

**Advisory Commission on Capital Expenditures  
Minutes of the February 11, 2009 meeting**

- 1) Chairman Tom Frenaye called the meeting to order at 7:05pm in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room in Town Hall. Commission members Eric Harrington, Raye Mandirola and alternate Marilyn Conley were present. George Colli IV was unable to attend.
- 2) After Mr. Mandirola moved, and Mr. Harrington seconded, the Commission approved the minutes of the January 29, 2009 meeting.
- 3) Mr. Frenaye noted an update from Town Engineer Gerry Turbet regarding the current year's usage of small bridge capital project funds, and an additional project submitted by Public Works Director Jack Muska for \$80,000 for asbestos abatement at Bridge Street School during the next year, presuming the larger project to renovate the school would not take place until after next year.
- 4) Continuing the review of 2009-10 capital projects, the Commission then welcomed school Business Manager Ed Basile who described several proposals, with help from Board of Education member Robert Parks, also the chairman of the BoE facilities subcommittee.

Mr. Basile a project approved last year to replace the boiler and oil tank at the Middle School. When the project was sent out to bid, the resulting bids exceeded the authorized amount, so they have delayed the project. They have divided the project into two separate ones and requested additional funds. The boiler replacement, with asbestos abatement, is now estimated to require an additional \$119,590 to supplement the \$220,000 already authorized. Replacing the oil tanks with one new 10,000 gallon tank is estimated to run \$86,012, but 57.2% would be reimbursed by the state for a net of \$38,087 in town funds.

Two projects for irrigation systems for the baseball (\$17,500) and softball (\$10,500) fields at the High School were presented.

Future (2012-13) projects included the renovation of the old greenhouse at the Middle School into a working greenhouse was estimated at \$75,000. Mr. Basile also presented a plan to convert the 3300 square foot maintenance area at the Middle School to educational space, while moving the present maintenance function to the old auto shop area. This was estimated at \$742,000, but approximately 50% would be covered by the state.

- 5) The next presentation was from Dan Beaudoin and Deborah Howe in the Information Technology Department.

The software system used to track and disperse fuel to town vehicles needs to be upgraded. The present system is out of date and the original vendor has been acquired by a competitor. The estimated cost is \$15,000.

Mr Beadoin has some preliminary estimate of \$247,847 for extending the town communications network to the new Senior Center, as well as the Library, and possible use at Bridge Street School. This will be needed in order to connect the new Senior Center to the town telephone and data network (and apparently not included in original estimated for the Senior Center).

As a response to a telephone system outage several weeks ago, Mr. Beaudoin got a quote of \$49,085 for a backup computer server to make sure the phone system features like call director and voice mail would continue on a fail-over system.

There is a current year capital project to provide the Police Department with an automated phone recorder. A complimentary system for file storage and archiving for the Police and other town departments was presented for \$47,000.

There are 14 file servers maintained by the IT Department, and several of them are more than five years old. Mr. Beadoin presented a request to budget \$15,000 in 2009-10 and \$10,000 in the following year for replacements of the oldest file server equipment (two in the Police Department, one at Town Hall).

The last request was for \$20,000 to replace 16 of the oldest desktop computer systems, as was requested last year and this year. This means that desktop computers are generally used for 5-6 years before they are replaced.

6) Next, Police Captain David Bourque presented an updated (from last year) request for a Federally-mandated police radio system upgrade. The new system must be in place by 2013 and he indicated that it could be done in three phases, one per year, beginning next year – at a cost of \$200,000 in 2009-10, \$502,000 the next year, and \$150,000 in 2011-12. There is some coordination with Fire Department radio interoperability that still has to be completed. Mr. Bourque indicated that some work has been done to locate state or federal funds/grants with no promises so far.

7) Parks and Recreation Director Wendy LaMontagne gave the last presentation, aided by Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Lou Casinghino and committee members Bob Ravens-Seeger, Jane Smith and Mike Roccanti.

The first three items involved Babb's Beach. The first request was for \$25,000 for a conceptual design study at Babb's Beach, which might lead to a Bath House (\$75,000 in state funding is available), and facilities at the Overlook Area.

The next request was for \$22,604 to resurface the four tennis courts at the Family Recreation Complex between the Middle School and McAlister School. The original surface is nine years old and deteriorating.

A project to renovate the Spaulding School athletic fields was estimated at \$111,280, split over two years – there is a need to level, irrigate and re-seed the fields.

The next request was for \$41,652 to add four new dugouts at the baseball and softball fields in 2012-13. Director LaMontagne said the last project on their list was for a concession-restroom building at Bruce Park, for an estimated \$235,620 in 2013-14.

8) There was a brief discussion about tracking capital projects from 2007-08 and the present budget year. Mr. Frenaye circulated a draft report showing approved expenses and the status of each project as of December 31, 2008.

9) The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

TF

2/23/2009