

TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 6:30 PM
Town Council Chambers, Town Hall

Present: Chairman Michael Molisse
Councilor Rebecca Haugh
Councilor Brian McDonald

Absent: Vice Chair, Patrick O'Connor
Councilor Jane Hackett

Also Present: Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
William McKinney, Chief Financial Officer

Recording Secretary: Abby McCabe

Chairman Molisse called the Budget Management Committee meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

14 044 – CPC Stella Tirrell Park In-Line Hockey Rink

Walter Flynn, Community Preservation Committee (CPC), Chairman and Steve Reilly, CPC member, were present for measure 14 044. Mr. Reilly explained that there is currently work underway for various improvements at Stella Tirrell Park made possible through funds from the local meals tax revenue. The park improvements, along with the improvements planned for Legion and Lovell Fields, has initiated a request to re-use the underutilized tennis courts at Stella Tirrell for an in-line skate and hockey rink. Support for the hockey rink has been requested by the youth hockey groups in town that have limited options. The proposed hockey rink fits within the footprint of the existing tennis courts.

Councilor Haugh asked what the amount being requested for CPC funds was because \$150,000 is coming from the local meals tax funds. Mr. Reilly responded that the CPC request is for \$50,000 to bring the park's total improvements to \$200,000.

Councilor McDonald asked when the skate rink would be used and if it would likely be coordinated through a master schedule. Mr. Reilly responded that it would be shared and worked out, likely a schedule posted at the park.

Mr. Swanson, the Town Auditor, reported that the CPC fund has a balance of \$342,000 and has sufficient funds to meet this request.

Chairman Molisse informed everyone that the public hearing is scheduled on this request for May 5, 2014. Chairman Molisse asked for a plan for the park and recommended that a plan for the park and the skate rink be submitted along with a long-term maintenance plan to ensure that the rink and usage will be overseen. He also stated that he would like to see a Park Superintendent position in place.

Councilor Haugh asked for further details on the projected cost estimates and it was noted that the Committee members did not receive all information available and asked that the cost estimates and associated documents be submitted for the public hearing.

Councilor McDonald made a motion to table action on this item until after the public hearing held on May 5, 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haugh on a 3-0 vote.

14 045 – CPC Preservation of Weymouth's Dugout Canoe

Edward Walker, Historic Commission Chairman and Brandon DuFresne, Co-Founder of Found Legends Restorations, were present for measure 14 045. Mr. Walker explained that this request for CPC funds is for the repair of the ancient canoe. He summarized that the canoe is approximately 550 years old and was originally discovered in 1965 and was preserved in polyethylene glycol in the 1960s --to where it is located today at the Tufts Library. The Canoe has now experienced severe disrepair and has a large crack. The Historic Commission has met with the Found Legends Restorations and would like to use their services to repair the cracks using modern preservation techniques. Mr. DuFresne explained that he performed a site visit and provided a detailed report to the Commission on the proposed repair work and labor costs. The preservation work will be performed on site and should preserve the canoe forever.

The Council and the Auditor requested that back up documentation on the cost estimates be submitted to the Council for review.

Councilor McDonald asked how long it would take to repair the cracks and perform the preservation work and how urgent was the request. Mr. DuFresne responded that it could be completed over the summer and was urgent and should

be repaired within the next few months. This proposal would preserve the canoe indefinitely and would cost about \$100.00 per year to top off the argon gas in the new case.

Councilor Haugh asked if the canoe would be moved and Mr. DuFresne responded that the canoe would not be relocated. All work is performed on site and the canoe would be placed in a temporary cradle within the sealed case and it will continue to be assessable as it is today.

Mr. Swanson, Town Auditor, reported that there were \$71,871 funds in the Reserve Fund Historic and that there were adequate funds in the budget for the request.

Councilor McDonald made a motion to table action on this item until after the public hearing held on May 5, 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haugh on a 3-0 vote.

14 047 – Appointment to Community Events Committee – Sandra Carroll

Ms. Carroll introduced herself and explained her interest in serving on the Community Events Committee as a long time Weymouth resident, a mother, and small business owner.

Councilor Haugh motioned for favorable action on measure 14 047 to appoint Sandra Carroll to the Community Events Committee, the motion was seconded by Councilor McDonald and voted 3-0.

14 048 – Appointment to WETC Board of Directors – Cathy Torrey

Ms. Torrey introduced herself and explained that she has worked with Mary Heinrichs, the Executive Director of WETC, over the years and is interested in assisting the station.

Councilor McDonald motioned for favorable action on measure 14 048 to appoint Cathy Torrey to the WETC Board of Directors, the motion was seconded by Councilor Haugh and voted 3-0.

Chairman Molisse noted that the members up for reappointments were not present tonight and it was recommended the measures be taken as one item.

14 049 – Reappointment to Cemetery Commission – Liz Cicchese

14 050 – Reappointment to Redevelopment Authority – Joseph Curran

14 051 – Reappointment to Contributory Retirement Board – Gregory Hargadon

14 052 – Reappointment to Commission on Disabilities – Richard Johnson

14 053 – Reappointment to Zoning Board of Appeals – Richard McLeod

14 054 – Reappointment to Zoning Board of Appeals – Brad Vinton

Councilor McDonald motioned for favorable action on measures 14 049 through 14 054, the motion was seconded by Councilor Haugh and voted 3-0.

14 055 – RFT Library

William McKinney, Chief Financial Officer and Robert McLean, Library Director, were present for measure 14 055. Mr. McLean explained that the library is currently over budget on overtime pay but under budget for salaries since the Fogg library hasn't opened yet. This is due to unexpected delays and this request is for a transfer of \$4,000 from the salaries line item to the overtime budget to get through the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

Mr. Swanson, Town Auditor, reported that there are enough funds for the request with a balance of \$116,432 and 42 weeks of actual.

Councilor McDonald asked if this was sufficient funds and Mr. McLean responded that it was.

Councilor McDonald motioned for favorable action to approve the balance transfer from the salaries account to the overtime account for the library department, the motion was seconded by Councilor Haugh and voted 3-0.

With no further business to attend to, Councilor Haugh motioned to adjourn at 7:00 PM, the motion was seconded by Councilor McDonald and voted 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Approved by:

Abby McCabe, Recording Secretary

Chairman Molisse