

**RYE TOWN CENTER COMMITTEE
MEETING
Wednesday, March 1, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.
Rye Town Hall**

Members present: *Kaitlyn Coffey and John Loftus*

Others present: *Lindsay Gray and Jenn Thompson*

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Member Coffey called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Business

- **Vote on recommendations of new members**

Tabled to next meeting

- **Election of Officers**

Tabled to next meeting

- **Plan of action**

The Committee reviewed the information submitted by Member Loftus from CMA Engineering. The information included the proposed design for lighting in the Town Center. The Committee also reviewed photos showing the Town Center.

It was noted by Member Coffey that the TAP Grant included funding to put in the lights. Since that time, there have been changes and the cost of materials has significantly increased, so it may not cover the original quote for lighting. It was also determined that the quote did not include all the proposed lighting. Member Coffey also noted there are lights on some of the telephone poles currently. However, the lights are not like the proposed lighting, as it's going to be very historical in nature. There are two lantern style options. There is a consensus that the lights should not create lighting pollution at night and should not distract drivers.

Member Loftus pointed out that the quote for the proposed lighting was six lights for \$8,400 each for a total of \$50,400., plus the cost of footings, conduits, and connections for \$12,800. The design is for fifteen lights, which is an additional nine lights.

There was some discussion about the overall total cost for the Town Center project and the amount that would be funded through the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grant.

Member Loftus noted there is a Zoom meeting between the TAP Grant Committee and the Department of Transportation Supervisor, along with the Project Manager, to discuss details of the project. They will also be meeting with the TAP Grant Committee to conduct a site walk of the Town Center.

Member Loftus commented that the project requires the Town to interview three engineering firms that are on a list of State approved firms. At this time, the survey of the Town Center has not been done, so it's unsure where the Washington Road is in terms of the easement. It is anticipated that actual construction for the project will start in 2025. This year and 2024 will be focused on design and preparation.

Member Coffey suggested that the Committee talk about the two intersections, as a next step. The lighting in those sections may change based upon what is proposed for the intersections.

Member Loftus reviewed the drawing for the Town Center showing the proposal for Washington Road. The idea is to make the driving lanes 11' wide to keep the traffic slow. There is also a proposal for a 4' wide bike lane on each side; however, the drawing does not show a sidewalk.

The Committee reviewed the drawing submitted with Member Loftus' information. There was some discussion about the location of the crosswalks. It was agreed that there should be a crosswalk from the Town Hall Annex to the middle school. There was also some discussion about adding more walking trails to access Parsons Field. It was noted that all drawings are just a preliminary conceptual plan, which may change before final design. There was discussion about a possible pocket park and discussion about the intersections in the Town Center.

It was agreed that the intersections seem to be the next logical step in planning because they are so intertwined with the sidewalks. Member Coffey agreed to reach out to Tom and Sally King about a possible access point to Parsons Field behind the Town Hall Annex.

III. Other Business

- **Next meeting scheduled for April 5, 2023, 5:30 p.m., Rye Town Hall**

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger