

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

TOWN HALL RENOVATION PROJECT BUILDING COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2013

LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM L101, TOWN HALL

- I. Call to Order –the meeting was called to order at 5:33 PM by Chairperson McBride.
- II. Roll Call – Members present: Scott McBride, Chairperson; Myra Cohen; Beth DelBuono; Sharon Braverman; Jen Win-Johnson and Bill DeBlasio. Others present: Members of the public; Lou Jachimowicz, Chief Finance and Operations Officer; and Jeff Baron, Director of Administrative Services.
- III. Public Participation – None.
- IV. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – Mrs. Cohen made a motion that the minutes of the July 1, 2013 meeting be approved as presented. A second to the motion was provided by Mr. DeBlasio. The motion passed unanimously.
- V. Project Architect Interviews –Three firms were interviewed by the Committee. Fee proposals were received from all three and had been distributed via e-mail prior to the interview. A printed copy of the fee proposals and a fee analysis was distributed by Mr. Baron. The three firms interviewed are Amenta/Emma Architects of Hartford, Jacunski Humes Architects of Berlin, and Kaestle Boos Associates of New Britain. Representing Amenta/Emma Architects: Tony Amenta, Ed Widofsky, Robert Larson, and Larry Jones (BVH Integrated Services); representing Jacunski Humes Architects: Al Jacunski, Brian Humes, and Carl Frey (BVH Integrated Services); and representing Kaestle Boos Associates: Dave King, Freddie Khericha, Ben Monroe, Jim Sperry and Doug Lajoie (Consulting Engineering Services). Each opened with a presentation about their firm, which was followed by a series of prepared questions that were asked of all three firms by Mr. Baron, which were followed in turn by specific questions from the Project Building Committee members.
- VI. Recapitulation and Discussion of Firms Interviewed – Committee members' impressions of each firm and each firm's fee proposal were discussed. Many members preferred Kaestle Boos Associates, because of their experience and their substantially lower fees. Mrs. Cohen favored Amenta/Emma Architects, because of the time they spent and the comments they made about the Town Hall. Mrs. Braverman made a motion that the Town Hall Renovations Project

Building Committee recommend to the Newington Town Council that Kaestle Boos Associates of New Britain be appointed as the Project Architect, based on Kaestle Boos Associates' response to the Town's RFP, their interview this evening and their fee proposal, for a pre-referendum fee of \$51,067.50 and for post referendum fees of 5.5% of construction costs for the Community Center and 6% of construction costs for the Town Hall. A second to the motion was made by Mr. DeBlasio. A roll call vote of the Committee members present was taken, as follows: Mrs. Cohen, No; Mrs. DelBuono, Yes; Mrs. Braverman, Yes; Mr. DeBlasio, Yes; Mrs. Win-Johnson, Yes; Mr. McBride, Yes. The motion passed by a vote of 5 Yes to 1 No.

- VII. Any Other Business Pertinent to the Committee – It is anticipated that the Town Council will take action on the Committee's recommendation at their August 13th meeting. Mr. Baron will contact Downes Construction to see if there is any activity for the Committee that would warrant an August meeting, and follow up via e-mail to Committee members. The first Monday in September is Labor Day, so the anticipated September meeting date would be September 9th.
- VIII. Public Participation – None.
- IX. Committee response to public participation – None.
- X. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Baron

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Director of Administrative Services