**Capital Expenditures Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, February 24, 2014, 6:00 PM**

**Lower Conference Room**

**Members Present:** Michael Podolski, Amy Paxson, Susan Fay and Peter Springer

**Members Absent:** John Heffernan

Mr. Springer called meeting to order at 6:00PM

6:00 PM: School Department-

Mike LaFrancesca was present to represent the schools.

Taissir Alani reviewed facilities projects both completed and in progress from Fiscal Year 2013-2014.

Don Langenhorst explained the 1:1 technology initiative. He explained that they are requesting to purchase additional iPads. Mr. Langenhorst explained that they plan to follow the current policy where parents are asked to contribute $100 each, and those with free or reduced lunch are asked to pay $50 each. Each iPad costs $500, and they are requesting 200 iPads.

Mr. Langenhorst explained that they will need $128,270 to complete phase 2 of the network infrastructure updates.

Replacement of central switches at the Town Hall, High School and network connections into virtual machines would cost $85,000.

Mr. Langenhorst explained the need to support the additional bandwidth use. Mr. Langenhorst commented that he thinks it would be most efficient to fund the entire amount now so they could have the benefit of the infrastructure upgrade this year.

Mr. LaFrancesca reviewed the following requests:

- $20,000 for an engineering study at the Dedham Middle School.

- Replacement of 12 exterior doors at Dedham High School and 12 at Greenlodge School.

- $150,000 for the Renovation of the Dedham High School Foyer, labeled as a priority for the building. Mr. Alani explained what has been done to date in entry to meet ADA requirements, and presented a sketch of what the new foyer would look like. The floor would be restored to its original condition.

Ms. Fay asked how security relates to this request. June Doe responded that bringing the foyer to 21st century is not the only reason they are looking to do this renovation; it is also to improve security.

Mr. Springer asked if there is any structural damage to the foyer. Mr. Lafrancesca responed that the current foyer is structurally sound.

-$50,000 for repairs to the Dedham High School cafeteria kitchen. June Doe explained that this is being requested as a result of requests from the Building Department and the Board of Health. June Doe explained that right now they are being cited and it is a safety issue.

- $300,000 for ceiling tile replacement at the High school and the Greenlodge School. They plan to start with the hallways and eventually extend the work into the classrooms.

- $60,000 for Electrical Upgrades at Dedham High School.

- $50,000 for interior painting. Mr. LaFrancesca explained that he would like to make this an annual request of $50,000 so that the interior of one school would get painted each year, and that each school gets painted every 5 years.

- $50,000 for repairs to the Dedham Middle School Driveway. Mr. LaFrancesca explained that this is necessary in order to prevent the need for the entire driveway to be replaced, as had occurred with the High School Parking Lot.

- $60,000 for a cooling system for Dedham High School data center. Mr. LaFrancesca explained that if they are planning on making an upgrade to the High Schools technology Infrastructure than they should protect that investment with a new cooling system. Mr. Alani added this would also provide cooling for a staff area. Ms. Faye asked if the new system would be more efficient. Ms. Doe confirmed that it would.

- Resurfacing of the Dedham High School tennis courts. Mr. Lafrancesca explained that patching and resurfacing would be more economical than replacing.

Mr. Podolski asked if the list is in priority order since it is likely not everything will be able to be funded. Mr. LaFrancesca responded that they are in priority order, as the School Committee voted. He added that the only change would be that the tennis courts get moved up to number 4 on the priority list.

6:50 PM: Endicott Estate-

Erin Perron was present for the discussion. Ms. Perron explained that most of these requests are for maintenance of the estate. Mr. Howell explained that these requests are sort of right in the middle of what can be considered a Capital Request and Operational Budget. He said he will leave it up for discussion. Ms. Perron explained that the ballroom floors need to be buffed and coated in polyurethane twice a year for maintenance as they cannot be sanded anymore. Mr. Podolski responded that he does not think cleaning belongs in a capital budget.

Ms. Perron explained she is still looking into purchasing a tent for the Endicott Estate but this will be prioritized for FY 2016.

7:05 PM: Parks and Recreation Department-

Robert Stanley was present. He started by expressing the Parks and Recreation’s support for the resurfacing of the Tennis Courts.

Mr. Stanley explained the request for a geotechnical Study for the Manor Fields project. Debra Michener was present from Activitas. Ms. Missioner explained that the geotechnical support is in two parts- test borings and test pits. As the project heads from 50% to 75%, they need this information to better understand the soils.

Mr. Stanley explained the request for lights and security at the fields. Mr. Stanley explained that he would like to start with Memorial Park, and if it works well there, continue to do the same at Condon and Rustcraft.

Mr. Stanley explained that he wanted to add the request for a Master Plan for Parks and Recreation to their radar. The goal is to put together a long term plan for capital, field improvements, etc. He expects to have a better idea of the cost next year.

Taissir Alani returned to explain that he is still trying to come up with a plan of how he will present requests for the facilities department. The Committee reviewed the new organization of the facilities requests. Mr. Podolski responded that he likes the way it looks. The rest of the Committee agreed.

7:50 PM: Public Works-

Joe Flanagan was present. He reviewed the requests of the DPW including roads, sidewalks, sewer improvements, and work to the cemeteries. Mr. Flanagan explained the need to replace 2 trucks in his fleet. He also explained the need to upgrade their communication system as currently the DPW is not able to communicate with the Fire Department or Police Cruisers. The current system also does not comply with FCC.

Jim Maher, explained that the Gateway to the Manor project is a safety issue that needs to be addressed. He explained that it is important to the neighborhood. Mr. Springer requested a copy of the engineering plans for the project. Mr. Maher added that there will be a presentation tomorrow night at the Capen School on the Manor Fields property and the gateway to the Manor.

Mr. Flanagan commented his support in the priority on the Rustcraft Rd sidewalk. He suggested that this should be put in before it becomes a memorial sidewalk.

8:15 PM: Mr. Howell explained that departments who have requests only for FY 16 and later are not present to discuss their requests. These include Environmental, Town Clerk, Economic Development and Planning.

Mr. Howell explained the $10,000 request from the Economic Development Department for a study for the Arts Overlay District and a charette that would involve architects etc. He explained the outcome of the study.

Mr. Howell explained that within the Facilities Street lighting budget, they are requesting to change lights to LED. The LED lights have a higher life expectancy and increased energy efficiency. There is a need for a bucket truck to change the lights. He added that the Fire department could also use this bucket truck.

Mr. Howell explained the Town Administrator’s request for a Records Management Program.

The Committee discussed their schedule. It was decided that the meeting on March 4th would be changed to 5:00 PM.

Mr. Podolski made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 PM, seconded by Ms. Paxson. **It was voted 4-0.**