

Town of North East
Zoning Review Committee
NorthEast-Millerton Library Annex
August 17, 2020

Present: Edie Greenwood, Dale Culver, Bill Kish, Julie Schroeder, George Kaye, Dave Sherman, Ed Downey

Guest: Chris Kennan, Claire Owens

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

Minutes from the July 15, 2020 were reviewed. Motion to adopt the minutes as presented was made by Bill Kish, seconded by Dave Sherman. and passed unanimously.

Edie Greenwood reported that three planners submitted responses to our RFP in a timely manner. She commented that each of the submissions were thoughtful and informative.

Collectively, the committee voiced the following comments regarding the submissions.

Nan Stolzenburg – Community Planning and Environmental Associate

- Identifying an attorney was a plus
- Familiarity with North East having been the consultant on the recent Comprehensive Plan
- Scoping section was the most detailed of the three proposals
- Her time frame on completion in one year seemed unrealistic
- We have Nan's audit of our current zoning and subdivision codes in our Comp Plan
- Nan's willingness to work remotely to reduce costs was a plus

Will Agresta – Matthew D. Rudikoff Associates

- Not identifying an attorney was a plus
- The proposal was vague about what was within the scope. Details and agreed upon cost were to be hashed out if he were to be picked
- Only included one round of final edits
- Did not address virtual attendance
- Will has extensive experience with zoning codes
- The cost of dealing with a bigger firm
- Has worked with the North East Planning Board for many years and knows our code and its limitations
- Will is thorough, has great attention to detail and has been successful when he has been called to testify in court on our behalf
- The only proposal that referenced private client assignments as well as municipal work
- Talked about economic feasibility as being a factor in writing a zoning code

Bonnie Franson – Nelson Pope Voorhis

- A large firm with impressive depth of services
- Suggested several innovated concepts
- Has not worked with North East before
- The most expensive proposal received by a substantial amount

Several committee members felt Bonnie Franson of Nelson Pope Voorhis was too expensive and should be eliminated from consideration. No one disagreed.

Before making a final decision, it was decided that the committee should set up a Zoom call to interview Will Agresta by the end of August. Bill Kish offered to host the meeting. Members are to email their questions to the Chair by this Friday and these questions will be forwarded to Will prior to our call.

Dale Culver felt it was important that an attorney be selected by the committee at the same time a planning consultant was recommended to the Town Board.

Eddie Greenwood will work with Will and the committee to find a time for a Zoom interview next week.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Eddie Greenwood
ZRC Chair