



OFFICE OF THE
Advisory Board
TOWN HALL
511 MAIN STREET
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313
(978) 649-4514 x222 FAX (978) 649-4371
finance@dunstable-ma.gov

September 16, 2013

Present: Kevin Welch, Harold Simmons, Christine Muir, Ron Mikol, Joe Dean, Dana Metzler

Meeting opened at 7:30 p.m.

This was a joint meeting of the Advisory Board, Board of Selectmen, and Capital Planning Committee. The Capital Planning Committee wanted to inform the other boards of their progress in identifying capital projects that require municipal resources. These projects include the Water Department's infrastructure, a Public Safety building to house fire and police, and a salt shed for the Highway Department.

Water Department

The water department infrastructure is in dire need of replacement. The Capital Planning Committee would like to see a feasibility study done for this project, so Karl Huber will arrange for an engineer to attend our October 7 meeting to answer questions. (The engineer will be the same one reviewing the Highway Salt Shed project.)

Bill Ahern asked about the cost of providing water in case of an infrastructure failure. An exact dollar amount is unknown but the annual usage is six million gallons. Multiple town buildings would need to be covered, including Swallow Union school.

Public Safety

The Capital Planning Committee would like to fund a feasibility study for the Public Safety building. These studies typically take six to eight months to complete and include identifying a location for the building. The cost is expected to be in the \$20,000-25,000 range.

The Road Commissioners have indicated that they do not require additional office space and do not need to be included in the public safety building plans. Karl Huber noted that the study should include water needs for the fire department in particular.

Selectman Ken Leva noted that CPC and CPA guidelines have loosened recently, which may allow us to use those funds for a multi-use district (MUD) development. A MUD has previously been considered for the open space adjacent to the post office on 113.

Other Projects

The Capital Planning Committee was asked if there are other projects up for consideration, specifically a MUD. Selectman Walter Alterisio would like to see that project revisited so that the town retains control of it, not the state. Ron Mikol noted the potential site development next to the Animal Hospital

The Joint Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The Advisory Board continued to meet with the Board of Selectmen.

Dana Metzler *Kevin Welch* *Christine Muir*
Harold R. Simmons

Selectman Alterisio stated that he thought the Advisory Board's memo requesting additional information on the Town Manager/Administrator position was out of line. He thought the Board should only indicate whether the money is available or not. Ron responded that the Advisory Board is looking for an understanding of the role in order to help justify the cost to the town when it comes up at the anticipated fall Special Town Meeting. The Advisory Board has not seen a job description or org chart for this position.

The Board approved the payment of \$129.00, from our own account, to the Association of Finance Committees, for annual dues.

We adjourned at 9:20 p.m.