

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA.  
FEB 14 9 32 AM '13

**MINUTES  
TOWN OF BELMONT  
CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE  
Belmont Town Hall Room 2  
Wednesday, November 14, 2012  
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 Mahoney, Mrs. Pat Brusch (WC), Mr. Andy Rojas (BOS), Ms. Anne Lougée (SC), Ms. Becky Vose, Mr. Michael Battista (PB)

Members Absent: Mr. Jack Conte

**Town Administrator Update**

Regarding the library project, Mr. Kale informed the CBC that Legal Counsel informed him that TM *will* need to approve a school-to-town land transfer. Regarding extensions, he said the state will allow one six-month extension, which would extend the time until the end of the calendar year 2013. A second extension, he was told, is unlikely.

If Belmont chooses to move to the “back of the line,” the Library trustees would need to re-apply in a few years, said Mrs. Brusch. Selectman Rojas noted that he has concerns with regard to the large size of the proposed library and was told recently that the size and the site cannot be changed (in this round). Mrs. Brusch agreed that this (the proposed size) has been a concern all along.

Mr. Kale then broached the topic of how the state would reimburse Belmont for the \$7.5M grant. It appears that the state would pay in increments. The CBC discussed.

**Scenario One: One Six-Month Extension**

Mr. Kale reviewed two draft timelines for the library project. The first timeline assumes one six-month extension. The actual cost of the new pool and the new field will need to be factored into the timeline, he said. Mrs. Brusch informed the CBC that it will cost about \$300-400K to move forward with the schematic design phase of the new library, noting that this money would need to be spent before the pool and field issue is settled. She said her concern is that the pool will be \$4-6M (with some CPA funds offsetting that), which will require passage of another debt exclusion.

Mr. Kale said the sale of Woodfall Road is another moving piece of potential funding to offset the cost of the new pool/field. Mrs. Mahoney said the School Committee will need to reach a

decision regarding the field by April. Mrs. Brusch cautioned that the proposed size of the new library may be a deal-breaker for more than a few residents – which begs the question of the town spending \$400K on the schematic design.

Mr. Kale noted that April will be a key month regarding several decisions, e.g. the School Committee will need to make its decision on the field, and TM may need to opine on the school-to-town land transfer and the formation of the building committees. Mrs. Brusch said that June is a more likely timeframe for the formation of a Library Building Committee, but that May seems reasonable for the formation of a Pool Building Committee.

Mr. Kale then reviewed the key 2014, 2015, and 2016 dates related to the project, noting that the pool/field would be ready in the fall of 2015 and the library would be complete in the fall of 2016.

Selectman Rojas said that the Board feels that the pool project must go forward even if the library project does not go forward. Mr. Kale noted that \$30K will be required to get the pool up and running for the next pool season. Without investing the \$30K, the health department will not allow the pool to open.

#### **Scenario Two: Two Six-Month Extensions**

Mr. Kale then reviewed the library timeline if the state grants two six-month extensions. The CBC agreed that the pool timeline should not be tied to the library timeline, reiterating that the pool project will need to go forward even if the library does not go forward. Mr. Kale highlighted the key dates through 2016.

Mrs. Brusch noted that the library's private fund-raising will need an end-date based on when the debt exclusion occurs. She added that money raised should go toward reducing the debt of the project. This, she said, needs to be explicitly stated.

Mr. Kale adjusted some of the timeline dates based on the CBC's feedback. It was determined that the pool schedule would not vary based on the library's potential extensions.

#### **December Precinct Meetings**

Mrs. Mahoney noted that there are two upcoming Precinct meetings (December 3 and 4) and that the CBC has been requested to attend these meetings. Selectman Rojas explained the rationale for the Precinct meetings.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of August 6, 2012 and October 18, 2012 will be approved once the committee has reviewed the documents. Ms. Vose will send out the minutes to be reviewed.

#### **CPA Update**

Mrs. Mahoney noted that the final applications for use of CPA funds will be selected in December. She reviewed the nature of some of the projects that were submitted to the CPA.

#### **Update on CBC budget**

Chair Mahoney informed the CBC that Mr. Kale is projecting that \$1.4M is the amount budgeted for the CBC, with an additional \$1.16M budgeted for the roads.

#### **Future Meeting Dates**

The CBC will meet next on Wednesday, December 5 at 8:00 a.m.

#### **School Committee Update**

Mrs. Lougée informed the CBC that Dr. Kingston is trying to set up a meeting with the MSBA regarding the high school. He has requested to have a CBC member present at the meeting. Regarding accreditation, the report is in, but the detailed information (including "warnings," if any) will not be available until early December.

The CBC moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Vose, Secretary

