

Town of Ipswich
ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE
Ipswich Town Hall, Planning Conference Room @ 6:00pm
Tuesday April 26, 2016

Minutes

Attendees: Kerrie Bates, Chuck King, Hugh O’Flynn, Jeff Putur, Judy Field, John Galanis, Jim Restuccia, Michele Vaillancourt, Ken Swenson

Absent: Scott Levasseur,

Guests: Kevin Murphy

1. Citizens Inquiries: None
2. Approved of minutes from Feb 23, 2016 meeting: unanimous.
3. Progress on IHS Stadium Project- Project Status
 - a. Design & engineering contractor Huntress Sports created bid documents for phase 1, & they were posted on the state projects bidding web site. Bids from several qualified contractors were considered. Quirk Construction of Georgetown was selected. This phase includes the artificial playing surfaces inside the existing track, integration of a donated track timing & finishing system, integration of a donated video scoreboard, utility building to house the implements needed to maintain the field and a small utility building for the tennis & football practice equipment.
 - b. The funds for this phase are available.
 - c. Phase 1 construction should start in May 23, 2016 & be completed by Sept 2016.
 - d. Phase 2 is the concessions, bathrooms & team rooms building at the IHS. The design of this is in process and covered by the existing contract with Huntress Sports contract.
 - e. Funding for the construction of phase 2 is not yet in place. Private funding is anticipated.
 - f. Phase 2 construction is planned for the summer of 2017
 - g. Phase 3 of the project is the rehabilitation of the athletic fields behind the Doyon School. This design was placed on hold pending decision by the ISC on the site for the new grammar school. If Doyon property is selected, then that would impact this project. The design of this phase covered by the existing contract with the Huntress Sports contract.
 - h. Funding for the construction of phase 3 is not yet in place. Private funding is anticipated.
 - i. Phase 3 construction is planned for the summer of 2017
4. Payne Grant Application for this year
 - a. As property is under consideration for a new grammar school, should we focus on phase 2 only? Kerrie B not a fan of phase two (the building at the IHS stadium)

- b. By majority vote, this year's Payne Grant application should be for \$150K and be available for use on phase 2 or phase 3.
 - c. Ken S will create the application and submit it to Dr Hart.
 - d. Application is Due May 6
5. New School Project & Impact on Athletic Fields
- a. If school built at Bialek Park- Biggest challenge may be the fact that the property may be deemed Chapter 97 property which means it's a park that can't be changed with approval from the statehouse. The school building needs committee is currently investigating the details of this issue. The park currently has two 60' baseball fields(one has field lighting and a concession stand), one 60' softball field that also has field lighting, and one 90' baseball field. Additionally, there are two equipment sheds used by youth softball and Ipswich Little League as well as a block building (donated to the Town) with public restrooms and storage. Impact on existing athletic fields could be substantial depending on ultimate school design & siting. Discussions to date have indicated that two of the existing 4 baseball/softball fields may be preserved (both 60' baseball fields) . If the Doyon School is deemed surplus and demolished, the two displaced field could possibly be replicated on the Doyon property. Additional fields at Mile Lane have been mentioned by others, but the available land in back of the existing 90' baseball field at Mile Lane most likely would not be large enough for another 90' baseball field.
 - b. If school built at Doyon School property- If the new school is built on the existing Doyon property, then the 60' softball field near the playground and the 90' baseball field will be lost. The 90' baseball outfield has an additional 60' softball field (both can't be used at the same time). Additionally, youth soccer uses the outfield of the 90' baseball field in the fall and spring. If the Doyon property is expanded by acquiring part or all of the existing Harris property (to the east), then there would be no loss of athletic fields and a potential for additional athletic fields. The expanded Doyon property would be the preferred school site choice from the athletics fields viewpoint.
 - c. If school built on Winthrop School property-no impact on existing athletic fields
6. Town Meeting
- a. AFSC Presentation. Unanimous, no report from AFSC will be offered
7. Revision of AFSC Report to the Selectmen
- a. Collecting data from various users- what's left
 - b. Review proposed report: no update provided-Chuck
 - c. Planned release and presentation to the selectmen- Fall 2016
8. Executive Session: To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property
9. Next Meeting: Tuesday June 28, 2016

