

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS WORKING GROUP

March 10, 2017

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TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA

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Meeting called to order at 1:06.

Members present: Pat Bruschi, Roy Epstein, Mark Paolillo, Phyllis Marshall, Floyd Carman

Members absent: Jennifer Fallon

The members discussed what they observed during their February tours of the DPW facility and the Police Station. Substandard conditions were noted in both facilities. The members discussed possible short and long term solutions to the problems noted in each facility. The members agreed on three principles to use when analyzing the future needs of these buildings: quality of life for the employees, efficiency of work areas, and safety. In the case of the police station, accessibility to the public was also a concern.

#### DPW

It was discussed that while the DPW buildings ideally would be completely replaced, it is important to provide an interim solution to at least part of the problem. Specifically, basic amenities and safety for the employees potentially could be addressed at a manageable cost in the near future. Issues discussed included lack of appropriate locker room and break space; ventilation; safe space for welding; water leaks; space for moving large vehicles and equipment; appropriately sized and located lifts.

Could an infusion of \$2.0, \$3.0 or \$5.0 million be used to temporarily address the worst of the conditions such as purchasing modularity for employee offices, locker/shower space, and a break room?

Can the site, if reorganized, be a more efficiently functioning space?

Could solar panels be installed and reduce operating costs?

Can the Town "House Doctor" provide information about the site and potential location of modularity and other adjustments without incurring a large expense for their services?

#### POLICE

It was noted that mandated records storage is taking up much space in the station. Members wish to explore the possibility of offsite (or adjacent site) storage. Other issues such as appropriate facilities for female employees and safe prisoner intake were also noted.

Short term solutions discussed included exploring the possibility of dealing with prisoners on a regional level or through an agreement with a neighboring police department as well as reconfiguring the work-out space to provide more storage or locker rooms. The question of an in-station firing range and possible alternatives was also noted.

Alternative sites for a new police station include: an expanded footprint on the present site after the electric light sub-station is decommissioned; the incinerator site; a reconfigured DPW and Water Department site with access to Pleasant St.

The members agreed to meet on Friday, March 17 at 8:30 am to discuss the other buildings they toured.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Marie Mahoney, Chairman