

Minutes for December 15, 2023, Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee

Present

Christine Doyle (Chair)
Claus Becker (Clerk)
Patricia Brusch
Susan Burgess Cox (Vice-Chair)
Deepak Garg
Mark Paolillo (Selectboard member)
Aaron Pikcilingis
Jung Yueh

Jennifer Hewitt (Town Administrator, non-voting)
David Blazon (Director of Facilities, non-voting)

Lisa Pargoli (guest)
6173319515 (guest)

Summary of Discussion

Discussion of the share of override that should go to capital.

Mark Paolillo summarized the charge of the committee as "...identify where the capital needs are and make recommendations."

The committee discussed when to make this recommendation and decided to vote at once.

Committee agreed on the recommendation that

- funds for capital should be dedicated to building infrastructure
- minimum \$500k portion of 2024 override should be used for this purpose.

A motion to vote on this recommendation was put forward by the Chair and seconded by Deepak Garg. Mr Paolillo abstained. The seven other attendees voted in favor. Noone voted against motion.

Ms Pargoli asked to address the committee and asserted that

- the trust of the tax payor has been eroded as Belmont isn't getting the promised maintenance
- the proportion of the budget going to the schools is unfair

In response, several committee members pointed that that money for maintenance is being spent as promised and provided examples. It was further added that funds available, e.g. \$200k for pavement maintenance, is simply too low an amount to make a significant difference.

The meeting adjourned at nine o'clock by unanimous consent.

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DATE: January 11, 2024
TIME: 8:46 AM