

2020 FEB 25 PM 3:13

**Town of Newington CIP Committee
Conference Room L-101, Town Hall
Minutes of Tuesday February 18, 2020 Meeting**


Town Clerk

1. D. Nagel called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

2. Roll Call - Members Present: C.Anest, Town Council
M. Camillo, Town Council (arrived at 5:07 pm)
D. Nagel, Town Council
S. Silvia, Board of Education

Absent: C. Stamm, Board of Education

Others Present: K. Chapman, Town Manager
J. Murphy, Director of Finance
L. Rydecki, Deputy Finance Director
B. DelBuono, Mayor

3. Public Participation –

Maddie Kenney – 53 Crestview Drive. The Directors have presented their needs and she is asking the Committee to really look at and match the statistics with the request.

Rose Lyons – 46 Elton Drive. Requested that they look at what the definition is for what should be included in CIP not just in this fund but for Public School CIP and Recreation CIP. Urged the members to review what was discussed in previous years.

4. Minutes: February 5, 2020 meeting – M. Camillo made a motion to accept and S. Silvia seconded it. Motion passed 4 to 0. Correspondence received by C. Anest will be attached to tonight’s meeting minutes for the record.

5. Old Business – Review of Town Proposed Pay-As-You-Go with:

- Keith Chapman, Town Manager – Reviewed his proposed changes to the Town Managers Proposed CIP budget. Those changes included the following – 1. Reduce item #12 Town Hall/Community Center Tech Costs by \$550,000 2. Reduce item #13 Townwide Fiber Optic Deployment \$300,000 for current year – this will be pushed out to 2021-2022; 3. Increase item #20 Fire Department Thermal Camera to \$25,000 so they can purchase 2 replacement cameras; 4. Increase item #28 Local Bridge & Dam Inspection & Maintenance by \$25,000; 5. Reduce item #35 Drainage Improvements by \$25,000; 6) Reduce item #37 Stonewall Repair by \$25,000; 7) Reduce item #41 highway Garage Building Upgrades & Repairs by \$90,000; and 8) Reduce item #62 School Bus Replacement Program by \$492,000. The new total proposed by the Town Manager would be \$5,792,030.
- Discuss continued regarding the School Technology Reserve and the School Bus Replacement Program. It was determined that the technology reserve was meant to be used for purchase or Chrome Books which does not meet the criteria for inclusion in CIP recommendations. There was also discussion regarding what the balance that is being held in the School Bus Replacement Program can be used for according to the Town’s MOU with the Board of Education.

Motion was made by M. Camillo to remove the \$188,828 item # 63 School Technology Reserve from the proposed CIP request – seconded by S. Silvia. The motion passed with 3 yes and 1 abstained.

Motion was made by S. Silvia to remove the \$492,000 item #62 School Bus Replacement Program from the proposed CIP request – seconded by M. Camillo. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Motion was made by M. Camillo to accept the Town Manager’s other current recommendations and forward this proposal on to the Town Council – seconded by M. Camillo. Roll call vote was taken on this:

Anest – no
Camillo – yes
Nagel – yes
Silvia – yes
Motion passed 3 to 1.

6. Public Participation –

Rose Lyons – 46 Elton Drive: Stated that she appreciated the color print outs on the new Town Manager's proposal. It makes it easier to read. Would like to see the flood maintenance item be reinstated. Mentioned that we need to look at the past to plan the future and need to have a vision to look at the big picture.

Gail Budrejko – 21 Isabelle Terrace: Believed that the BOE will be using the balance at the end of the fiscal year for new model chrome books.

7. Next Meeting – The meeting on Thursday February 20th will not be held since all items were finalized tonight.

8. Motion to adjourn- M. Camillo – Seconded by S. Silvia - motion passed 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Janet Murphy".

Janet Murphy, Director of Finance

Good evening Mayor and CIP Committee Members,

Please read this letter aloud to be recorded into the minutes of your CIP meeting. I am unable to attend tonight's CIP meeting, but I have been actively involved in the Newington Parks and Recreation Department's budget process to date.

As a long time member and past chairman of the Newington Parks and Recreation Board, I and my fellow Board members strongly support enabling the professional staff to have the tools and funding to maintain our existing facilities.

Over the many years I have served on the Board, the Town has not always supported the Department's funding requests at reasonable levels.

I can honestly say, the Department does not have any wiggle room in its operating budget for unforeseen problems that arise. Such items include: acts of vandalism, burst pool hot water heaters, stolen picnic tables, vehicle damage to fences and turf, etc. For these reasons, we hope that you will give strong consideration to fully funding the Parks, Pools, Playgrounds and Green Spaces Project for \$200,000.

As you all probably know, the Department in conjunction with the Senior and Disabled Center has successfully secured an AARP grant of over \$189,000 to install adult outdoor exercise equipment at Clem Lemire Recreation Complex. The timing of this is perfect, since the Department's goal was to replace the antiquated and inaccessible playground at Clem Lemire. So, I am asking you to give your consideration to supporting our request for \$100,000.00 to complete this project.

This year is the 30th anniversary of the signing of the ADA federal law and Newington has done little to make advancements in the park system to address the accessibility laws. It's time that the ADA Walkways, Paths and Parking Project be given some funding to show the federal government that we are showing good faith.

Lastly, we know we can't get everything, but the Department has been piecemealing the irrigation system together at the Emanuel Christian Academy soccer fields. We have invested about \$25,000 into the project so far and anticipate \$50,000 more to complete the project. This funding is essential

so that we can treat youth soccer fairly and equally in comparison to the other youth sports organizations in town

I thank you in advance for your consideration.

Don Woods
82 Ivy Lane
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