

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING
WITH THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MEETING BY AUDIO AND VISUAL REMOTE ACCESS AND BY TELEPHONE
Tuesday, February 1, 2022
7:30 PM**

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: February 22, 2022
TIME: 9:47 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mahoney called the meeting of the Capital Budget Committee to order at 7:30 PM.

CBC Members Present by Audio and Video Remote Access: Anne Marie Mahoney, Jenny Fallon (WC), Meg Moriarty (SC) and Susan Burgess Cox

Also Present: All Members of the Belmont School Committee, Superintendent Phelan, Assistant Superintendent Darias and Anthony DiCologero

Overview of School-Related Capital Projects

The Capital Budget Committee has started discussions on the upcoming FY23 Capital Budget. One of the first meetings of the new year was with David Blazon, the current Facilities Director. Mr. Blazon provided an extensive list of capital budget requests for school buildings.

Several projects involved allocations made in prior fiscal years including: a fire alarm system upgrade at the Butler School; repair of a brick façade, windows and slate roof at the Butler School, and a fire alarm and public address (PA) system upgrade at the Winn Brook School. New FY23 projects included repairs to the Chenery Roof and replacement of a heat exchanger at the Wellington. The requests for additional funding on projects approved in the past are based on updated specifications for each project. The estimated total for school capital projects presented to the Capital Budget Committee was \$2,988,553.

Chair Mahoney proposed that the School Committee provide funding for at least one or possibly two projects. Two specifically identified included the fire alarm system at the Butler School and the fire alarm and PA system at the Winn Brook as Town Meeting has voted to appropriate funds for both projects in the past. To complete each at this time requires additional funding due to a rise in project-related costs. Funds appropriated by Town Meeting in the past could not be combined or transferred from one project to another.

Chair Mahony also provided a list of ongoing allocations such as setting aside funds for building envelopes as well as upcoming needs such as a roof at the Chenery and possible upgrades to the Butler which appears to be last in the cycle of school renovation projects. Members of the Capital Budget Committee asked the School Committee and administration to look at schools such as Butler to be sure that the current structures and systems meet the needs of students. It was also noted that plans for district reconfiguration would likely play a role in future capital requests due to possible renovation to school buildings.

Chair Mahoney concluded her remarks noting that there are over \$2.6 million dollars in capital requests related to school buildings for FY23 and the overall capital budget is approximately \$1.5 million. It would be in the best interest of the town for the School Committee to allocate funds towards these projects.

Superintendent Phelan responded that the administration has identified funds in the revolving account for facilities rentals that would allow the School Committee to fund at least one alarm system in FY23. This revolving account has a balance of approximately \$127,000. The balance is lower than in the past due to the decrease in building rentals during the pandemic. While it was not necessary for the School Committee to vote on the use of these funds for such a project, the Committee voted unanimously to support the allocation of funds from the revolving account for facilities rentals to pay for the Butler School alarm system. The allocation would be approximately \$66,000.

Chair Mahoney thanked the School Committee and administration for their work on identifying and allocating funds for this project.

The CBC moved to adjourn their meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burgess-Cox for
Rebecca Vose, Secretary