



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING (REGARDING THE EAF FOR THE TRANSIT HUB)

Monday, July 2, 2012 6:00 pm

City Hall

Chairwoman Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chairwoman Johnson: Good evening. Today is Monday, July 2nd, 6:00 p.m. We will start the public hearing regarding the EAF for the Transit Hub. Welcome.

Mayor Tkazyik: Chairwoman Johnson, members of the common council. Tonight we have Joe Chenier with us. He's an Engineer, as well as Jason Teed from the Engineering Department. They're going to make a brief presentation before the Council this evening and UEA (Urban Engineers) are doing the presentation as well along with him. And then have their hearing...inaudible.

Joe Chenier: Introduced the speakers from UEA. Inaudible.

#1 Unknown Presenter from UEA: Expressed thanks for allowing them to give their presentation. Inaudible. Turned microphone to another gentleman (also unknown due to insufficient proximity to the microphone).

#2 Unknown Presenter from UEA: Your Honor, actually, I'm...(inaudible) accredited professional...(inaudible). In January, 2010 the Federal Transit completed its' environmental review of the project and approved it under a categorical exclusion, indicating that the project has minimal environmental impacts, if any. Based upon the FTA approval, construction must commence by January 19, 2013. The approved transit hub includes depicted it here (motions to enlarged photos) is a one way bus loop and queing for up to 7 buses, landscaping, sidewalk improvements a bike way a variable message sign, unenclosed shelters, a kiosk with no utilities other than electrical, which means no heat, water or restrooms. Restrooms to be added in the garage at some future point. The approved hub is designed for 12 buses per hour during peak travel time and handle approximately 150 buses per day. As a result of this evening's meeting and

Official Minutes of Public Hearing held Monday, July 2, 2012

comments will be used to complete the State Environmental Quality Review requirements for the project and allow us to finish the design. Turning presentation to “Kurt” to explain project layout and designs.

Kurt Hackwelder: Introduced himself as an architect with QPK? Designs. I’m a landscape architect, responsible for the landscape architecture and also for the architecture of the shelters themselves. Goes to the displays and explains the circulation of the buses and the amenities of the project. There will be partially glass enclosed shelters with approximately a 10 foot benches inside, trash cans and recycling cans will be provided on the site at the end of the aisles. Colored versions of the city’s standard light poles are proposed and custom banners for easy identification from both sides of the street. Also proposing permeable pavers which will allow for rainwater to seep into the ground so it doesn’t go into the City’s stormwater. Concluded the presentation and asked if there were questions.

Councilmember Boyd.: You said there were going to be restrooms added down the line. When is that going to happen?

Councilmember Solomon: Expressed concerns about the traffic going into the site and if the entry will be wide enough. Those citizens will parking access will not be patient if they have to wait for excessive amounts of time to gain entry.

Councilmember Herman: Looking at this, it accommodates 7-9?

Speaker #1: Gives explanation (inaudible).

Councilmember Herman: Expressed concerns about the amount of buses going in and out if it’s going to be a stop for other buses, such as Coach, Mountainview and Trailways, who stay longer that the 5 mins. that the city buses will take.

Ken Stickle 118 Catherine Street- Why did we ever abandon the idea of using the lot on Academy and (inaudible). The problem is we’d be putting it in an area filled with businesses. We could take it up another couple of blocks on Market Street to the city parking lot, where you could come off of Church Street into the parking lot to drop off and pick up. (Inaudible)

Mayor Tkazyik: I’d like to remind the Council that the previous plan...(inaudible).

Chairwoman Johnson: What’s the name of the Academy Street Lot?

City Administrator Long: The Academy Street Lot.

Councilwoman Johnson: What’s the name of the other lot - on Cannon Street?

City Administrator Long: The Cannon Street Deck.

Chairwoman Johnson: There's been a lot of poor planning. \$1.2 Million is enough to get a nice transit hub – something better than what we have right now. I do think that people have a good point about the location. According to the diagram, it looks like a problem. 7 buses with only 4 loading spots. Buses and cars all together going in and out with pedestrians walking, it just doesn't look like a good spot for a location. Nobody is saying anything about the Federal Stimulus money. Where just saying that the it doesn't look that well with the designs we're seeing right now.

Constantine Kazolias 47 Noxon Street- Engineers Paggi, Martin and DelBene designed my parking lot on Academy Street, so I have no problem with their design. We need to scale it back a little. That is not a good place to put it because that lot is full. Would like to see it located in a central area of the city.

Thomas Henry 57 Cannon Street- Wants to keep the Academy Street lot for Luckey Platt parking. (Inaudible)

Caroline Miller 7 Virginia Avenue- Worried that the hub will be a site for drug trafficking. Also concerned with how it will affect the credit union parking lot. Now they're allowing them to park in that lot, but taking that lot away, how is it going to affect the businesses? It will be farther for people to walk to these businesses. They're not easily accessible anymore.

Mayor Tkazyik: That's a great question. With the buses being moved off Market Street (inaudible)...and, remember, if we get the federal appropriation to make Market Street a two-way, that will bring 96 on street spots from this end of Mansion to the Armory. That is the proposal – for 96 on street spots when the conversion of Market Street takes place. Keep your fingers crossed. The County Executive and I are still working on trying to seek funding in order to do that project, but the strip in front of the Barney building, on Market we'll be able to utilize now for on street parking just as it crosses by Alex's and we'll be able to add on to the parking deck.

Chairwoman Johnson: Since we're going to have 4 loading spots, what's going to happen to the other three?

Mayor Tkazyik: Again, the planners are going to have to take that into consideration. Are all 7 buses there at the same time? That's something to consider. That will go as we move forward through the project. We'll be looking at the church, the right-of-way...(inaudible)

Chairwoman Johnson: Concerned about the traffic and the people walking while the buses are making the turn.

Mayor Tkazyik: I think the Council is concerned with the walking and the visibility are great comments...(inaudible)...and the planners will meet back with the Council.

Official Minutes of Public Hearing held Monday, July 2, 2012

John Myhans – Wilbur Blvd. – Concerned about the gas fumes from the buses. Agrees with Gus (Kazolias) about this down a bit. Doesn't feel that if there are going to be 7 buses, there won't be enough room for anything else.

Laura Downing 25 Lincoln Avenue – Asked about the possibility of putting the hub across from the library where there used to be a bus terminal years ago. Didn't know why it closed. You'd be able to go there to the depot and have a snack while waiting for your bus. They had more than 7 buses there. It was in a good location where you could go past the beautiful park. If you could look into why it left. It could be a viable place for a hub again.

City Administrator Long: It was a private lot and it was run by Greyhound.

Les Ming 19 Virginia Avenue- Wanted to know what's being done about heating the sheds (bus shelters). Suggested the possibility of solar panels or if you could build a structure like Ms. Downing said, where you could go inside and have a snack. People wait for some time for the bus and should have some source of heat while they wait.

Chairwoman Johnson: So there are concerns for heating. Maybe some kind of solar panels or green technology. That concludes the Public Hearing for the Transit Hub.

Dated: January 30, 2013

I hereby certify that this a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Public Hearing held on Monday, July 2, 2012

Respectfully submitted,
City Chamberlain