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**MINUTES  
TOWN OF BELMONT  
CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE  
Town Hall Conference Room 4  
Thursday, April 28, 2016  
8:00 AM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Capital Budget Committee (CBC) was called to order at 8:08 a.m. by Chair Anne Marie Mahoney.

Members Present: Chair Mahoney, M. Patricia Brusch, Selectman Mark Paolillo (BOS), Jennifer Fallon (WC), Raffi Manjikian (PB), Susan Burgess-Cox (SC), and Rebecca Vose

Also Present: Floyd Carman, Town Treasurer and Gerry Boyle, Facilities Director

Absent: David Kale, Town Administrator

Chair Mahoney began by reviewing the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of April 14, 2016 were approved with one abstention.

**Final Vote on Capital Budget Items**

***Press Box Update***

Chair Mahoney reported that \$40K from the original Harris Field project Building Committee has been directed toward the Press Box. The boosters and volunteers group have been asked to raise \$50K. However, Mr. Kale came up with \$125K in unexpended funds from the Harris Field 2 project to put toward a press box. The Board of Selectmen will vote to accept the private money, once it is raised.

Mr. Carman stated that the \$125K is bonded money that was left over from the Harris 2 project. (The bid came in under budget.) Transferring the \$125K will need TM appropriation. He said this issue will need to be explained at Town Meeting.

The CBC discussed setting a deadline for the money needed to be raised by the Boosters. The rink proposal was also discussed.

**Re-Vote on the Borrowing Policy**

Chair Mahoney noted that the Borrowing Policy will need to be adjusted to add the following

sentence:

“Also, the Committee has endorsed a policy with respect to multi year capital projects that it will not recommend funding the next year of such projects until already committed funds have been expended.”

The CBC discussed the additional sentence and adjusted it to read:

“Also, the Committee has endorsed a policy with respect to multi year capital projects that it will not recommend funding the next year of such projects until substantial progress has been made.”

Mr. Carman suggested that periodically the departments report out on what has been spent. Ms. Fallon agreed and stated that there should be a “turn-back” report added into the policy. BOS Chair Paolillo said he will follow-up with the “turn-back” report with the Department Heads, via the Town Administrator and the Superintendent of Schools.

Ms. Gibalerio read the updated Policy.

*Member Vose moved:* To confirm the existing borrowing policy that the Capital Projects Discretionary Budget will set aside not more than 33 percent for debt service/lease purchase payments. The request must be greater than \$100K with a useful life of 10 years. The Treasurer will provide annually and update the CBC with an amortization schedule of payments. The CBC will review this policy annually by February 1 and forward to the BOS, Warrant Committee, Town Accountant, and Treasurer an update on the review. Also, the Committee has endorsed a policy with respect to multi year capital projects that it will not recommend funding the next year of such projects until substantial progress has been made.  
The motion passed unanimously.

### **Pavement Management**

Chair Mahoney noted that Mr. Kale has put \$13,700 into Pavement Management. The CBC discussed this allocation as well as the Pavement Management appropriation. Questions about where this money came from and why it was not directed toward the sidewalk fund were raised.

### **Animal Control Van Funding**

Chair Mahoney noted that Mr. Kale said that \$17K is not enough to do the security project, so he is suggesting that the Animal Control Officer van is replaced using this money (\$17K), along with the Police fuel accounting system software money (\$24K). Together, this combined funding will just about cover the van.

### **Warrant Articles - Vote**

***Revisiting the Straw Poll Vote on Capital Project Requests***

The CBC then reviewed the Straw Poll vote from April 14.

The CBC discussed how to fit out the existing modular units at BHS and existing space at the Burbank, which will need furnishings and equipment once it is converted for classroom space. BOS Chair Paolillo noted that \$105K can be transferred from free cash for this purpose. This frees up \$105K to be spent on capital requests. The CBC discussed how to allocate this money, e.g., the security request and the Police fuel accounting system software.

The CBC then discussed sidewalk funding. \$205K was allocated for sidewalks and a priority list was created. Ms. Brusch stated that Middlecot Street should not have jumped the list, just because the roads in this area are being repaved. The Maple Street repair, she added, should come out of the \$205K, not the CBC budget. Ms. Fallon agreed. She added that the sidewalk money should be set aside similar to the pavement management money.

Ms. Burgess-Cox stated that sidewalks that abut school property are appropriate for CBC funding.

The CBC continued to discuss issues relating to the sidewalk money, the priority list, etc. Chair Mahoney stated this conversation will continue, as there is a citizen's group petitioning for more money to be spent on sidewalks. Ms. Fallon suggested funding the sidewalk study (\$50K) in order to inform the priorities of the sidewalk fund.

BOS Chair Paolillo suggested that \$105K be added to \$13.7K – take \$50K to do sidewalk study, leaving \$68.7K for security.

Chair Mahoney re-read the list to ensure that it balances.

The Committee then voted Warrant Articles for the 2016 Annual Town Meeting.

***ATM (Annual Town Meeting) Article 14 - Appropriation of Capital Expenditures***

*Member Fallon moved:* To approve the Capital Budget Project (Article 14), as just delineated.

The motion passed unanimously.

***ATM Article 9 - Enterprise Funds for Water, Sewer and Stormwater***

***ATM Article 13 - Chapter 90 Funds***

*Member Brusch moved:* Favorable action on Articles 9 and 13.

The motion passed unanimously.

***ATM Article 7 - CPA Budget and Projects***

Chair Mahoney noted that there are two remaining motions under Article 7 to consider.

*BOS Chair Paolillo moved:* To approve the allocation of \$101,300 of this year's money to be appropriated for Affordable Housing.  
The motion passed unanimously.

*Member Fallon moved:* To approve the allocation of \$50,650 of this year's money to be appropriated for Administrative Expenses.  
The motion passed unanimously.

***STM (Special Town Meeting) Article 3: Free Cash Transfer (\$1.45M) to Fund Modular Classrooms at CMS***

*Member Brusch moved:* Favorable action on STM Article 3.  
The motion passed unanimously.

***STM Article 2: Appropriation of Woodfall Road Sale (\$1.75M) to fund BHS Proposed Project***

*Member Fallon moved:* Favorable action on STM Article 2.  
The motion passed unanimously.

***STM Article 2 Amendment***

*Member Fallon moved:* Unfavorable action on the Amendment to STM Article 2.  
The motion passed unanimously.

***STM Article 1: Minuteman New School Project (Debt)***

Ms. Brusch noted that the MSBA money for Minuteman is a maximum amount. If other money comes in, the MSBA amount goes down. Ms. Fallon stated that, if Belmont wants to stay in the district, it may cost less to support this project and stay in the district. Chair Paolillo said that option B is unexplored; but this is not the right building at the right time. The programs are still excellent. The alternatives need to be explored.

Chair Mahoney added that the Minuteman per-pupil cost will be staggering. It may be time to provide vocational education in a different, less exorbitant, way.

The CBC discussed issues relating to the Minuteman vote, including: potentially leaving the district, the enrollment projections, the non-member-town enrollment, the MSBA reimbursement, the overall capital and operating expense, and Arlington's position on the possible scenarios.

*BOS Chair Paolillo moved:* Unfavorable action on STM Article 1.  
The motion passed 6 to 1.

***ATM Article 17 - Underwood Pool Project Borrowing De-Authorization***

*Member Fallon moved:* Favorable action on Article 17.  
The motion passed unanimously.

**Setting of Future Meeting Dates**

The following meetings are posted, if needed:

Monday, May 2, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.	(Belmont High School – Pre Town Meeting)
Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.	(Belmont High School – Pre Town Meeting)

The CBC moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Vose  
Secretary