



TRIWN OF ORLEANS TOWN CLERKS OFFICE

# FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES 11 MAR 25 PM 2: 16

The February 23, 2011 joint meeting of the Orleans Finance Committee and Board of Selectman to hear public input on the Capital Plan put forth by the Board of Selectman was convened by Chairman Larry Hayward at 6:30 p.m. in the Nauset Room of the Orleans Town Hall. Present constituting a quorum were Chairman, Mr. Larry Hayward, Vice Chairman, Ms. Gwen Holden Kelly, Secretary, Mr. Mark Carron, Members, Mr. Dale Fuller, Mr. Ed Barr, Mr. John Hodgson, Mr. Walter Bennett and Mr. Paul Rooker. Absent was Mr. Rick Sigel.

#### **Guests:**

**Public Hearing** 

#### **Public Comment:**

Chairman Hayward read the public hearing notice before opening the meeting.

The Town Administrator was introduced by Chairman Hayward. The Town Administrator reviewed a Power Point Presentation which highlighted the Capital Plan as it currently stands. At the completion there were no questions to be directed to the Town Administrator regarding the presentation.

Not hearing any questions, Chairman Hayward opened up the discussion for the public hearing.

# Tom Finan, East Orleans

Mr. Finan inquired "where was the funding for the Police Station in the Plan?" The Town Administrator responded that all the facility expenses were taken out while the board awaits the facility study before any recommendations are put forth.

# Jim Dishner, South Orleans

Mr. Dishner asked if the Plan as written will impact any Affordable Housing Projects. The Town Administrator responded that the current plan would not inhibit and ongoing affordable housing projects.

# David Farquhar, Orleans

Mr. Farquhar expressed concern over the monies assigned to Waste Water and they seemed to be in contradiction of each other. He also expressed the importance of obtaining pricing for a central and decentralized system of equals. The Town Administrator clarified the Plan which somewhat satisfied Mr. Farquhar.



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#### Alan McClennen, South Orleans

Mr. McClennen addressed the issues of Open Space. Mr. McClennen indicated that the Open Space has been working towards its goal since 1999 which was to preserve 400 acres. Currently we have set aside 300, or 78% of the goal. The funding remaining from the original \$1.5 million is \$455,000. Mr. McClennen suggested that the town increase the Capital Plan back to \$1.5 million.

#### **Brooks Woods, East Orleans**

Mr. Woods indicated that the town can no longer afford to purchase additional property which takes valuable land off the tax roles. He requested that the town remove the funds from the capital Plan for Open Space until we can afford to once again purchase land for open space.

#### J Stewart Broatch, East Orleans

Mr. Broatch looks at the Capital Budget to see if anything on it "helps" him as a tax payer. Some of the vehicles and equipment, he sees will help him. However, another \$56,000,000 is going to be spent, how is that going to help him? \$42,000,000 of that is not going to help him because it is not one of the 500(+/-) homes that will be sewered. That project alone will add \$377 per year to his tax bill. The total cost for sewering, \$150,000 million will cost each resident \$2,500 more per year for 30 years. The total cost for the interest is \$71,295 or \$2 million in interest each year.

## Ken Mayo, Orleans

Expressed concern over the buildings and spending an additional \$50,000 to study them he was not sure would change anything and that perhaps the \$50,000 should be put to fixing the buildings. He also questioned why we did not support the study by town committees?

#### Tom Finan, East Orleans

Regarding the buildings, because we have already studied the Police Building, there does not appear to be anything new to learn. Let's put the money towards fixing up the buildings.

#### Alan McClennan, South Orleans

Inquired into why the Capital Budget did not allocate any funds for Dredging, which he requested last year? He outlined those areas of water ways that can be dredged. He also



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mentioned that although it is in 3 different municipal documents, he hopes to see it in the Capital Plan.

#### Tim Linkkila, Orleans

Mr. Linkkila sat on the DPW building study committee that looked at most of the facilities. He felt the town needed to get going on Park's and Highway. Nether are good structures for staff to be working out of. Regarding the use of town trucks, has the town looked into a regional program to save money or look into privatizing? The Town Administrator responded that an issue with the storm drainage is the waste is considered hazardous and often towns need the service at the same time of the year.

#### **Bob Wilkinson, Orleans**

Think it is time to invest in Orleans. Concern over comments to hold down taxes. Talks about the school system and ability to help the schools. Open space has made Orleans a desired town to live in.

#### **Brooks Wood, East Orleans**

Questioned the two drainage and pavement plans. Why are these amounts capital items when they are regular work done each year? Thinks the town should consider placing these in the budget annually.

#### Tim Linkkila, Orleans

Is anyone looking into regionalization? Only the 911 services are being looked at per the Town Administrator.

#### Barbara Nelson, Orleans

Why do we have \$5,000,000 in FY13 and another \$2,000,000 in FY17? Is there a location where she can read over these expenses and who will be designing the plans? The Town Administrator indicated that these totals are in the CWMP, which can be found on the WEB or at the Library. No firm has been selected yet to do the design.



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### Adjournment:

There being no further business before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

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Mark E. Carron Secretary

## **Next Meeting:**

Thursday February 24, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Nauset room at the Town Office Building.

Monday February 28, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Nauset room at the Town Office Building.

#### Handouts:

- o Capital Plan
- o Memo on dredging
- o Power Point slides from the Town Administrator
- o Memo on Open Space

#### **Future Agenda Topics:**

- o Get detail on unfunded Retirement liabilities
- o Get details on unfunded Insurance liabilities
- o Invite Mark Budnick in to give report on expenditures
- o Invite Ken Hull in to review drop in valuation/fluctuation
- o Debrief on the Town Hearings on Budget and Capital Plan issues
- o Discuss Finance Committee WEB site opportunities
- o Review the importance of an MIS audit
- o Review the merits of the towns participation in the RTA