**Capital Expenditures Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, January 19, 2016, 6:15 PM**

**O’Brien Meeting Room, Dedham Town Hall**

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

Mr. Springer called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

**FY17-FY21 Capital Budget Hearings:**

Ms. Paxson informed the Committee that she had re-worked the rating sheet. She asked the other members to take a look at it and let her know if she should make any adjustments.

Ms. Hanlon asked if they would be rating everything, or eliminating some items beforehand. Ms. Paxson confirmed they will rate everything that comes before the CEC.

6:31 PM- Engineering:

Jason Mammone, Director of Engineering, was present.

Mr. Mammone explained that he is requesting $1 million for the annual inflow and infiltration request. $11.9 million has been spent to date, and 269 miles of sewer has been addressed. This has saved approximately $7.4 million in assessments over the past 9 years.

Mr. Mammone explained that $80,000 was approved for a phase 2 study of the Colburn Street Dam last year and that study is currently ongoing. He is hoping to have a report by mid-February but is requesting that the CEC put in a placeholder for $500,000 until they get the study back with the actual estimated repair cost. Mr. Mammone explained that he expects that maintenance will be needed but he needs to wait for details to determine what they will cost.

Mr. Podolski asked if Mr. Mammone was there for the field studies. Mr. Mammone responded that he was there for a limited amount of time. Mr. Podolski questioned if Mr. Mammone had pick up any information that would indicate what amount of work they are looking at. Mr. Mammone responded that he has bits and pieces of information but doesn’t know enough about dam repair to understand what this might cost. Mr. Mammone explained it will be important to repair the dam to avoid potential loss of life if the dam breaches. If the dam wasn’t there, Mill Pond would no longer exist.

Ms. Fay confirmed with Mr. Mammone that the options are to address it, dismantle it, or let it go.

Ms. Hanlon suggested the CEC pass on it for now until they receive more information given that it does not seem to be an emergency situation.

Ms. Fay confirmed with Mr. Mammone that the Rustcraft Road sidewalks received funding last year.

6:51 PM- Public Works:

Joe Flanagan, Director of DPW, was present.

Mr. Flanagan explained his annual request to fund the roads program. He explained that they are going into their 10th year of the program in 2016. The request is for $1.5 million.

There was also a request for sidewalks for $500,000. Mr. Flanagan explained that this is an ongoing request.

Sewer repairs were requested at $600,000. Mr. Flanagan explained that this is funded out of the sewer fund, and it is the 8th year. The DPW works together with Engineering on these projects.

Mr. Flanagan requested $250,000 for miscellaneous repairs. He explained that this money is used for beautification projects across town. They usually dip into this money to repair damage from frost heaves. In the past this money was combined with the sidewalks request.

Ms. Fay asked how much of the $250,000 will go towards Dedham Square. Mr. Flanagan responded about $20,000. Ms. Fay confirmed with Mr. Flanagan that there is not a list to predict what the money is going to be spent on. Ms. Fay explained that she wants to make sure that work is being done throughout town and not just in the Square.

Ms. Hanlon confirmed with Mr. Flanagan that the portion of guard rail that was replaced on Route 109 by the DPW was not the state’s responsibility.

Ms. Fay commented that it seems like a lot of money to be labeled under miscellaneous.

Mr. Flanagan explained his request for $300,000 to replace a motor.

Mr. Flanagan explained the need for a handicap ramp at front of Public Works office and that the DPW will do the majority of the work themselves.

There was a request to place cameras in the yard at the DPW. Mr. Flanagan explained that they have a lot of equipment outside, and even though they have never had a problem they did have people trying to go in when the scrap was really high.

Brookdale Cemetery: Mr. Flanagan explained they plan to do a sign at the cemetery. This is an annual request, but it doesn’t always get funded.

Ms. Paxson asked why this can’t be funded this out of miscellaneous. Mr. Flanagan confirmed they have not done that before. Ms. Fay confirmed with Mr. Flanagan that the money appropriated toward the cemetery is spent every year.

Stormwater Request: Mr. Flanagan explained that the new MS4 permit is supposed to come in this fiscal year and will most likely cost about $75,000. These requirements get much stricter every time it comes out. The government prefers the vactor truck over the clamshell.

Ms. Fay asked what would happen if the Town did not comply with the requirements. Mr. Kern responded that it would most likely result in a fine.

Mr. Flanagan that commented that the Town is way ahead of the curve for storm-water, so it is only a small hit here compared to other towns.

7:23 PM: Parks and Recreation Department-

Deborah Anderson of the Parks and Recreation Department and Dan Hart of the Parks and Recreation Commission were present.

Mr. Hart explained that as a result of the pipeline going through Gonzalez Field, $300,000 in mitigation was received to restore the field to its current condition. Pat McGuire, a Dedham resident who is very familiar with grass and artificial surfaces, put a proposal together and recommended $600,000 worth of work. He explained that the field is overused. With this fix, the field would be in poor shape again after 3 years. The field is booked continually and limiting time on the field is not an option. The cost goes up to $1 million dollars if they also address the lights. Mr. Hart explained that this why they are requesting consideration for artificial turf as an option. The request for this is somewhere between $1.8 million and $2.1 million depending on some quotes that need to be updated. The Town has no received other bids that Mr. Hart knows of. Mr. Hart will need to confirm the numbers with Bob Stanley.

Ms. Fay asked if they plan to include bleachers. Mr. Hart explained they are proposing spectator berms.

Mr. Kern explained that technically the $300,000 in mitigation went to free cash as it couldn’t just be held for Parks and Recreation, but that amount of money is still committed to them, and they will have that $300,000.

Mr. Podolski asked how long the artificial field will last. Mr. Kern responded approximately 10-12 years. Mr. Podolski asked if they would be able to fix patches that become worn. Mr. Kern explained that while they won’t be able to fix the field in patches, they won’t need the earthwork again so next time they would just be paying for new turf.

Cecilia Butler asked how hot the field would get on a 90 degree day. Mr. Hart responded probably 110-115 degrees, turf gets very hot. Ms. Butler questioned the safety of the proposal for children.

Mr. Springer confirmed with Ms. Anderson that they will they get an updated quote.

Ms. Fay asked if this would impact water and drainage around the field considering they are near a resource area. Mr. Hart responded that the Dolan Center field is next to the Charles River, and the Conservation Commission wanted a turf field for the benefit of avoiding the application of fertilizers.

Mr. Hart commented on the house on the corner of East Street and Rustcraft Road being an example of a new house that got permitted to be built without much open space for a family. He explained that families with smaller yards will be relying on the Town for recreational space.

Mr. Hart described the pool bundle including a request for a filter, diving boards, ladders, steps and hoists.

Ms. Hanlon questioned the need for a lift chair at the pool; she doesn’t think it is a compliance issue because Dedham Health and Athletic are not doing it. She also expressed concern with some of these items being called capital.

Mr. Heffernan confirmed the diving board was on last year for 2018.

Mr. Kern responded to Ms. Hanlon that these bundles are capital by any definition he has ever seen.

The request for filter repairs at $11,000 will require an updated invoice which Ms. Anderson will request. Ms. Anderson explained that someone comes in daily and maintains the pool.

Ms. Paxson expressed concern with the use of older obsolete invoices for capital requests considering they had newer invoices prior to submitting capital requests.

Ms. Terkelsen suggested they work offline on this to make sure that they are looking at the final submission.

Condon Fence: Mr. Hart explained that they are working with Bradbury fence to try to incorporate a number of fence projects into one. Ms. Fay confirmed with Mr. Hart that a chain link fence has a long expected life. Mr. Hart explained that a lot of the fence that they are looking to replace is old. The request is for $11,000 and will mostly be used for Condon and Churchill, and there will also be one repair at Memorial Field, as well as Paul Park.

Ms. Fay confirmed the hours of the pool with Ms. Anderson. Ms. Anderson explained all of the events and scheduled usage of the pool. She explained it is very heavily utilized.

Ms. Hanlon confirmed with Ms. Anderson that the YMCA has a partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department.

Ratings sheet-

Ms. Paxson will send the rating sheet out electronically so that other members can test it out.

Ms. Fay asked about the rating system and why the cost was being weighted. Ms. Paxson explained that she felt it would be building in an incentive into the ratings to not spend as much money. Ms. Terkelsen commented that she thinks the weight on price is a great piece to the ranking.

Mr. Springer suggested everyone looking over the rating sheet to see if they like it as is and providing him with any suggestions of changes.

Ms. Fay asked if education should also be added in addition to public safety. Ms. Terkelsen explained that she did not think that would be an appropriate variable to use across the board.

Ms. Hanlon asked how they came about the ratings and explained that the process seems onerous. She will need to try it out to see if it helps.

Mr. Kern explained that the rating system is appropriate because the classic approach is rank and then finance; pass fail doesn’t seem like a better option. Mr. Kern provided an example of choosing between a fire truck and an ADA compliant building; it would be tough to decide what the priority is.

Ms. Fay explained that she thinks it is helpful when comparing across departments.

Mr. Kern explained that they are waiting on some information that will be coming in late including the results from the study of the dam, the sidewalk, and the ECEC. There may need to be a dual meeting in late February to discuss the sidewalk and the dam. They do not plan to ask for town money for the Rail trail at this point. He would like to allow friends group to get the information out to the rest of the town so more people can hear about it.

Mr. Podolski made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 PM, seconded by Ms. Paxson, UA.