

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING NO. 613, OCTOBER 14, 2002

ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Mayor Driscoll at 8:17 a.m. Ms. Powell called the roll:

Present: Councilmembers G. Comstock and K. Comstock, and Vice Mayor Driscoll
Absent: Councilmember Merk and Mayor Davis
Others: Public Works Director Young (arr. 8:25) and Director of Administrative Services Powell.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

AGENDA

(1) Amendment to Agreement with William Lettis & Associates (WLA)

Councilmembers reviewed Ms. Powell's memo of 10/11/02 on the third amendment to the consulting agreement with William Lettis & Associates for additional work to investigate two anomalous stratigraphic features near the base of the T-6 trench at Town Center. Vice Mayor Driscoll described the T-6 trench, noting that the top 4-6' of the trench was comprised of material resulting from the logging operations in the 1880's. While there were generally no signs of breaks or faults, there were two spots at the bottom of the trench that possibly showed some disturbance. The question was whether those were old creek beds that had been washed over by silting, or folds caused by deformation and tectonic movement. In order for the site to be cleared in that area, WLA would like to dig another 4' deeper in two 35' stretches. He reviewed estimates made by the staff and the Asst. Town Geologist, noting that the final amount exceeded what had been expected and required Council's approval. He added that the need for additional work had been briefly discussed at the last Council meeting.

Responding to Vice Mayor Driscoll, Mr. Young said he felt the trenching needed to be done. There were, however, some discrepancies with respect to the time involved and amount involved. He said the \$12,375.00 would cover 70' of trenching extending 4' deeper than the existing trench. Responding to Vice Mayor Driscoll, he said the bulk of the cost was manpower; WLA required two geologists to be on site the whole time, and William Lettis apparently required a full day to do the review. He confirmed that two geologists had been present during backhoe operations for the 230' trench. Responding to Councilmember K. Comstock, he discussed budgeted amounts (\$77,000) for the long trench and perpendicular trench.

Councilmember K. Comstock questioned whether additional work might also be necessary after the perpendicular trench was dug. Responding, Vice Mayor Driscoll said the long trench was necessary in order to find out if there was new faulting through the middle of the site. The short trench was to see whether any en echelon faulting was present; if there was, he thought it would be found in the top 10'. The two questions being answered were: 1) whether there was an old fault in the tennis court area that was of concern; and 2) whether the known fault broke into this corner of the property.

Councilmember G. Comstock thought the Town was trying to answer the questions one bite at a time; any one of those bites could scotch the whole thing. Rather than committing to a \$250,000 investigation, he thought the piece-by-piece approach made sense. Vice Mayor Driscoll added that the Town Geologist could not sign off on this site unless the deeper trench was dug. He felt it should be dug. Councilmember G. Comstock agreed.

Responding to Councilmember K. Comstock, Ms. Powell said historically, everything that had been approved

for WLA had been spent. Vice Mayor Driscoll added that he was impressed by the quality of work--even if the Town was paying for it with top dollar.

Councilmember K. Comstock asked if the answer could be arrived at by post-hole digging rather than digging a 70' trench. Responding, Mr. Young said the question had been asked. Responding to Councilmember K. Comstock, Vice Mayor Driscoll said he did not think the additional work could have been anticipated in this area based on the other information available. Mr. Young noted that USGS also inspected the long trench and that they were 90% sure that these two locations weren't tectonically related. Cotton Shires, however, could not produce documentation that cleared the site--even if only 10% was questionable.

Mr. Young said he had asked both Mr. Sayre, with Cotton Shires, and WLA to submit reports on what had been found so far, recommendations, and a breakdown of the costs. He added that moving forward with the additional work was preferable to buying another piece of property. As much of the site as possible needed to be cleared so that the architect was not too constrained. Vice Mayor Driscoll added that eliminating the shorter trench had been discussed, but Mr. Warr was interested in getting as much square footage as possible. He also thought it might help in understanding the trace in this area.

After discussion, Councilmember K. Comstock moved approval of Resolution No. 2022-2002 Approving and Authorizing Execution of Amendment No. 3 to Agreement for Contractor Services Between the Town and William Lettis and Associates, with payment contingent upon receiving the reports requested by Mr. Young. Councilmember G. Comstock seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 a.m.

Vice Mayor

Director of Administrative Services