

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

March 29, 2011

Location: Fire Station

Present: Frank Aniello, Gary Bohan, Jonathan Calianos, Tina Cote, Ken Glowacki, Bob Varney
Also: Board of Selectman, Blythe Robinson Town Manager, Fincom, Jim Brochu Resident, and Member of the Press

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM

This was working meeting between members of the CBC, BOS, Fincom and Town Manager to discuss the 2012 Budget, Capital Requests and Plan and to determine a recommendation to the Town Meeting for the Budget and Capital needs.

The Town Manager presented the 2012 Budget requests which exceeds proposition 2.5 by over one million dollars. She then explained two alternatives, A. which reduced the unfavorable amount to \$518K and B. which further reduced the unfavorable amount to \$418K by reducing Other Expenses on the Recap Sheet. The Town Manager then discussed how to further reduce the \$418K to \$138K.

The Chairman of the CBC then presented a borrowing plan for the Capital requests for 2012. The requests include TIP, Pumping Station Upgrade, Ambulance, Sidewalk Plow, Dump Truck, Salt Shed, and 3rd Water Source Design. The total cost of these items is \$1,691,000 and the first year (2013) debt service is approximately \$253,640.

It was then discussed that the Towns Operating Budget (not including MURSD) and Capital plan could be achieved with some additional (minor) adjustments and use of the Stabilization Fund. The issue at hand is the MURSD Budget increase of \$1.3M. This amount results in the combined budget (Town and School) being unfavorable by almost \$638K. So a decision needs to be made to use MURSD Stabilization monies or ask MURSD to get to the \$770K unfavorable amount

used in alternative B. above. The Selectman took all of this under advisement and will discuss the Budget and Capital requirements at the BOS meeting next Tuesday.

Mr. Calianos of the Fincom expressed his concern that the Selectmen were proposing wage increases of 4.5% for fiscal 2012. He was concerned as to how this could be explained to the Town Meeting given the current economic climate and that no one is giving raises (government or industry). The Town Manager explained that the agreement struck with the unions last year was for the employees to forego their wage increases for 2011 and they would get their percentage increase for 2011 in 2012 plus the 2012 percentage increase. She further explained that to not do what was agreed would be in violation of the contract. She is prepared to explain this at the Annual Town Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Varney
Secretary to the Committee