

A Town Board work session of the Town Board of the Town of Lewisboro, Westchester County, New York, was held on September 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lewisboro Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York.

PRESENT:

Supervisor	Tony Gonçalves
Council Members	Andrea Rendo, Mary Shah, Richard Sklarin, Daniel Welsh
Town Clerk	Janet L. Donohue
Absent	None

Also attending was the Attorney for the Town Gregory Folchetti, Deputy Supervisor/Comptroller Leo Masterson, Facilities Maintenance Director Joel Smith, and Maintenance Assistant Shawn Johannessen,

Approximately 4 residents/observers attended the live meeting and approximately 10 participated via Zoom.

Supervisor Gonçalves called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

Supervisor Gonçalves noted the exits to be used in the event of an emergency.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT BID – Discussion

Supervisor Gonçalves stated that the town received two bids for the playground replacement at the town park. He stated that one bid was in the amount of \$721,943 from Yonkers Excavating Corporation and the second one in the amount of \$1,026,180 from Nicky Diggs Excavation. The recommendation from Kellard Sessions, the town's engineering consultant, was to go with Yonkers Excavating however the Board needs to decide whether to accept the bid or not. If they don't accept the bid, they can authorize a re-bidding, however, there is a risk that they may not receive any more bids. This work session will be used to discuss this, and a decision will be made at the Town Board meeting that will immediately follow this work session. Supervisor Gonçalves stated that the bid came in over the original quote for the installation and site work of \$333,000 and went on to explain that after receiving the original price quote they learned of extra requirements needed for the site work including the stormwater drainage which on its own is \$140,000.

Ms. Valerie Cancro, the project manager of the Lewisboro Town Park Playground Improvement Project was in attendance and stated that the increase in the project cost of the work was partly due to work that was necessary in the space at the Town Park. On November 21, 2021 when the scope of the project was first discussed to now, 10 months later, site work changed after they received feedback from the community which include tree removals, storm drainage, stone dust trail from the walkway to the stage, a tree well, timber ramp, split rail fencing and landscaping. Ms. Cancro stated that the installation alone went up by 14%.

At a prior meeting, Town Comptroller Leo Masterson gave a few options for making up the funding gap. The Board could decide to pull the money out of the fund balance, they could borrow the money, or they could use the American Rescue Plan Act funds (ARPA). Mr. Masterson also stated that with the new Silvermine development going in, the developer will be paying the town \$110,000 parks fee, however, he does not know when those quarterly increments would start so this might not be the best option.

Ms. Cancro stated that the new equipment was ordered in December of 2021 and was due to arrive on October 13, 2022, and the installers would need at least two weeks advance notice. Councilman Sklarin asked if storage of the equipment was necessary, how much space would be needed. Ms. Cancro stated that there was about 2 ½ trailers and they would need a lot of room. It was also asked if the vendor could keep the equipment and the answer was no.

There was a total of 6 contractors that visited the site prior to the bid, and only 2 of those contractors submitted bids. Councilwoman Rendo feels that you run the risk of not getting any additional bids and the board agreed. She also feels that this shortfall should be a hybrid of funds, not just ARPA funds. She feels that the ARPA funds should be used for other projects as well, such as the bath house at the town pool, the purchase of highway trucks, the tennis courts, etc. She feels that we have not taken care of the assets that we currently have.

Councilwoman Shah stated that the playground committee was going to continue their fundraising and look at potential sponsors. The town can also look into other sources of for funding such as additional grants.

Councilman Welsh stated that there is no reason for the taxpayers to start incurring funding fees on this since the town already has the money and that we are not a poor town.

The Board will make their final decision at the Town Board meeting which will immediately follow this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Supervisor Gonçalves, seconded by Councilman Sklarin, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

Janet L. Donohue
Town Clerk