

**PLANNING BOARD
RECORD OF MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS
February 12, 2008**

The Planning Board of the Town of Weymouth held a public meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at 7:30pm at McCulloch Building, Whipple Center Conference Room, 182 Green Street, Weymouth, MA.

Present: Walter Flynn, Vice Chairperson
Sandra Williams, Clerk
Mary Akoury
Frank Hawkins
Not Present: Paul Hurley
Staff: Rod Fuqua, Principal Planner
Recording Secretary: Janet Murray

Walter Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Capital Improvement Plan

Police Department

Captain Timothy Carr appeared before the Board. He stated that the Police need to upgrade the portable radios. There are currently 115 radios. These radios are over 15 years old and are becoming impossible to repair as the parts are not readily available. The mobile units in the cruisers are also 15 years old.

Captain Carr stated that the deep water pump for the Harbormaster's boat is to pump water out of boats. He noted that this is a public safety concern.

Ms. Williams commented that in the past there had been an attempt to consolidate the communication systems of the town into one combined system tying all town communications together.

Mr. Fuqua stated that Mr. Gallagher, the Director of Information Technology (IT) will make a presentation on 2/19/08 regarding communications within the town.

Captain Carr stated that there is a card access system available in the building but it has never been activated. He noted that the locks break frequently.

Vehicles

Captain Carr stated that the Police are requesting ten (10) new full sized, fully equipped vehicles at a cost of \$30,000 each. He pointed out that of the existing cruisers in service the mileage of 13 have 70,000 and 12 have 120,000. He noted that some of the cruisers run 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

Mr. Flynn pointed out that there is a concern around town that there is excessive idle time.

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Mr. Flynn pointed out that the Dodge Chargers are not working well. Crown Victorias have been purchased.

Mr. Flynn asked if the cruisers are leased or purchased. Mr. Fuqua stated that the cruisers are purchased.

Mrs. Akoury asked why ten (10) cruisers were requested this year but only seven (7) next year. Captain Carr stated that ten (10) were requested last year but only seven (7) were received.

Captain Carr stated that the police evidence van is unscheduled. The current vehicle is a 1992 with 150,000 miles. He pointed out that this is not a high priority.

Captain Carr stated that there are two (2) motorcycles that have high mileage. There are a total of 8/9. The motorcycles break down frequently.

The Incident command vehicle was donated by the power plant when it built the plant. This vehicle is a 2001 and has 70,000 miles. It is not used 24/7, usually only driven by sergeants or lieutenants.

Mr. Fuqua asked if there are any grants available. Captain Carr stated that he is not aware of any available grants.

Mr. Flynn asked about bicycle patrols. Captain Carr stated that bicycle patrols are usually done in the summer, but working with minimum staff, bicycle patrols are not always feasible.

Fire Department

Chief Robert Leary appeared before the Board.

Building and grounds

Chief Leary stated that there are discussions regarding a new fire station for South Weymouth in conjunction with the build out of Southfield. He noted that it is needed now, but will be even more necessary when Southfield is built out.

Mr. Flynn asked if discussions have begun with SSTTDC. Chief Leary noted that the last meeting was sometime last year. The concern at that time was that there was not a plan in place for fire protection at Southfield.

Chief Leary stated that an asphalt ramp in front of station two on Broad Street is needed. He noted that Joe Cardinal of National Grid has stated that National Grid is willing to relocate the pole in front of the station at no charge to the town. This pole hinders the ability to see pedestrians on the sidewalk. Scope of work includes rip up existing asphalt and redo the lot. There has been communication with DPW to coordinate this work. Mr. Fuqua stated that this should be done through DPW rather than done as a separate contract.

Chief Leary stated that concrete floor and drains for the apparatus bays at station two need to be replaced as the concrete is settling. During the winter the trucks are washed indoors. The water is not flowing towards the drain. Mr. Fuqua asked if there are any preliminary costs. Chief Leary stated that he has not done this yet.

Chief Leary stated that central air conditioning is needed at station 2. The building's older part was built in 1930 and does not have air conditioning at all. Window units are used. The newer part was built in the late 1970's and has univent units which are individually controlled.

Chief Leary stated that he would like to have a second story addition to station 2. This would remain within the foot print of the building. The footprint is a good size but the interior needs more space. There are no facilities nor locker rooms for females. He pointed out that the one story portions could have a second floor built over them.

Chief Leary stated that Stations 3 and 5 have facilities. He pointed out that females are not assigned to Station 2.

Mr. Fuqua asked if the construction steering committee has been approached to discuss a feasibility study. Chief Leary stated that they did get CDBG funds to look at handicap accessibility and an elevator. He stated that the town appropriated \$2-3 million several years ago, but this will only allow for new doors and windows and other smaller items. The focus to this point has been to try to get the building as sealed and solid as possible before going forward.

He stated that a new fire station 1 in North Weymouth needs to be rebuilt. He noted that the current station was built in 1936 with an addition in 1974. He pointed out that the two parts of the building do not work well together. He also noted that there are no female facilities. Also the ceiling won't accommodate the ladder truck

Mr. Fuqua asked about the \$500,000 for the North Weymouth and headquarters building. Chief Leary stated that there was \$500,000 received for each station. This funding is being used to purchase granite and doors that meet historical standards. Most of the funds are being used at Station 2.

Chief Leary stated that Stations 3 and 5 need sealant for the concrete apparatus floors. He noted that oil resistant epoxy is now available to protect the floor

Vehicles

Chief Leary stated that the department would like to upgrade from sedans to SUVs. He noted that he drives a 2000 Crown Victoria. He commented that two years ago they purchased a GMC Yukon. He pointed out that Crown Victoria's are not good in the snow; the need is for four wheel drive.

Chief Leary stated that the #1 priority is to replace engine 5 in South Weymouth. This engine is the epitome of a low bid. The town paid \$170,000 and put \$170,000 in repairs. He pointed out that the engine is currently out of service for another front end; the engine has needed a new

front end approximately every 3 years at a cost of \$6000 each time. He stated that he would like to do a capital lease/purchase for a new engine similar to engine 1 and engine 3. These were done with seven (7) year lease/purchase agreements.

Chief Leary stated that the department has four (4) forest trucks. The existing trucks are 1982 to 1986, three quarter and half ton trucks. They are pickup trucks with a skid unit on the back which carry 250 gallons of water on the back which at 8.33 pounds per gallon is an additional 2,082 pounds. The Chief stated that he would like to replace the vehicles with two (2) one ton trucks. He stated that he had tried to replace the trucks through a grant but was denied.

Chief Leary stated that request #13 is already done. The 1984 ladder truck was replaced with a 2006, 100 foot ladder truck at a cost of \$725,000.

The Chief stated that 2007 emission standards changed and the cost of every piece of fire apparatus has increased by \$50,000. He pointed out that in 2010 emission standards will require the redesign of all equipment which will cause an expected increase of \$100,000 per vehicle.

Chief Leary stated that there is a need to refurbish the 1994 Century, engine 2. This truck runs constantly as engine 2 covers engine 3 when engine 3 is out of service. The truck has 100,000/120,000 miles on it. He pointed out that there is no warm up time; diesel engines take more wear and tear. He commented that the cab and chassis are still good, but the body needs to be replaced at a cost of \$175,000 to \$200,000. This will add 20 years to the life of the engine.

Chief Leary noted that a new engine will be needed for South Weymouth to go along with the new station at Southfield.

Chief Leary noted that the town responds to any calls to Southfield. At this time, Southfield is not built. He stated that there were 188 responses to Southfield in the past three years; as construction increases the responses will also increase.

Mr. Fuqua stated that almost every single town department is affected by the work at Southfield. He pointed out that the Mayor is aware of the issues and that this will be a town wide concern for the foreseeable future.

Chief Leary stated that request #16 is for replacement of the chief's sedan with an SUV. Request 17 is for the replacement of a 1997 Ford Expedition.

Community Preservation Committee (CPC)

Mr. Flynn stated that nothing is being proposed for 2009. He pointed out that this is an application intensive process and there are no applications in process. He stated that there was a public hearing last Thursday, 2/7/08.

He stated that the mandated set asides are budgeted and is bare bones for 2009. Mr. Flynn commented that state funding is quickly being depleted as new towns have joined and there have been fewer home sales, and fees not being collected. These fees fund the CPC. The Committee

anticipates receiving 75% of the state matching grant. It is possible that the matching grant could be as low as 60%. He stated that the initiative's minimal funding is at 75%. He pointed out that the committee is not allowed by law to do anything to recreation facilities built prior to the acceptance of the law. There is work in process to change this so that work can be done on properties that existed prior to the passage of the law.

Mr. Flynn stated that there were four (4) submissions at the public hearing.

- 43 Bicknell Road - \$10,000 historical survey
- 2 proposals to purchase Clapp Building for \$1.8 building – town does not have funds to renovate the building for any use
- Preservation of the Indian Canoe at the library
- Neighborhood Housing Services of the South Shore – homeless facility at 706-712 Main Street. This would include four (4) units for individuals, eight (8) units for families. This will be a request for support as they already own the properties and building.

Mr. Flynn stated that the Zero Pond Street project may be re-submitted. This is a 40B proposal. This is for a 24 affordable housing and Section 8 units. He noted that this had been approved for 440,000 but was reconsidered due to community concerns.

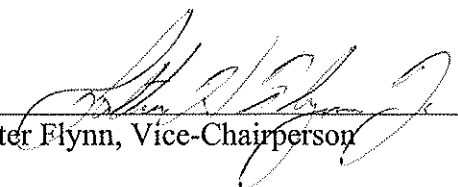
Mr. Flynn stated that sources of income for the CPC is as follows: the Weymouth surcharge is \$523,633, the projected 75% state reimbursement is \$383,146, \$25,000 interest income budgeted but the bond rates have dropped from 4% to less than 1%, and \$1000 budgeted in penalties.

Minutes – 1/24/08

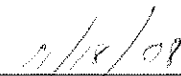
A MOTION was made to accept the minutes as amended from the 1/24/08 Planning Board Meeting and was seconded and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Adjournment

At 9:00 pm, there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Mr. Hawkins to adjourn and was seconded by Ms. Williams, and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.



Walter Flynn, Vice-Chairperson



Date