

**Town of Belmont
Capital Budget Committee
Belmont Town Hall, Room 4
Thursday Evening, May 14, 2009, 7:30 p.m.**

Mrs. Brusch called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Members of the Committee present at the time of the call to order were: M. Patricia Brusch, Mark F. Clark, John Conte, Daniel Leclerc, Jennifer M. Fallon, and Anne Marie Mahoney. Also present were Thomas Younger, Town Administrator, Barbara Hagg, Town Accountant and staff liaison to the Capital Budget Committee; and representatives of the Police Department. Ann Rittenburg joined the meeting just before discussion of the Committee's draft report.

The Committee had the following material before it, supplied in the case of the first two items by Mrs. Brusch and Ms. Hagg:

- A summary (two pages) of the FY2010 capital requests that would be funded by the tentative votes taken at the previous meeting of this Committee and the FY2010 Capital requests that, per the tentative votes, would not be funded.
- An email from Glenn Clancy, Director of Community Development, to Mrs. Brusch, commenting on two proposals regarding the driveway at the High School, and commenting on the work needed at the Library; a short email from Mrs. Brusch to Ms. Hagg and Ms. Rittenburg regarding Mr. Clancy's email.
- A draft of the text only of a report of this Committee to the 2009 Annual Town Meeting as proposed by Mr. Clark.

Budget Uncertainty

Mrs. Brusch began the meeting by reporting that the Warrant Committee had not yet been able to set its recommendation for an operating budget. As a result, the allocation of capital funds to this Committee might change. Mrs. Brusch explained that the Massachusetts Senate had proposed changes in local state aid and the Warrant Committee would consider proposed changes in the allocation to the School Department. The subject of this Committee's budget allocation came up again at the conclusion of this Committee's meeting when discussing this Committee's likely schedule.

Draft Committee Report to 2009 Annual Town Meeting

The Committee next went page by page through the draft report that Mr. Clark had provided. Mr. Clark recorded the corrections and comments on each page and undertook to make changes in the draft accordingly. In addition to individual corrections and comments, there was a consensus that capital requests that had been made for FY2010 but were not among this Committee's recommendations for the FY2010 Capital Budget should be carried over into the five-year projection for future capital expenditures.

Establishment of Final Capital Budget Recommendation

Ms. Fallon pointed out that since the last meeting the Committee had learned that a security system to be installed at the Cemetery office would protect equipment but that Cemetery records were otherwise already protected. She proposed that funds not be recommended for a security system for the Cemetery but instead that this Committee recommend purchase of the materials spreader requested by the Department of Public Works. Mrs. Brusch called attention to the fact that Glenn Clancy, Director of Community Development, had inspected the situation regarding the driveway at the High School. His recommendation was incorporated in the email before the Committee. His recommendation would be slightly more expensive than the tentative allocation that this Committee had made at its previous meeting. Assuming that the changes recommended by Ms. Fallon and Mrs. Brusch were made, the non-allocated but available funds would go from \$28,798 to \$44,025. Mr. Clark recommended that the latter sum be allocated to the High School univents even though this sum is much less than the amount originally requested by the School Department. He pointed out that funds might eventually become available from the security allocation to the Wellington School.

The Committee discussed all these proposals and a consensus emerged that these proposed changes should be put into effect. Furthermore, a consensus developed that any funds from reversion of previous capital projects should be made available to the current operating budget.

As a result of this consensus, the final recommended capital budget from this Committee was as follows:

General Fund		
Public Safety Equipment		
	Police 911 CAD & QED systems	40,000
	Fire Hydraulic Rescue Tools	42,000
	Subtotal	82,000
Departmental Equipment		
	Highway Snowfighter conversion	38,800
	Highway - Dump truck 37K GVW	101,000
	Highways - Materials Spreader	21,830

	Building Services - Town Hall Security	43,000
	Building Services - Town Yard (DPW) Security	48,000
	Subtotal	252,630
<u>Building & Facility and Public Works Construction</u>		
	Elementary Schools security system	135,000
	High School Univents	44,025
	Chenery Middle School Energy Management	50,000
	Subtotal	229,025
<u>Site Improvements</u>		
	Library - Walkways & sidewalks - through Town PW contracts	16,500
	High School paving of front driveway - through Town PW contracts	100,943
	Subtotal	117,443
<u>Infrastructure & Construction</u>		
	Community Development - Pavement management	1,077,275
	Subtotal	1,077,275
	General Fund Grand Total	1,758,373
<i>Enterprise Funds</i>		
Sewer	Dump Truck	101,000
	Vactor lease/purchase, coordinated with water (over three years)	29,884
	Asphalt hot box	30,000
	Sewer & Drain Replacements - updated by Glenn & Ralph	455,000
	Total Sewer Enterprise	615,884
Water	Doors & Windows	44,000

	Security system	42,000
	Small Utility vehicle	22,825
	Vactor Lease/Purchase, coordinated with sewer (over 3 years)	29,884
	Water main replacement program	502,809
	Total - Water Enterprise	641,518
Chapter 90 Pavement work	398,880	

Schedule

The Committee discussed the schedule implications of the budget uncertainty that Mrs. Brusch had reported at the beginning of the meeting. This Committee has a meeting posted for the evening of Thursday, May 21, 2009. Mrs. Brusch will not, however, actually call a meeting to order at that time unless it is necessary to consider changes to the capital budget recommended by this Committee. This Committee also has a meeting posted for 6:30 on the evening of the resumed Annual Town Meeting at the Chenery Middle School. That meeting will be called to order. Mrs. Brusch also asked for a tentative idea of what this Committee would give up if it were necessary to reduce the capital budget. A consensus developed that it would roll back the recommendations agreed upon during the meeting. First, it would leave out the univents and next would leave out the materials spreader.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at about 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark F. Clark