

DATE: September 17, 2020

TIME: 3:01 PM

**MINUTES  
TOWN OF BELMONT  
CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEETING BY AUDIO AND VISUAL REMOTE ACCESS AND BY TELEPHONE  
Thursday, August 27, 2020  
9:00 AM**

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Capital Budget Committee (CBC) was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chair Anne Marie Mahoney.

Members Present by Audio and Video Remote Access: Chair Mahoney, Tom Caputo (SB), Amy Checkoway (SC), Jenny Fallon (WC), and Rebecca Vose

Members Present by Telephone: M. Patricia Brush

Members Absent: Karl Haglund (PB)

Also Present by Audio and Video Remote Access: Jon Marshall, Assistant Town Administrator; Stephen Pinkerton, Chair of the Planning Board; Mike Widmer, Town Meeting Moderator

**Discussion of role of Planning Board on Capital Budget Committee**

Chair Mahoney offered an overview of the history of the composition of the CBC's membership over the years and observed that it has been difficult lately to have a Planning Board (PB) presence on the Committee. The history revealed that there was good reason for PB representation at one time. But that seems no longer to be the case for a variety of reasons. Ms. Fallon who served for 6 years as the PB representative on the CBC explained that during that period there was little to no intersection of concerns between the PB and the CBC. Mr. Pinkerton agreed that a PB member on the CBC no longer serves a useful purpose and suggested that appointing a PB member on the newly created Long Term Capital Planning Committee (LTCPC) makes better sense. On this latter point, Mr. Caputo agreed to bring Mr. Pinkerton's suggestion to his Select Board colleagues.

Mr. Pinkerton also raised the idea of having representation from the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) on the CBC. This was discussed by the group with members ultimately agreeing to support a liaison from CPC who would attend those of the CBC's meetings that relate to actual or contemplated CPC projects, rather than an appointed member from the CPC.

The group formed consensus around the idea of dropping a PB representative from the membership of the CBC and adding a fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Moderator appointed member. This would create an opportunity for the Moderator to appoint someone from our community with interest and expertise in the matters that come before the CBC.

Chair Mahoney proposed that the CBC informally recommend this course of action. Ms. Fallon also expressed a strong interest in better communication between the CBC and the CPC going forward and supports appointing a CPC member to the CBC. Mr. Widmer noted a change in membership of the CBC composition will require a By-law amendment, which could be taken up at next April's Annual Town Meeting.

### **Five-year Capital Needs Projection for September Special Town Meeting (STM)**

The Chair reminded members that for the one-day Annual Town Meeting in June, the Committee produced a much shorter report than typical. In that report the Committee promised to provide the 5-year projection of the Town's capital needs before the upcoming STM. Members agreed to make good on that promise and preface the projection with a short introduction. In it we must highlight that in view of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, there is likely no debt exclusion for a new library building in the foreseeable future. To keep our library operating many of that building's capital issues must be taken care of. Addressing these needs will have a direct and substantial impact on Belmont's capital budget.

### **Other Business**

Chair Mahoney reported that the head of DPW, Jay Marcotte, has found turn back money in the Sewer and Water Enterprise Funds dating back a decade and is preparing a warrant article for the September STM to allow him to use those funds for FY21 water main work. This Committee will meet a week before the STM to vote all the articles that will be on that warrant.

The CBC moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Vose, Secretary