

DLHY-RIDGE GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE  
SUMMARY OF MEETING - AUGUST 14, 1972

The Meeting of the Golf Course Committee was called to order at 8:45 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Members present: Don Brooks, David Canfield, Fred Orrico, Vincent Paccadolmi, Ray Phelan, Judge Shields & Larry Fischer

Members absent: Paul McDevitt

Members were informed by Chairman Don Brooks that Architect Tom Fazio intends to be at the Site tomorrow at 11 a.m. and were asked to be present if possible--Mr. Orrico hoped to make it and Mr. Brooks intended to later in the day.

Fred Orrico made a report on the progress being made in getting electricity to the Site, showing Members a letter which he had just today received from C.L. & P. The letter stated that the cost to run an underground electrical service from Parley Road to the irrigation pump located near the lake will be approximately \$2300. If the cable is installed from the George Washington Highway to the same location, the cost will be approximately \$6600. Mr. Brooks wondered if putting the service above ground might not be much less costly but Mr. Orrico said that this cannot be done. The suggestion was made that C.L. & P. be given an easement on that land which might be in our favor; the matter will be taken-up with Joseph McLinden.

On reading his copy of the July 10th Meeting Minutes, Joseph McLinden was prompted to send a letter, dated July 18, to Don Brooks saying that the Selectmen (at their July 13th Meeting) unanimously opposed the concept of generating our own electricity at the golf course site. He requested that negotiations continue with C.L. & P. for commercial service. Members were surprised at this and discussed possible reasons for opposition to the use of a generator (maintenance problems were a thought but Mr. Fischer felt that this is not valid because the generator isn't that much trouble if serviced regularly.) It was decided that both avenues would be thoroughly explored. Ray Phelan told Members about the service which the Quonset Point, Rhode Island Station offers in surplus items--metal buildings, bridges, etc.--in addition to generators at a fraction of their original cost. The procedure is that these items are only sold to Towns (not individuals) at these reduced costs and in return the military wants due thanks and some publicity and credit given them. Judge Shields was skeptical about "taking" anything from the Federal Government but some Members thought that the legitimate purchase of surplus material could not be considered a handout.

Judge Shields asked Don Brooks how we were doing "budgetwise" and was told that everything is working out as planned in that respect.

The Contract has not yet been signed with Nemo D'Agostino.

Progress is good in the actual construction. We have 11 tees, 8 greens and work began today on the 13th green. 3 culverts are in; Fred Orrico told Members that Nemo said that if Fred gave him the culverts, he (Nemo) would put them in "for free." Nemo was given 4 culverts--he now, however, has told Larry Fischer that he wants to be paid for his labor, approx. \$300/ea.

-2-  
Discussion followed regarding the excellent drainage of greens which exists.

The irrigation men were there at the site today; the work was sub-contracted to Bros. and work will be starting shortly. Members hope that the work on the lakes will be sub-contracted too so that D'Agostino can concentrate on the course itself.

Reed Shields reported on the Town Meeting just past which cleared the way for a bond issue. Our \$650,000 will be 'thrown in' with an amount which the Town needed, added David Canfield, and in the meantime, the Bank has given us absolute assurance of credit up to \$650,000. Perhaps the Bank should send a letter to Kraus because this has to be proven to him on or before September 1.

Seeding will not be done on time, but it will be done by this Fall.

Regarding the hiring of a Golf Pro, a letter from Professional Golfers Assoc. was read aloud by Don Brooks. Vincent Paccadolmi was appointed as "a sub-committee of one" to locate a Golf Pro, and he did not feel that he required the assistance of the PGA. It is not an immediate problem; not until the course is opened.

Apparently the estate of Mrs. Baldwin Craig is on the market for about \$125,000, and its availability was discussed. Committee Members suggested that the Town of Ridgefield might consider buying the property for use as a Club House, and for additional space for Golf Course activities.

A bill for the first portion of the construction was submitted from D'Agostino amounting to \$107,080 less 10%, amounting them to \$96,372. (Original contract \$416,570, balance to complete \$309,490)

Reed Shields made the following Motion:

"THAT the amount of \$96,372 be approved for payment to Nemo D'Agostino."

Motion Seconded by David Canfield and VOTED unanimously

Larry Fischer submitted bills from John J. Kolenchak, Jr. Inc. of Brookfield Center, hired to take over work left by the tree-clearing man Gracey, in the amounts of \$4400, \$3480 and \$4240 (\$12,120). Mr. Fischer explained that Kolenchak would like to be paid weekly and if he is, we may deduct 5 per cent from that total.

Fred Orrico made the following Motion:

"THAT the amount of \$12,120 be approved for payment to John J. Kolenchak, Jr. Inc."

Motion Seconded by Vincent Paccadolmi and VOTED unanimously

Following that, the following Motion was made by Reed Shields:

"THAT the amount of \$65 be approved for payment to the Golf Course Superintendents' Association; a year's dues for the Membership of our Superintendent Larry Fischer."

Motion was Seconded by David Canfield and VOTED unanimously

-3-  
The Fazio bill went directly to Mr. McLinden.

Regarding the matter of Gracey Tree-Clearing, Don Brooks gave the following background: At the time the Fazios were here, we requested Gracey to be on the site to discuss the grubbing portion of the work; in the course of the conversation Gracey just up and left when told just what he had to do. Gracey had based his price on the contract specifications which Ray Phelan made up. Gracey never phoned or showed up for work. Subsequently a letter was sent to him offering him half the agreed amount of \$450 per acre, or \$225 per acre. Gracey never responded affirmatively to this offer made in our letter of July 26th, so when a letter dated August 11 came from his attorney Wilber & Tuccio, we replied in our letter of August 15 (written the day after this meeting) that we assume that the offer is unacceptable and it is hereby withdrawn. We suggested, in our letter of August 15 that we would be happy to meet with the lawyer at our next Meeting on August 28th.

Meanwhile Kolenchak Brothers has been hired at \$40/hr with no contract. A careful record of the amount of work which they are doing is being kept by Larry Fischer to aid us in determining what work remained for Gracey to do, and Don Brooks has taken color slides of the material which was left.

Larry Fischer has been looking for 6" centrifugal pump; Fred Orrico will ask about one and let him know.

Don Brooks wanted to make of point of praising Larry Fischer for the really great job which he has been doing; he has spent a lot of time and is very knowledgable of the job.

Vincent Paccadolmi offered to donate to Mr. Fischer his Toro Golf Cart which is in need of a starter overhaul and battery but otherwise is in workable condition.

Nemo will trade fairway traps for 4" of top soiling on tees.

Nemo has agreed to put the mounds in.

Don Brooks closed the meeting by asking Fred Orrico to go over the course again with Tom Fazio tomorrow, if possible, with an eye to discussing whether the 6th hole especially might be too tough for the average golfer.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m. The next Meeting is scheduled for August 28, 1972.