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**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
Town Hall Conference Room 4
Friday, March 27, 2015
8:00 AM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Capital Budget Committee (CBC) was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Chair Mahoney.

Members Present: Chair Anne Marie Mahoney, Jenny Fallon (WC), Sami Baghdady (BOS) (left meeting at 8:25 AM), Michael Battista (PB), Anne Lougee (SC), and Rebecca Vose

David Kale, Town Administrator

Absent: Patricia Brusch

Chair Mahoney began by turning to the first item on the agenda.

Police Department

Chief Richard McLaughlin, Assistant Chief Jaime MacIsaac, Officer Dan MacAulay, and Officer John Steeves of the Belmont Police Department, and John Connolly of Cyber Communications appeared before the CBC to discuss the Police Department's capital request. Chief McLaughlin spoke to the communication upgrade request to replace radio equipment that is outdated, including its two phases and the cost to implement (\$310K). The existing hardware, he explained, is no longer eligible for maintenance.

The CBC asked clarifying questions regarding the need for the new radio equipment and the cost estimate for both the hardware and the implementation. CBC members inquired about the timing of the project, the life span of the equipment, as well as the value potential of the outdated equipment.

Chair Mahoney said that she appreciated that the Police Department is planning ahead and alerting the CBC about the need.

Department of Public Works (DPW)

Jay Marcotte, DPW Director, Mike Santoro, Assistant DPW Director, and Mike Bishop, Water Division, appeared before the CBC to discuss the DPW's capital requests. Mr. Marcotte began by providing a brief summary of the requests, noting where equipment had met its useful lifespan (e.g., the 2007 pick-up truck, a 2004 sport van for 15 passengers) as well as the need for new items (a sidewalk snow blower and a tractor). Mr. Santoro explained the need for another new

snow blower (\$90,700), noting its versatility and its helpfulness in snow removal this past winter. Regarding the need for a new tractor (\$26K), Mr. Santoro noted that this machine is necessary to not only maintain the new Harris Field, but also to remove snow from the field. It should last ten or more years.

The CBC briefly discussed the sidewalk maintenance request (\$200K). Mr. Santoro then noted the need to resurface the basketball court at the PQ park (\$25K) and the need to replace the riding mower at the cemetery (\$13,600).

The needs of the water/sewer systems were briefly discussed.

Mr. Santoro explained the need for a new street sweeper (\$178,500), which is part of the Department's sewer maintenance program, and will be purchased with Enterprise Funds.

Community Development (CD)

Glenn Clancy, Community Development Director, and Jeffrey Wheeler, Assistant CD Director, appeared before the CBC to discuss the CD Department's capital requests.

Mr. Clancy began with the Community Path Feasibility Study (\$100K), noting why the study is necessary to support the work of the Community Path Advisory Committee (CPAC). Mr. Wheeler provided background information on the bike path project. Mr. Kale added that the information gleaned from this study will be required in order to apply for state/federal grant funding. The CBC asked questions concerning the feasibility study request. Mr. Kale acknowledged that the study is costly and said that perhaps other sources of funding potentially will be identified.

Mr. Clancy then discussed the paving request for curbing and sidewalk construction (\$35K) near the Burbank School. He explained the need to improve safety for children crossing Washington Street heading toward the Burbank. Chair Mahoney raised the question of equity with regard to what was and was not done, concerning sidewalks and curbing, near the Butler. This project will enhance pedestrian safety for school children and is proposed in connection with the scheduled reconstruction of Sharpe Road.

The next request, a raised intersection at Lexington and Sycamore Street (\$48K), will help mitigate a very heavily travelled and dangerous intersection. He noted the impressive number of accidents occurring at this intersection and explained why slowing down the traffic will mitigate the danger of the intersection.

Regarding Pavement Management, Mr. Kale outlined the Chapter 90 allocation, noting that additional state money was released in FY2015. There is a funding source from within the town budget, as well. Mr. Clancy discussed the plan for pavement management, noting that the roads that are in the worst condition are the top priority, with the exception of Cottage Street, which "jumps the list" because of the pool project.

Mr. Clancy briefly discussed roads that need maintenance, even though they were rebuilt in the

1990s (see page 130 of the memo).

Approval of Minutes


Postponed until the next meeting.

Setting of Future Meeting Dates

Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

The CBC moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rebecca Vose".

Rebecca Vose
Secretary