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**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
Town Hall Conference Room 4
Friday, April 4, 2014
8:00 AM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Capital Budget Committee (CBC) was called to order at 8:07 a.m. by Chair Mahoney.

Members Present: Anne Marie Mahoney, Chair; Michael Battista (Planning Board); Patricia Bruschi (Warrant Committee); Anne Lougee (School Committee); Andr s Rojas (Board of Selectmen); Rebecca Vose (Moderator Appointee), and David Kale, Town Administrator, *ex officio*.

Members Absent: John Conte (Moderator Appointee).

Also present: Glenn Clancy, Director of Community Development; Peter Castinino, Director of Public Works; Mike Santoro, Head of Highway Department; and Mike Bishop, Head of Water Department

Chair Mahoney began with a brief update on the purchasing of the "clickers" for Town Meeting. The bid came in under the donation, which will allow for batteries and upkeep.

Community Development

Road Repair (\$1.22M): Mr. Clancy presented his department's capital requests, beginning with Pavement Management. He reminded the Committee that this program is funded by the 2001 override as well as by Chapter 90 funds from the State. Each year this amount is increased by 2.5%. He coordinates the repaving work with water main work by DPW, to minimize disruption to abutters and to avoid ripping up newly repaved streets. However, there are some roads that need attention, but are not within the water main cluster, e.g., Somerset Street, Shady Brook, and Wellington Lane. Curbing installation, he reminded the CBC, is not part of the pavement program per the Board of Selectmen's policy established some years ago

The CBC discussed the repair of these roads with Mr. Clancy, covering issues relating to private versus public ways, speed bumps, and on-going pothole repair. He said there is a clear need for additional funding to repair roads across Belmont.

Sewers (\$300K): Mr. Clancy then discussed the request for sewers improvement (\$300K), explaining the nature of the necessary repairs of the sewer and drainage system. He discussed where some of the funding has been coming from, e.g. state programs, Sewer Enterprise, etc. He would like to use this funding to sample the sewer systems across town, including storm water

drainage. He then discussed the shared fiscal burden of storm water drainage on property owners.

Community Path Advisory Committee (CPAC): The next step in the process will require a feasibility study (\$100K). Mr. Kale noted that a feasibility study is required in order to receive Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) money (from the State) for this project. However, Mr. Clancy acknowledged that there are multiple bike route options on the table and it remains to be seen if the Community Path Advisory Committee (CPAC) Final Report will recommend one option. Mr. Rojas said that it may come down to the Board of Selectmen to select one option, if the CPAC report does not. CPA funding, which is murky where a bike path is concerned, was also discussed.

Belmont Center Reconstruction Plan: Mr. Kale informed the CBC that the water main work in Belmont Center is complete and that the gas main work is almost completed. Belmont did not receive the state grant to support the project. The Belmont Center Reconstruction Plan, therefore, does not have a clear funding source. However, some Chapter 90 funds could be used in Belmont Center, as could proceeds from the sale of Woodfall Road and from the sale of the Cushing Square parking lot. Also, Belmont can and will reapply for the MassWorks state grant.

Mr. Kale explained that the next step would be to introduce some options to TM (this October) for improving the Center. TM could be requested to bond \$2.6M to complete the project.

The details of the Belmont Center Plan were discussed. Mr. Clancy explained the portions of the Center that have been omitted and why. He touched on the issue of residents feeling pressured to complete this project since the roads have been repaired. However, the gas and water main work needed to be done in any event.

(Former) Macy's Space Update: Going forward, there will probably not be just one tenant, but two – one on each floor. Ms. Bruschi asked how this would impact the Center plan. Issues relating to traffic flow and parking demands were discussed. Mr. Clancy added that managing the parking needs of potential employees is a concern, as well.

Department of Public Works

Mr. Castanino presented the DPW capital requests. But before he began, Mr. Kale noted that funding for two items has been found within the budget (the snow blower and some additional money for sidewalks).

Snow Blower: Although no longer part of his capital request, Mr. Castanino explained that this device is needed to remove snow from the town's sidewalks. He said it can be used in the summer as well.

Pick Up Truck: This is a standard, four-wheel drive pick-up truck for Parks.

Materials Spreader: This is a sander that is slid into a truck to spread sand and salt.

Sidewalk Maintenance: He outlined sidewalks that are in need of repair. DPW has over 1000 requests for sidewalk repairs from residents. His department is chipping away at this backlog as fast as funding allows.

Tot Lot Safety Surfacing: From Parks Division, this material is needed on playgrounds for safety and resilience. The timing of this repair was discussed. This cycle, Payson and PQ are due for re-surfacing.

Basketball Court Resurfacing: The courts are cracking at three locations with four courts each. This request is to patch and reseal the courts at Town Field as a stop gap measure. Ultimately, all Town courts will need to be replaced.

Central Fleet Fueling System: The current system is 20 years old and needs updating and upgrading. Mr. Castanino explained how the fuel management system works. The new system will continue to allow tracking of fuel use by each fleet vehicle. It has the added feature of identifying the individual employee doing the refueling.

Mr. Castanino then touched on the **Water System Improvement Program requests (\$250K)** and the **Bond Repayment (\$642K)** from the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds. He explained the timing of sewer repairs and the timing of the bond debt. He then discussed the specifics of pipe repair with cast iron cement lines, etc. Water fees and usage were discussed.

Sanitary Sewer Program: To replace a 1999 37,000 lb. dump truck. The current vehicle will be traded in. The new truck will have a 15-year life expectancy.

Chair Mahoney raised a question about playing fields being improved and enhanced by private leagues. She asked about the process for dealing with this. Mr. Castanino replied that the private leagues raise the money and give the town funds to upkeep the fields. The town, he said, oversees the repairs/upkeep, but is not on the hook for funding the repairs/upkeep. Now that Recreation is part of DPW, there is a public hearing held to consider construction proposals from private leagues to which abutters are invited.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 20, 2014, were approved, as amended, with one abstention.

Updates and New Business

The Library Trust Fund balance (\$170K) was discussed. Mr. Kale reported back to the CBC that the Cemetery Board is not in favor of funding the roof replacement of a building in Belmont Cemetery (via the sale of lots).

Mr. Kale said that the Board of Selectmen voted recently to approve the Warrant – and discussed having a TM article regarding the use of the Kendall insurance funds to seed feasibility studies for various projects including the proposed Bike Path.

Setting of Future Meeting Dates

Thursday, April 10 at 5:00 p.m. (straw poll, capital request guidelines)

Thursday, May 1 at 5:00 p.m. (CBC vote, TM votes, etc.)

The CBC moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Vose
Secretary