todd Cooper, Vice-Chair (6:07pm), Councilor Suzette DeBeatham-Brown; Councilor Darrell Goodwin.

Committee Members *absent:* Councilor Joseph Merritt

Also present: ***In-person***: Latonia Tabb, Clerk of Council; Darrell Hill, Director of Finance; Jon Colman, Director Building & Land Use; Warren Plummer, Director of Information, Technology and Innovation and Daniel Facey, IT Intern; ***via Zoom:*** Sharron Tai-Williams, Deputy Town Manager, David Melesko, Director Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Services

Absent: Mr. Alvin D. Schwapp, Jr., Town Manager

The meeting began at 6:02 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

ROCKWELL PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Dave Melesko, Director, Parks, Recreation and Leisure, reported that the Rockwell Park Improvement Project remains in the permitting phase after missing the June Town Plan and Zoning Commission deadline. He noted that the required lighting analysis has been completed, the application has been submitted for the July 23 Town Plan and Zoning Commission meeting, and, if approved, the Town anticipates releasing the request for proposals (RFP) in August and selecting a contractor in September, resulting in an approximately one-month delay to the project timeline.

Mayor Harrington inquired about the anticipated construction schedule. Mr. Melesko explained that the start of construction will depend on the bidding process, contractor availability, and weather conditions, with significant work likely occurring in early 2027. Councilor Cooper asked about project expenditure and available funding. Mr. Melesko reported that approximately $100,000 has been spent on design services to date, with sufficient grant funding expected to complete the project.

Councilor DeBeatham-Brown requested a comprehensive project transition briefing before Mr. Melesko's departure to preserve institutional knowledge and ensure continuity as the project moves into construction.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE UPDATE ON THE PLAN FOR CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Jon Colman, Director Building & Land Use, reported that the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) is in its final stages, with only the introductory chapter remaining to be completed. He noted that staff workload and competing development priorities have delayed the project but stated that the POCD has been designated as the department's highest priority. Mr. Coleman anticipated the completed draft would be distributed to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission and Town Council in early August, with tentative Commission adoption and a public hearing in August, followed by final adoption and submission to the State in September.

DISCUSSION REGARDING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Director Colman presented the FY2026 year-end Business Development Report, highlighting updates on the Town Center Plan, active development projects, zoning and ordinance initiatives, and economic development activities. He reported continued progress on several development projects, ongoing work on regulatory updates and Housing Trust Fund policies and noted that there are currently no proposed data center projects under consideration. Mr. Colman also reported that FY2026 building permit activity and related revenues exceeded budget projections.

During discussion, Mayor Harrington requested updates on the Arbella and Popeyes developments. Councilor DeBeatham-Brown requested copies of the presentation, cannabis regulations, and draft ordinances when available, and Councilor Cooper requested future updates regarding any proposed data center moratorium discussions.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

On behalf of Town Manager Alvin D. Schwapp, Jr., Director Hill extended condolences on the passing of Public Art Commission Chair, Robert "Bob" Ferger, recognizing his longstanding contributions to the Town. He also announced the retirements of Public Works Director Daniel Carter and Town Engineer Robert Trottier, effective July 9, and reported that Glenn Garrity and Darren Lemire will serve as Interim Public Works Director and Interim Town Engineer, respectively, until permanent appointments are made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Erin Barringer, 28 Kenmore Road, thanked Mayor Harrington and event organizers for hosting the community's America 250 celebration and recognized the event as a meaningful opportunity for residents and visitors. She also encouraged the Town to consider installing an augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) board if playground equipment is included

in the Rockwell Park improvements, stating that it would promote accessibility and inclusive play for children of all abilities.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor DeBeatham-Brown, seconded by Councilor Goodwin and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.