DEPT./BOARD: Capital Budget Committee

DATE: April 26, 2018

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room B Town Hall Annex

AGENDA

1. Review of and votes on Capital Budget Requests for FY 2019
2. Citizens time
1. Chairman Zabolotny called the April 26, 2018 Capital Budget Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex Basement, Room B, 25 Center Street.

Members Present: Ernest Zabolotny, Pat Moreno, Gary Mercier, Gary Kasky, Adam Senesi

Member Absent: Steve Stamm, and Myrna Saltman

*Member Stamm participated in the discussion by way of telephone. Member Stamm votes are were recorded separately in anticipation of a confirmation meeting on May 14, 2018.

2. Capital Budget Committee Recommendations

Shari Lynn Ellis TMM Precinct 3
Terrace Hall Avenue Sidewalk Completion - $120,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

Recommendation: The sidewalk should be completed as a safety priority as well as to make it functionally useful.

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Recreation Commission
(Article 8-11) Simonds Park Tennis Court & Skate Park Paving- $140,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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Recreation Commission
(Article 8-12) Fitness Court (TRW) - $30,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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Recreation Commission
(Article 8-10) Fitness Circuit (Wildwood) - $40,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

Recommendation: CBC is in agreement with the Rec. Dept. that this project should be supported in the event that they are successful in obtaining private sponsorship for the equipment.

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Recreation Commission
(Article 8-9) Ford F550 Dump Truck - $62,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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Building Department
(Article 8-1) Replace one vehicle - $21,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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Police Department
(Article 8-7) Tasers - $66,308

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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Police Department
(Article 8-8) Shooting Range Rebuild - $146,292

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

Recommendation: The committee is in agreement with the decision to postpone the start of work authorized last year and to perform the work as a single project rather than two separate elements so as to avoid duplication of effort as possible overall cost increases.

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Fire Department
(Article 8-5) Command Car 2005 Chevy Trailblazer Replacement - $28,866

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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Fire Department
(Article 8-6) Advanced Life Support (ALS) Start Up Costs - $150,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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Fire Department
(Article 13) Fire Engine - $762,859

PASSED: 4-1-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

Recommendation: The dissenting vote was of the opinion that an automatic five year replacement schedule does not take into account the continuing trend that motorized equipment continues to experience improved durability and service longevity. In addition, there is a potential for reducing wear and tear on this equipment by improved matching of response to emergency need. While it is generally prudent to be well prepared when responding to emergency events it may be appropriate to better manage the level of over response to protect both equipment and responders from unnecessary levels of use.

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School Department
(Article 8-16) Technology Projector Installation - $149,000

PASSED: 3-2-0
(Member Stamm abstained)

Recommendation: Dissenting opinions were based on previous years’ expenditures for this type of equipment and doubts about the effectiveness of such equipment in support of educational goals.

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School Department
(Article 8-17) Pine Glen Playground Surface - $42,000
Recommendation: Dissenting opinions were based on the belief that as a community we pay more attention to recreation than we perhaps ought to at the expense of attention to education.

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School Department
(Article 8-18) Pine Glen Walk-in Refrigerator Freezer - $66,000

PASSED: 4-1-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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School Department
(Article 8-19) BHS Roof Penthouse Repair - $25,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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School Department
(Article 8-20) BHS Rubber Gym Divider Wall - $35,000

PASSED: 1-4-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

Recommendation: The objection in this case is not to the need but the funding source. Since this is primarily an element of the sports program, the question is why funds from the revolving account related to sports programs are not used to cover this expense?

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School Department
(Article 8-21) BHS Front Parking Spaces - $60,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

Recommendation: It is expected that these new parking spaces will include provision for additional handicap accessible positions
School Department
(Article 8-14) Francis Wyman Bathroom - $136,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

School Department
(Article 8-13) Francis Wyman Fire Alarm - $362,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

School Department
(Article 8-15) Francis Wyman Air Conditioning - $170,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

DPW
(Article 12) Road & Parking - $3,000,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

DPW
(Article 8-2) Traffic Light Repair (intersection of Bedford Street, and Middlesex Turnpike Extension) - $50,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in opposition)

Recommendation: Dissenting opinion – questions the need based on personal observations
(Article 14) Mill Pond Automated Sludge Removal System - $1,270,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

Recommendation: Necessary to enhance reliability of water delivery

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DPW

(Article 10) Phase I MWRA water Connection - $700,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

Recommendation: This is a necessary near term action to assure adequate water supply and in the long term offers a measure of supply redundancy that we currently do not have.

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DPW

(Article 9) Sewer Services Enterprise Fund MWRA Assessment - $5,611,769

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

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DPW

(Article 8-3) Stream Cleaning/Drainage Repair - $200,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in opposition)

Recommendation: The vote is to support the work, however, the committee supports the opinion of Member Stamm that this is an annual operational expense and should be accounted for in the operating budget and not as a Capital expense warrant request.

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DPW

(Article 8-4) DPW Vehicle Replacement Program - $530,000

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)
DPW

Water Compressor - $22,500

PASSED: 5-0-0
(Member Stamm voted in favor)

DPW

(Article 18) DPW & Recreation Department Facility - $32,000,000

Recommendation: The committee supports the overall plan and need for this facility and looks forward to the improvements that will result at each of the sites involved. In the course of our discussions with the Departments and Administration we suggested that:

- Justify the requests at Town Meeting by referencing the response time for fixing sewer issues when the trucks do not need to thawed
- Suggested taking the buildings completely down at Clark and Reid rather than renovating
- Show the public the current state of these facilities
- Establish a building committee for project oversight such as the one which has been very useful for the Terrace Hall fire station project. Assurances were made that such a committee will be empaneled.
- Provide a basis for the cost estimates that includes a material and labor breakdown for each major project task, operation and maintenance costs for the facility, projected pay down schedule (annual cost to taxpayers over 20 years)
- It was observed that the cost of refurbishing buildings in phase 1 seemed to be similar to the cost of new buildings in phase 2 which appears to be rather odd.

The cost information made available to date, in our judgment, is not adequate to support a positive funding recommendation at this time.

DPW

(Article 8-22) PS Rehabilitation - $50,000

3. Minutes

NONE

4. Other Business

NONE
5. **Adjourn**

The Capital Budget Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Noelle Judd,
Recording Clerk

*Minutes approved in an email dated May 15, 2018*