

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
May 23, 2006**

Present:                    Kenneth DiFazio, Chairperson  
                              Sue Kay  
                              Paul J. O'Leary  
                              Michael Molisse  
                              Patrick O'Connor

Also Present:            Joseph Rull, Superintendent  
                              Mary Jo Livingstone, Assistant Superintendent  
                              Gregory Shanahan-Councilor  
                              Kevin Whitaker, Councilor  
                              Richard Swanson, Auditor  
                              James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer  
                              Jane Hackett, Chief of Staff

Recording Secretary:    Janet Murray

Chairman DiFazio called the Budget/Management Committee Meeting to order at 6:45pm.

**Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2006-2011**

Councilor DiFazio noted that this plan has been previously reviewed. He asked if Administration had anything further to add.

Ms. Hackett thanked the Committee for moving forward quickly with the approval.

Councilor Whitaker noted that the Host Community Agreement (HCA) amounts are a major part of this plan. He asked for an update. Ms. Hackett noted that the first round of payments is expected at the end of this fiscal year. The next round of payments would come after the MEPA approval. This could take approximately 18 months. She stated that nothing has changed in the agreement.

\$2.6 million will be received as part of the HCA. This will be split among three items:

- \$600,000 miscellaneous capital items that were identified
- \$700,000 for park improvements (Weston, Webb, Bicknell, Legion, Lovell, Julia Road)
- \$1.38 million in operational funding

Councilor Leary asked if MLK Strategies was paid \$80,000 by the Town of Weymouth. Mr. Wilson stated that this money was paid by the town but was reimbursed by LNR. Mr. Wilson stated that the bill was received by the town in September of 2004. He held payment until money was received by LNR. MLK provided services to the town to aid with negotiations with the Navy.

Ms. Hackett stated that a \$94,000 grant was received from Homeland Security for computer purchases for the Police. She noted that this is a large project. The computers are part of the larger project.

If an item is listed in the 06 and 07 budgets, they included in the Mayor's list of up front needs.

Councilor Kay made a MOTION to ACCEPT the Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2006-2011 and was seconded by Councilor Leary and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Fiscal Year 2007 Budget Measures:**

Item number 06 036 through 06 049 (except for 06 040) will be discussed at a future Budget/Management Committee meeting. At that time, the Supplemental Budget will be available.

**06 036-Operating Measure-Authorization for Use of Overlay Account Funds**

**06 037-Police Detail Account-Authorization to Use Funds for FY 07**

**06 038-Sale of Town Owned Property-Authorization to Use Funds for FY 07**

**06 039-Operating Measure-General Fund Appropriation Request FY 07 Annual Budget**

**06 040-Snow Removal Deficit-Free Cash Appropriation**

The deficit is \$325,000 and the proposed funding source is free cash which has a balance of \$394,242. The Public Hearing has already been held.

Councilor Kay made a MOTION to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION on item number 06 040 and was seconded by Councilor Leary and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**06 041-Donation Accounts-Annual Authorization to Receive Revenue and Expend Funds**

**06 042-Revolving Accounts-Annual Authorization to Receive Revenue and Expend Funds**

**06 043-Bond Authorization for Extraordinary Repairs to Town Owned Buildings**

**06 044-Bond Authorization for Extraordinary Repairs to Town Owned Buildings**

**06-046-Operating Measure-Sewer Enterprises Fund Appropriation Order**

**06-047-Sewer Enterprises Fund-Residual Account**

**06-048-Water Enterprise Fund-Annual Appropriation**

**06-049-Water Enterprise Fund-Residual Account**

**06-050-Water Enterprise Fund-Bond Authorization for Design and Construction for New Great Pond Water Treatment Plant**

Mr. Wilson stated that the town is looking for state funding for a portion of this project. Specifically, with this project, the town is looking for SRF funding; the rate would be 2.15% rate as opposed to 5.15%. In order to do this, the requirement is that the money must be available. This means that the expenditure has been approved by Bond Counsel and ready to be bid by June 30<sup>th</sup>. If it is voted favorably tonight, it would then go before the Council on June 5<sup>th</sup>. If approved at that meeting, the minutes would be approved at the next meeting, which is scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup>. Bond Counsel then has tens days in which to turn it around, which brings it to June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Councilor DiFazio asked how much the savings will be. Mr. Wilson stated that the savings would be \$900,000 per year for 20 years.

Councilor DiFazio noted that a presentation has not been given to the full Council or to the public. He noted that there was a public hearing during the Annual Town Meeting, but it was simply a slide. He suggested that even though the public hearing is closed, it be recommended to President Smart to have a formal presentation made to the Council and that it be televised.

Councilor Molisse stated that there was a televised presentation in February. It was noted that it was for the preliminary design and Pilot Study. Councilor DiFazio questioned if the project has changed significantly enough to require another presentation.

Councilor Leary stated that he believes that another presentation should be given. He noted that there are rumors about town regarding MWRA putting water into Great Pond.

Ms. Hackett stated that tying up to the MWRA is not an option as opposed to building a new treatment plant. She noted that five years ago, when the town was having problems, this was a possibility. However, the town's usage is well within its permitted allowance.

Councilor Whitaker suggested that the meeting be held at 7pm for this presentation.

The savings in interest over the course of the 20 year bond would be \$40.8 million vs. \$58.8 million in interest.

Councilor Whitaker stated that he had been in contact with the MWRA.

Ms. Hackett stated that the Mayor has informed all Department Heads to cooperate with assisting LNR/SSTTDC to obtain information.

Councilor Kay made a MOTION to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION on this item and to request of President Smart that a presentation be made regarding this item and was seconded by Councilor Leary and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**06 089-Free Cash Appropriation-SEIU Local 888 Van Drivers CBA**

Ms. Livingston noted that there are 27 individuals involved in this bargaining unit. This is only the second contract as this unit is new.

Ms. Livingston stated that the FY 05 financial impact is \$10,484 which is a 2% COLA to current salary schedule. The FY 06 financial impact is \$31,985 which includes both a 3% salary increase and a vacation increase of 3%. The FY 07 financial impact of \$61,000 has already been factored into the School Department budget. This includes a 4% salary increase as well as the vacation increase. Also included is a new provision for longevity which has a \$3000 impact.

Councilor Leary noted that the use of the phrase “cost of living adjustment” or COLA is a misnomer as what is being paid is actually an incentive increase.

Ms. Livingston pointed out several changes within the contract. In Article 11, the change is from five to ten days. The language was written to define what a driver is, and what a seven hour route is. This was to help management to manage what was going on in a given day.

Councilor Kay noted that there will be a Public Hearing on June 5, 2006.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION to the Town Council on item number 06 089 and was seconded by Councilor Leary and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**06 092-Independent Audit Services**

Mr. Swanson stated that three years ago, the audit was put out to bid and the closest bids to O’Connor and Drew, were \$20,000 more.

Mr. Swanson stated that keeping an Audit Company for six years is not unusual. He noted that to bring in a new Audit Company would require a tremendous amount of training of the new company. The cost of the audit for FY 08 is \$49,000.

The FY 05 cost of the audit was \$40,300. The FY 06 cost of the audit was \$45,000.

Mr. Swanson stated that he believes that this price is reasonable. He noted that O’Connor and Drew has put in a considerable amount of time with the town.

Councilor Kay stated that she believes that it is healthier to go out to bid every three years and not have the same audit firm for six years.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION to the Town Council on Item number 06 092 and was seconded by Councilor O’Connor.

Councilor Whitaker asked if the contract could be made for one year. Mr. Swanson stated that he would have to go back to O’Connor and Drew.

Councilor Kay made a SUBSTITUTE MOTION to have the contract be for one year only. There was no second.

The MOTION as originally presented was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Councilor DiFazio recommended that when this contract comes due for renegotiation in three years that the contract is put out to bid.

**06 094-Appointment to the Historical Commission-Jodi Purdy-Quinlan**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION to the Town Council on item number 06 094 and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**06 095-Appointment to the Veteran's Council-Paul Shinney**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION to the Town Council on item number 06 095 and was seconded by Councilor Kay and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**06 096-Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Associate Member-Martin Joyce**

Ms. Hackett noted that Mr. Joyce has resigned from the Redevelopment Authority.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION to the Town Council on item number 06 096 and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**06 097-Appointment to the Board of Elder Services-Vincent O'Keefe**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION to the Town Council on item number 06 097 and was seconded by Councilor Leary.

It was noted that Mr. O'Keefe's address is incorrectly noted in the Measure. It should be 170 Mediterranean Woods, Weymouth, MA 02188.

The MOTION as amended was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**06 100-Appointment to the Historical Commission-Theodore Clarke**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to recommend FAVORABLE ACTION to the Town Council on item number 06 100 and was seconded by Councilor Leary and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Supplemental Budget**

Ms. Hackett spoke to the Mayor's intentions in regards to the Supplemental Budget. She stated that his intentions have not changed since the May 8<sup>th</sup> public hearing.

She noted that there is \$969 in Free Cash if all measures before the Council are acted upon favorably. There is a \$217,000 appropriation request from the School Department for utility costs in FY 06.

At 8:20 pm, there being no further business, A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to ADJOURN and was seconded by Councilor Leary and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth DiFazio, Chairperson