

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Capital Budget Committee

Kenneth Glowacki, Chairman

Robert Varney, Secretary

Frank Aniello

Gary Bohan

Jonathan Calianos

Tina Cote

Capital Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2010

Location: Fire station

Present: Frank Aniello, Gary Bohan, Jonathan Calianos, Tina Cote, Ken Glowacki, Bob Varney
Also, Blythe Robinson, Town Manager

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM.

COA Director Jamie Gardner joined the meeting for a discussion of requirements of the Council on Aging. The discussion centered on the requirements of the Senior Center. The existing Senior Center is leased from Harbor Management for 99 years at \$1 per year. Senior Center serves approximately 1100 Upton residents. The average number of residents served each day is 75-100. The COA also provides assistance with other social needs to low income residents such as fuel assistance and meals.

The current facility is too small to handle more than one event at a time. Also the parking will only accommodate 12 automobiles. Half of the facility is used for meals. The current operating budget is \$32,000 plus salaries.

It is estimated that to accommodate all of the weekday and weekend requirements that 7,500 sq. ft. of space would be required. Refurbishing the existing space would be expensive since this would require a complete remake of the space including heating, plumbing, electrical and windows. We would be throwing money into a building that we don't own. A plan needs to be documented including alternatives as refurbishing the existing building, finding another building, building a new facility, or combining these requirements with the requirements of another department, such as the Library. Funding would need to take into consideration grants, CPA funds and long term borrowing.

Fire Chief Ron Goodale joined the meeting to discuss the needs of the Fire and EMS Departments. Chief Goodale presented a list of requirements identifying the condition of each vehicle, expected lifespan in years and estimated replacement cost. The priority would be to

replace the Med1 Ford E 350 Ambulance next year. However what to do to replace Med 1 is being reviewed. The Ford F350 pickup also needs to be replaced. Chief Goodale is looking at combining some trucks. Also the cost estimates are based on new equipment and the department will continue to build second line equipment from surplus equipment. First line equipment must be new. Once the Chief has sorted all of this out he will be back with a new plan.

Board of Public Works employees John Johnson and Ron Sansouci along with BPW Consultant Larry Bombara joined the meeting to discuss the BPW needs.

A revised spread sheet showing the rolling stock replacement plan was presented showing the plan for the next five years.

Storm Water Management will be moved from the Capital Plan to the Operating Budget. Blythe Robinson and Larry Bombara have concluded that it more cost effective to outsource the street sweeping rather than buy a street sweeper.

A Pavement Management Plan was presented showing a five year road improvement plan. There is currently a backlog of \$8 million in work. The quality of asphalt is such that a road only lasts 15 years vs. 25 years previously. The Pavement Condition Index (PCI) shows Upton at an average of 72% vs. a goal of 80%.

Larry Bombara requested that we consider Road Improvements as Maintenance and not Capital, and Rolling Stock as replacement and not Capital.

The Transportation Improvements Program (TIP) for Hartford Ave North intersection to the Hopkinton line was presented. Upton would fund the project design and the State grant would pick up the construction costs. We're on track to get the funding because the State agrees with the congestion and condition problems. Goal is to have the project completed in 2015. The project will consist of three phases, Pratt Pond Intersection (using Traffic Safety Funds), Hartford Ave N to Pratt Pond, and finally Pratt Pond to the Hopkinton line. Estimated cost \$5.6M.

DPW will be putting the Salt Shed back on the table at the next annual Town Meeting. Some storms require a mix of salt and sand which would require storing the sand/salt mix as well as the straight salt requiring additional covered storage.

Garage/Office Addition/Vehicle Wash requiring \$725,000 over three years was presented.. The requirement is to add two bays, one for a vehicle wash and one for additional storage and office. Existing trailer would be removed. The vehicle wash needs to be a green system.

Blythe Robinson presented information that the proposed Richard Well cost estimate has been reduced from \$6.35m to \$3.0m. The reduction is due to the elimination of the treatment portion of the plant. Only pumping will be required at this time. The facility will be built to accommodate treatment if required at a later time. The \$3m includes all infrastructure and a contingency. The line to connect to the existing line is \$2m of the \$3m. The plan is to be running by 2015. The Selectmen will present to the Town no later than the next annual Town Meeting.

A short discussion regarding Sweet William Farm and the method of obtaining the appraisals took place.

Mr. Aniello moved and Mr. Varney seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Varney
Secretary to the Committee