

**10 Year Capital Improvement & Strategic Planning Committee
Minutes of Special Meeting
March 8, 2021**

Members Present: Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Mary Fortier, Glenn Heiser, Tom Hislop, Peter Kelley (*entered at 4:45 p.m.*), Dave Preleski, Orlando Calfe, John Smith and Diane Waldron.
Also present from the Comptroller's Staff: Robin Manuele and Skip Gillis.

Call to order.

Mayor Zoppo Sassu called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

To review the Capital Budget for 2021-2022 and to take any action as necessary.

Josh Medeiros, Parks Superintendent, discussed the Parks Master. The plan identifies current and future needs for the City to help guide the Department for the next five to ten years. The goals include gaining a better understanding of community needs, identifying gaps of service, programs and facilities not currently being met, define future capital improvement projects as well as staffing/equipment needs to meet the objectives. A number of tasks were completed to achieve these goals which included engagement, analysis, overview of facilities, review of open space, identify and recommend programming and assist with funding sources. Josh worked with the consultant, and Comptroller to review a variety of funding options, beyond tax dollars and Trust Funds including the Friends of the Bristol Parks and Recreation Fund, sponsorships, TIF funding, and impact fees. A number of key themes came out of the master plan including, there is a lot to like about the park system, staff leadership is an asset, park design and layout need attention, indoor recreation space is needed, there seems to be competition among recreation providers, Page Park is a great asset that is in need of a formal planning process, along with others. The top facility needs identified were biking trails, adventure facility, walking trails and community gardens. The Page Park Master Plan is contained within the Master Plan and updates a plan developed in 2004 to renovate the park.

Mayor Zoppo Sassu questioned if the Park Board has considered reviewing advertising as one of the funding sources in the parks, if done correctly and tastefully can bring revenue into the Department. Josh stated any policy can be reviewed and changed, right now the Board is looking at naming rights. Commissioner Smith suggested reaching out to local attorneys as people may want to set up bequest funds, but aren't aware of how. Discussion was held on the Robert's property, Mayor Zoppo stated that is a property where the future is not written as there is a shortage of recreation in that area of town. Josh stated the full Master Plan is available online for review.

Pete Fusco, Facilities Director and Ray Rogozinski, Public Works Director discussed the City Hall renovations project. Ray stated the main focus is the MEP, HVAC and ADA improvements. The court complex will be used as swing space during renovations. The goal is to keep City Hall open at all times during renovations. Discussion was held on the condition of the building currently, as there are many inefficient systems, problems with the boiler and rotted pipes. Hopefully, the Police Court Complex MEP project can be completed before City Hall renovations starts or will not impact those moving to the Court Complex as most of that work will be done in the basement or on the first floor.

Diane reviewed the funding sources for all projects as presented. There were a few minor changes from the last meeting, as the City was notified LOCIP funding would be reduced by \$10,000. The CHMS tanks were adjusted due to the grant funding available for those projects. The total presented for bonding is \$40,566,350, \$721,000 for General Fund Cash, \$465,000 LOCIP, \$5,072,000 in grants from the BOE or LOTCIP, and \$1,300,000 from the Road Improvement Fund. Diane stated the goal would be to bring down the General Fund cash amount as only \$150,000 is used in the current budget. Mayor Zoppo Sassu stated the City and BOE were recently notified of Federal funds which will be coming in, but the use is unclear at this time. Hopefully, there are projects on the Capital Budget that can be funded with the funds.

Adjournment.

John Smith made a motion seconded by Dave Preleski to adjourn at 5:54 p.m. Motion approved.

Jodi A. McGrane

Jodi A. McGrane
Recording Secretary

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