

Minutes

Financial Planning Committee

March 01, 2007

Present:

Chair Jason Perreault
Vice Chair James Halpin
Roger Leland
David DeVries
Michael Hodge

Absent:

James Casella

Also Present:

Fran Bakstran, Selectperson
John Coderre, Assistant Town Administrator
Kelly Burke, Director, Senior Center
Jeff Leland, Chair, Senior Center Building Committee
Members of Friends of the Senior Center
Michelle Rehill, Chair, Library Trustees
Mary Crowley, Chair, Library Building Committee

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m. in Town Hall Conference Room B.

By agreement of the Committee, approval of prior meeting minutes was deferred until after the scheduled update of the Senior Center construction project.

Update on Senior Center Construction Project

Jeff Leland, Kelly Burke, and John Coderre presented an update on the project and responded to numerous questions from Committee members concerning cost; size; siting options on the parcel; function; parking; and shooting range contamination. Mr. Coderre cited, and the Committee acknowledged, the efforts of the Building Committee and project supporters to fund the continued study of this project, culminating in the proposal to be put forth at the Spring 2007 Annual Town Meeting.

The Committee assigned this project a priority rating of 3 (motivated by Town growth).

Motion to recommend approval of the Senior Center construction project was made by Michael Hodge, seconded by David DeVries, and carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of Past Meetings

Approval of minutes of the January 18 2007 meeting as amended were moved by David DeVries, seconded by Roger Leland, and carried unanimously. Amendment is that the Committee only intends that metrics *Gross Debt as Percentage of Annual Budget* and *Net Debt as Percentage of Annual Budget* be included in the Committee's annual report. The following metrics will be considered by the Committee in its deliberations, but will not be included in the report: *Net Debt as Percentage of Assessed Valuation; Dollar on Tax Rate; Median Household Impact.*

Approval of minutes of the February 15 2007 meeting were moved by James Halpin, seconded by Michael Hodge, and carried unanimously.

Recommendations for FY 2008-2013 Capital Improvement Projects

The Chair recognized Mary Crowley, Michelle Rehill, and John Coderre, who responded to numerous questions from the Committee on the matter of the Library renovation project concerning cost; fundraising; American Disabilities Act code compliance; and capital repairs that will be needed if the renovation project is not approved.

Although this project was originally motivated by Town growth (priority rating 3), the Committee assigned this project a priority rating of 1 (health and safety, and/or mandatory code compliance), noting that any renovation or capital repair undertaking will trigger ADA code compliance, and doing nothing is not considered an option.

Motion to recommend approval of the Library renovation project was made by James Halpin, seconded by Roger Leland, and carried unanimously.

The Chair noted that the only projects remaining for consideration are those proposed to be funded with CPA monies. The Committee tentatively set Thursday March 8 as a meeting date to hear a presentation from the Community Preservation Committee. The Chair will contact the CPC to make arrangements.

Review Draft Committee Report

The Committee reviewed the latest draft. The Chair will incorporate suggestions for changes and will draft remaining text for general comments.

Other Business

The Committee took note of updates to Capital Improvement Plan; Treasurer's latest debt schedules; average annual increase in average single family tax bill over last five years; and submission to Town Counsel for opinion on ARHS grant reimbursement issue.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.