

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2006

Present: Chairman William J. Keller Jr., Vice-Chairman John C. Drobinski, Selectman Lawrence W. O'Brien, Maureen Valente, Town Manager; Paul Griffin, Chairman, Park and Recreation Commission; Dennis Mannone, Recreation Director; and Jody Kablack, Director of Planning and Development.

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the meeting was convened by Chairman Keller at 9:40 a.m. in the Flynn Building Silva Conference Room, 278 Old Sudbury Road.

Lincoln-Sudbury Community Field

Mr. Keller described the status of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA), which he has been negotiating with one member of the LS School Committee. Neither board is ready to sign the agreements at this time, but they are asking their respective boards for a conceptual agreement. The documents will be finalized once the bid documents for the project are agreed upon. A meeting to discuss the bid documents is scheduled for November 1, 2006.

John Drobinski had two comments to add, noting that the field must be compliant with MIAA tournament requirements, and to ensure that all field access between the Town and LSRHS is reciprocal. Other minor changes to the documents were discussed.

Maureen Valente requested that all funding sources to complete the project be presented to her and documented before the Board releases CPA funds.

The process going forward is to finalize the bid documents, sign the agreements, verify the funding and then the Selectmen can authorize release of the funds.

The issue of installation of permanent lines on the field was discussed next. It was determined that factory gluing and stitching of lines both constitute permanent lines. The LS School Committee believes that they may be short of funding and asked whether the project can be scaled back by eliminating some of the permanent lines from the field.

The Board decided that all four sports should be permanently lined, for the following reasons:

Multiple use of the field for four sports was presented to voters at the 2006 Town Meeting.

The value to the town is significantly less if all 4 sports are not permanently striped. This will be the only lighted field for all four sports in Town, and will be in demand.

Vividness and ability for teams to play effectively – although there may be multiple lines, the permanent lines will be brighter and easier to see than painted lines.

Immediacy/readiness to schedule and play – permanent lines allow scheduling with little or no requirement to check a field for readiness.

Integrity of field if four sports are permanently lined – Paul Griffin has confirmed with the turf provider for the Westborough field (who is also an expert in the field of athletic field planning and design) as well as one of the owners of a leading wholesale turf manufacturer, who produces much of the material for Evergrass, that fields are not compromised in any significant way when lined for multiple sports, including curved lines. Permanent lining (either factory tufted or inlaid) is the current state-of-the-art and is being implemented in hundreds of facilities nation wide.

Dennis Mannone has confirmed with the installer of the Cutting Field that there is no integrity issue with four sports lines. There will be normal wear and tear over time, but the lines themselves are not prone to a higher degree of maintenance. Manufacturer's warranties are typically about 8 years, and will take care of construction-related errors.

Confusion with too many lines is not a valid issue. Athletes are used to playing on multi-sports fields and will be able to accommodate the different colored lines at LS. All the lines will be on the field, whether they are painted or permanent.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously:

The Board of Selectmen support the general language of the MOU and IMA as presented at this meeting, and with the minor changes and those identified by John Drobinski, but will hold off on signing until the final bid documents have been reviewed by the Board and include permanent striping for four sports; and that Maureen Valente will be supplied with the full funding scheme and documentation that funding sources are committed. A further vote to sign the MOU and IMA will be taken by the Selectmen when the above items have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Board.

Bill Keller will represent the Selectmen at the LS School Committee meeting on Nov. 1, 2006, and will present the Board's vote. No further discussion of those items will be entertained.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

Attest: _____
Maureen G. Valente
Town Manager - Clerk