

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
Town Hall Conference Room 4
Friday, March 14, 2014
8:00 AM**

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CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Capital Budget Committee (CBC) was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by Chair Anne Marie Mahoney.

Members Present: Anne Marie Mahoney, Chair; Pat Bruschi, Warrant Committee; Anne Lougee, School Committee; John Conte and Rebecca Vose, both Moderator Appointees.

Members Absent: Michael Battista, Planning Board and Andres Rojas, Board of Selectmen.

Also Present: David Kale, Town Administrator; Dr. Thomas Kingston, Superintendent of Schools; Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance and Administration, BPS; Steve Mazzola, Director of Technology, BPS Gerald Boyle, Director of Facilities; Dave Petto, Director of Technology for the Town; and Kevin Looney, Manager of Building Services for the Town.

School Presentation

Mr. Mazzola explained the IT request, noting the changes in IT data storage, backup, and recovery needs. The request is for two storage systems that work together. CBC members asked various questions pertaining to the request. Chair Mahoney specifically asked about the School Department allocating funding for ongoing maintenance of the IT system, given that the system will need to be updated relatively soon, e.g., 6 years. This was discussed.

Facilities Capital Request Presentation

Chair Mahoney invited Mr. Boyle to present the Facilities Department requests to the Committee.

Request #1: The integration and installation of security equipment across town. Mr. Boyle said that \$50K will allow for a complete study of the present systems. The next requests will upgrade the video cameras and replace the DVRs with Network Video Recorders. Chair Mahoney noted that the lifespan of the cameras is also relatively short.

Request #2: Three Higginbottom Pool upgrades: an ultraviolet chloramine filtration system, ceiling tile removal with ceiling painting and ventilation fan installed, and repair of the roof and ceiling ventilation units. Of these the filtration system is the top priority.

Request #3: The next step in the system-wide building envelope phased project. Mrs.

Brusch asked for an update on what has been finished thus far.

Request #4: A cemetery garage roof replacement is needed (\$35K). Mr. Boyle said that the Cemetery Commission (via Mr. Alex Corbett) may be able to fund this from the sale of lots. Committee members recalled that the understanding reached when land for the new cemetery was acquired by the Town was for both sites to be self-supporting. All expenses related to maintenance and upkeep are to be paid for out of cemetery receipts.

Request #5: A DPW roof replacement (\$37K). Mrs. Brusch noted that if a new DPW facility is the town's first priority, it won't make sense to spend this money at this time.

Request #6: A DPW storefront window replacement as it leaks and is rotted out. Mr. Boyle said that this is actually a higher priority than the roof because of security concerns.

Request #7: Repair of the high school univents, which provide heating and cooling. He said this would allow for the upgrade of necessary parts. Chair Mahoney asked which sections (pod) have been completed, thus far. Mrs. Brusch made the point that this work needs to be funded to finish a complete pod.

Request #8: Energy Management System study to determine the scope and costs for software and hardware upgrades in order to standardize and integrate all systems (\$50K). Mr. Kale said there may be grant money available for this and that a commitment to reduce energy consumption would be a part of that.

Mrs. Brusch suggested that funding for studies may need to be a line-item in the Facilities budget going forward. Alternatively, allocate another \$200K in the CBC budget to be used to fund studies. This topic was discussed. Mr. Kale discussed several possibilities for allocating more funding (via a Warrant article) to the CBC budget for studies. Ms. Vose asked if the Light Department had been involved in the energy consumption conversations – the answer was yes.

Request #9: A new system to heat the Higginbottom Pool (\$300K). This is a repeat request and would pay for itself in ten (10) years.

Request #10: To replace the interior High School doors, as the doors are beyond reasonable maintenance (\$60K). This project has a slim chance of being funded by the State. Belmont's Representative, Dave Rodgers, is working on this possibility. Mr. Kale will keep the Committee apprised.

Request #11: To repave and improve the drainage of the Burbank School parking lot, which is in disrepair with numerous potholes (\$350K).

Request #12: To replace classroom furniture and fixtures, system-wide (\$50K). Mr. Boyle explained the needs of the schools, noting that some desks and chairs are 40 years old. Mrs. Brusch said that she does not see this as a CBC expense. Dr. Kingston agreed, noting that this is an area though, that needs to be flagged. Mr. Conti floated the possibility that this type of expense could be bonded and built into a future debt exclusion. Chair Mahoney asked about the

School Department's equipment budget. Dr. Kingston said that expenses (and students) are rapidly increasing and that the town is at a crisis point with regard to funding all aspects of education. This was discussed.

Underwood Pool: the proposal and the debt exclusion

Ms. Brusch moved: To approve bonding for the Underwood Pool subject to the passage of the debt exclusion on April 1, 2014 (\$2.9M).

The CBC agreed that if the voters support the debt exclusion for a new pool, the CBC can support it.

The motion passed unanimously.

Vote on CPA projects for Annual TM

The CBC unanimously voted to support the following CPA projects:

- * **Electrical Upgrade for Public Housing Units – \$165K.**
- * **Daniel Butler School Playground Project (Phase II) - \$66,524.**
- * **Winn Brook Field Renovation – \$100K.**
- * **Underwood Pool - \$2.9M – (This motion was supported subject to voters approving the debt exclusion.)**

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of October 9, 2013 (at field area to view turf) were approved with one abstention.

The minutes of February 27, 2014 were unanimously approved.

Updates and New Business

Chair Mahoney noted that the Financial Task Force (FTF) is meeting regularly. Mrs. Brusch asked about next steps for the Library. Mr. Kale provided an update on the Library as well as on the DPW site.

Setting of future meeting dates

The CBC will meet again on Thursday, March 20 at 5:00 p.m. (Police, Fire and Library). The next meeting will be on Friday, April 4 at 8:00 a.m. (DPW and Community Development).

The CBC moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Vose
Secretary