

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
April 25, 2006**

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

Also Present: Joanne Lamothe, Director of Library Services
Mary Jo Livingstone, Assistant Superintendent
Jeffrey Richards, Building Inspector
Thomas Slattery, Director of Maintenance
Kevin Whitaker, Councilor
James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer

Recording Secretary: Janet Murray

Chairman DiFazio called the Budget/Management Committee Meeting to order at 6:50pm.

Review and Discussion of Fiscal Year 2007 Capital Budget Items and Library– inclusive of:

Mr. Wilson stated that the Mayor has three bond authorizations before the Council: 1) \$2.65 million for improvements to various school buildings, 2) \$1.35 million for various town owned buildings, and 3) \$1.2 million for the Chapman School boiler. These three items could have been combined. However, they were kept separate for the following reasons:

1. The \$2.65 million is for school buildings – under Chapter 44 section 7, we are permitted to attach the annual interest and bond payment to net school spending. We need to identify it as a separate bond authorization in order to identify what the principal and interest payments are and add into the formula for net school spending and for Chapter 70 purposes.
2. The \$1.35 million is for town owned buildings and follows the normal course.
3. The \$1.2 million is a bond authorization for the Chapman boilers. This could have been combined with the school buildings; however, under the agreement between LNR and the town, the \$1.2 million bond will have a separate interest payment that will be paid for by LNR as part of the Host Community Agreement.

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

Mr. Slattery stated that their list was prioritized in October. The #1 priority is to remove and replace the roof at the Hamilton School. He noted that it is 35 years old. The original roof only lasted for one year. There were 13 calls for roof repairs this past year. It is a tar and gravel roof. It will cost \$600,000 to replace existing roof and fascia trim.

The next priority is masonry renovation at Pingree School. A couple of cracks have been monitored over the years. Recently, however, a crack has developed behind the stage area. The work will be to re-point the entire building, and to repair the cracks which are believed to be caused by settling over the years. A structural engineer has confirmed that the problem is not structural in nature, but should be corrected. The cost of this project is \$350,000.

Another priority is to replace the roof at AAIS. It will cost \$900,000. This work was originally set to be done over two years; FY 07 and FY 08, but it was decided to go ahead with the entire project as the roof has continued to deteriorate.

Masonry restoration and waterproofing at the Chapman School needs to be done. Exterior re-facing from front door past former vocational wing to the gymnasium will be the focus of this project. The cost is estimated at \$600,000.

Depending on how the total costs come out, other duct work may be done at the various schools in the system.

Councilor Leary stated that the four projects add up to \$2.45 million. This would leave \$200,000 in the budget. He asked if this money would be used for the duct work. Mr. Slattery stated that it would.

Councilor Whitaker asked when it would take place. Mr. Slattery stated that it would take place over the summer. The larger projects will most likely not take place until the summer of 2007.

Councilor DiFazio asked if all the space at the Chapman School is being utilized or is the building bigger than needed. Ms. Livingstone stated that all classroom space is fully utilized. There is space in the old vocational wing, the special education vans are being stored and repaired in some of this space as is some town wide supply storage.

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

Mr. Richards, Building Inspector and Chairman of the Construction Steering Committee, appeared before the Committee.

Mr. Richards stated that DPW roof over the mechanics bays need to be replaced. It basically rains inside the bays. The main roof above the administration area also needs to be replaced. This is budgeted for \$350,000. Asbestos abatement will be required.

Fire stations #1 and #2 are in need of repairs. Station #1 dormitory and kitchen improvements as well as egress improvements will cost \$300,000. Station #2 needs handicap accessibility to second floor. Dormitory improvements and reconditioning of the front doors for improved egress will also take place at a cost of \$700,000. It will cost about \$1 million for both stations.

The doors on Station #2 will be repaired or replaced. The doors have historical significance and need to be brought back to that condition.

06 045 - Bond Authorization for Extraordinary Repairs to School Buildings

The boilers are over 45 years old. The boilers will be replaced, as well as controls, and associated piping. Included in this is asbestos abatement. The boiler room will be gutted. This has been number one on the priority list over the past several years. The contractor who works on these boilers will no longer guarantee the work because the sheet tubing on the outside is too thin.

Councilor DiFazio asked how many boilers there are. Mr. Slattery stated that there are currently three boilers. These will be replaced with five sectional boilers. An outside firm services these boilers.

If approved, this project would be done this summer. If the project runs into the fall, the successful bidder will have to run temporary, mobile boilers to heat the building.

Councilor Kay asked if there is a plan B if the LNR dollars do not come through. Ms. Livingstone stated that the money would come from the \$2.65 million bond and other projects would have to be deferred.

Councilor O'Connor asked if the new boilers will be more efficient. Mr. Slattery stated that the anticipated savings would be at about 8-10%.

Councilor Kay asked how long the asbestos abatement takes. Mr. Slattery stated that it could take 2-3 weeks and is included in the cost of the project.

06 039-Operating Measure-General Fund Appropriation Request FY07 Annual Budget

Mr. Wilson stated that Library has access to State Aid. This money has been used in the past for additional services. This year it will be used to supplement purchases needed for the library.

Ms. Lamothe stated that the library is required to meet certain standards in order to be eligible for State Aid; open a specified number of hours per week, 12% of budget on materials, director with advanced degree, and lend to all residents of Massachusetts. Weymouth meets all these standards and is eligible for the State aid. The amount has been about \$65,000 in the past few years.

Ms. Lamothe noted that two positions saw retirements last year. One position was filled and the second was frozen. Staff travels around to the different locations. Not all positions are full time.

Councilor Kay asked what services may not be available now that the aid is used for other purposes. Ms. Lamothe stated that programs will be done in-house. She also noted that there was a substantial budget available when she became director. This money was used for programs and updates of technology. She also noted that the parking lot was paved.

Councilor Leary asked if the closing of the Fogg Library would impact the budget. Ms. Lamothe noted that it was not that costly to run the library. Councilor Leary asked if there was a timetable

to reopen this branch. Ms. Lamothe stated that dehumidification was currently taking place. She was not able to give an estimated re-opening date.

Councilor Whitaker asked where the money for the repairs to the library will come from. Mr. Wilson stated that there is an Order from 2001 which has as a heading, the renovation of the Town Hall, renovation of the McCulloch building, and the renovation of the Fogg Library. There is about approximately \$160,000 remaining in that fund.

Councilor DiFazio asked if there were any planned changes to the hours of operation of the library. Ms. Lamothe stated that the hours of operation will not change.

In response to Councilor DiFazio's question, Ms. Lamothe noted that the custodians are specific to the library and are not interchangeable with other custodians within the town system. The custodians perform duties such as set up and break down, and some security at the branches.

Ms. Lamothe stated that some of the new headings are the result of clean up of the breakdowns.

\$30,000 in computer expense is the assessment for membership in the Old Colony Library System. The actual assessment is \$48,000. State Aid pays the difference.

Councilor DiFazio asked how much is in the non-library fund. She noted that the State Aid is in this fund, as well as a gift account, and a Fogg restoration account with approximately \$3000.

Councilor O'Connor asked where the computer expenses are listed. Ms. Lamothe stated that the \$30,000 covers this expense. The public computers in the library were purchased and are maintained by WETC. There is \$500 available for software.

The North Branch and Pratt Library are currently in operation as well as the Main Branch.

Ms. Lamothe noted that two library employees have been nominated by the Massachusetts Library Association as para-librarians of the year. She noted that it is an honor to have one nominated and even more of an honor to have two nominated.

06 053-Elimination of Fair Housing Committee

The Mayor has indicated that this is a non-functioning committee and should be eliminated. It has not met in three years. The work is done in house by the Planning Department.

Councilor DiFazio asked if the Charter requires this Committee. Mr. Wilson stated that it is in the Charter.

Councilor Kay asked if this would need a public hearing. Mr. Wilson stated that it was not needed.

Councilor Kay asked where residents would go with fair housing concerns. Mr. Wilson stated that if they went to the Mayor's Office, they would be directed to the Planning Office.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 053 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Appointments

Councilor DiFazio stated that all of the following appointments for people currently serving terms. It was noted that these are not reappointments. They are appointments to a new term for people currently serving a term.

Councilor O'Connor made a MOTION to take Item #06 064 OUT OF ORDER and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 064-Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals- Richard McLeod

Councilor O'Connor stated that he would not support this reappointment. He believes that development is a big problem in the town and that traffic is out of control. He does not believe that as chairman, there were not enough measure put in place to control the developments of the town.

Councilor Leary stated that Mr. McLeod has been before the Board previously and there was concern about the operations of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He stated that Mr. McLeod had put a lot of those concerns to rest and has made himself available for anyone who wants to contact him. He believes that he is doing a decent job.

Councilor Molisse stated that he had voted against this appointment previously, but believes that Mr. McLeod has made an effort to appease people, made himself more available, and has handled himself in a better manner during the meetings.

Councilor DiFazio asked if Councilor O'Connor would like Mr. McLeod appear before the full Council. Councilor O'Connor stated that he would like to have him appear. Councilor DiFazio noted for the record that Mr. McLeod would be asked to appear before the full Town Council.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Kay to forward Item 06 064 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Leary and PASSED on a 4-1 vote.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to VOTE on Items 06 055 through 06 075 excluding 06 064 as a group and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 055-Appointment to the Planning Board-Mary Akoury

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 055 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 056-Appointment to the Board of Health-Richard Wetterberg

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 056 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 057-Appointment to the Board of Health-Karen DeTellis

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 057 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 058-Appointment to the Scholarship Fund Committee-Linda Sforza Berg

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 058 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 059-Appointment to the Scholarship Fund Committee-Claire Cunningham

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 059 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 060-Appointment to the Fourth of July Committee- Ronald Rizzo

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 060 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 061-Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Associate Member-Sandra Carle

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 061 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 062-Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Associate Member-Kemal Denizkurt

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 062 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 063-Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals- Donald Holzworth

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 063 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 065-Appointment to the Weymouth Housing Authority- Joyce Jung

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 065 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 066-Appointment to the Recreation Commission- John Killeen

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 066 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 067-Appointment to the Memorial Committee- Thomas H.L. Curtis

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 067 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 068-Appointment to the Board of Library Trustees-Donna Shea

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 068 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 069-Appointment to the Board of Library Trustees- Dorothy Coveney

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 069 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 070-Appointment to the Historical Commission-Steve Puleo

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 070 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 071-Appointment to the Construction Steering Committee-Richard McKinnon

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 071 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 072-Appointment to the Conservation Commission-Adrienne Gowen

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 072 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 073-Appointment to the Community Events Committee-Anne-Marie McCarthy

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 073 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 074-Appointment to the Cemetery Commission-Deborah Sullivan

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 074 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

06 075-Appointment to the Board of Assessors-Paul Haley

A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to forward Item 06 075 to the full Town Council with a FAVORABLE REPORT and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:00pm, there being no further business, A MOTION was made by Councilor Leary to ADJOURN and was seconded by Councilor Molisse and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Approved by: _____
Kenneth DiFazio, Chairperson