# Town of Weymouth, Massachusetts Robert L. Hedlund, Mayor

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Chief of Staff



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## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Chairman Michael Molisse, Budget/Management Committee

FROM:

Ted Langill, Chief of Staff

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RE:

Request to amend amount on Measure 20\_111

DATE:

**November 4, 2020** 

I am writing to request that the Budget Management Committee amend the amount on Measure 20\_111 prior to voting to make its recommendation to the full Council.

The request is to amend the amount from \$17,990 to \$18,750.

This reflects a revised proposal from ESS Group, Inc. for a full fixed price proposal rather than time and materials. Attached is a more detailed explanation.

Thank you.



## Town of Weymouth Massachusetts

Robert L. Hedlund Mayor

75 Middle Street Weymouth, MA 02189



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## **MEMORANDUM**

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TO:

**TOWN COUNCIL** 

FROM:

ROBERT L. HEDLUND, MAYOR

RE:

CPA FUNDING REQUEST FOR CONSULTING SERVICES FOR

THE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY OF WHITMAN'S POND

DATE:

**OCTOBER 15, 2020** 

I hereby submit the following measure to Town Council for its consideration and action:

"That the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,990 from the Community Preservation unreserved fund balance account (4906-321001) for the purpose of funding consulting services for the management strategy of Whitman's Pond."

This measure requires a legal notice and public hearing.

At the time of this submittal, the Community Preservation unreserved fund balance account is \$1,741,306.69

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Comm.	Referral	TC	Vote	
Comm.	Vote	TC	Vote	Dto.
Somm.	Vote Dte.			

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Department of Planning and Community Development

Robert J. Luongo
Director of Planning and
Community Development
email: rluongo@weymouth.ma.us
(781) 340-5015

# Town of Weymouth Massachusetts



Robert L. Hedlund Mayor

75 Middle Street Weymouth, MA 02189

www.weymouth.ma.us

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Robert L. Hedlund, Mayor

FROM:

Robert Luongo, Director of Planning & Community Developm

DATE:

October 2, 2020

**SUBJECT:** 

Request for Funding - CPA

At the October 1, 2020 meeting of the Community Preservation Committee, the committee reviewed and discussed the application put forward by Mary Ellen Schloss, Conservation Administrator, in the amount of \$17,990. Mary Ellen Schloss presented the request on behalf of the Mayor's Office, DPW and Planning/Conservation. The purpose of the request is to review the existing conditions of Whitman's Pond and come up with a strategy for the pond's management in the future. The funds will be used to hire a firm and a report will be prepared.

After review and discussion, the following motion was approved unanimously:

MOTION to appropriate and fund \$17,990 for consulting services for the management strategy of Whitman's Pond from the unreserved fund balance account. 4906-321001.

After review and discussion, the following motion was approved unanimously:

MOTION to transfer the remaining balance of \$5,456.23 in the Whitman's Pond Vegetation Management Plan Account to this project account should and/or when the funds are appropriated.

The Community Preservation Committee appreciates your review and action on this recommendation.

ATTACHMENT:

Funding Request submitted by Mary Ellen Schloss dated September 24, 2020

CC:

Patricia Cook, Town Accountant Christopher Hannan, Chairman, CPC

## WEYMOUTH

## **Community Preservation Committee Application for Funding**

from traditional sources.

Name	(Representative for Mayor's Office, DPW and Planning/Conservation) Mary Ellen Schloss, Conservation Administrator			
Date	09/24/20			
Phone	781 340 5007			
Email	mschloss@weymouth.ma.us			
Address	Town Hall, 75 Middle Street, Weymouth, MA 02189			
Affiliation	Organization: Mayor's Office, Department of Public Works, Planning and Conservation			
Project Na:	me: Management Strategy for Whitman's Pond \$17,990			
Purpose (please sele	ect all that apply)			
	ric Preservation Space & Recreation ng			
budget, ma	vide a written narrative with detailed data; including cost estimates, schedule, intenance plan, if any and implementation strategy. Include other funding d the amounts of funding. Attach separate sheets as needed.			
See attache	ed			
Describe h	ow this this project helps to preserve Weymouth's character.			
	vide a written narrative including the goals of the project, who benefits, and			
	oject relates to planning documents such as the Town's Master Plan. Describe of support and outreach for the project. Attach separate sheets as needed.			
See attache	ed			
	are encouraged to be creative and consider projects that will benefit the including, but not limited to; projects which may not receive typical funding			

Submit to: Community Preservation Committee c/o Dept. of Planning & Community Development 75 Middle Street, Weymouth, MA 02189

#### ATTACHMENT TO CPC APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

### MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR WHITMAN'S POND September 24, 2020

#### NARRATIVE

The subject of this application is aquatic vegetation management in Whitman's Pond. The pond is a fundamental part of Weymouth's character and history. It is a central aesthetic feature, a critical herring spawning ground, a valuable recreational asset and a secondary and emergency water supply. Protection and management of the pond is supported by the town's Master Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan, among other documents. Given the importance of the pond to the town's character and essential services, the CPC has funded prior aquatic vegetation management projects, namely the Whitman's Pond Vegetation Management Action Plan and the Winter Lake-Level Drawdown Feasibility Study.

It has been seven years since the publication of the Whitman's Pond Vegetation Management Action Plan, prepared by the lake management consultant ESS Group, Inc. in consultation with the Whitman's Pond Working Group. That plan was funded by a \$24,800 grant from the CPC.

Since publication of the plan, the town has taken several actions, including purchase and use of a weed harvester, contracting for hydroraking services (western cove of Main Basin), contracting for herbicide services (West Cove), and study of the winter-lake level drawdown option (contract with Princeton Hydro).

Aquatic weed management in Whitman's Pond is difficult, given the complex nature of the Whitman's Pond system, the urbanized nature of the watershed and the need to balance the essential needs of water supply, the herring fishery and recreation. There is no "silver bullet" that will solve the problem and effective management requires long-term commitment. Of the options the town has pursued to date, all have limitations (weed harvester is small, can manage only a small area and cannot be used in periods of very low water; herbicides as used to date have limited periods of effectiveness; hydroraking is very expensive and also has limited effectiveness). The winter-lake level drawdown option appears to be an infeasible option based on the study conducted.

The purpose of this application is to bring the lake management consultant, ESS Group, Inc., back on board to help us evaluate where we are and how to move forward, given the actions and progress made to date. Vegetation management options, with cost estimates, will be evaluated, including:

- Dredging options for South Cove and the western cove of the Main basin
- Use of aquatic herbicides, including other herbicides that may be more suitable given time-ofyear restrictions

The deliverable will be a streamlined management strategy report. Please refer to the full ESS Group, Inc. proposal (attached).

#### **BUDGET**

ESS, Group Inc. has submitted a cost estimate of \$17,990 to conduct the work described in their proposal. This is the base amount being requested from the CPC.

The ESS proposal does not include funds for contingencies, such as travel time, copies, or other additional services. These would be provided on a Time and Materials basis.

We are requesting that the remainder of the funds in the Princeton Hydro Winter Lake-Level Drawdown contract (\$5,456.23) be set aside for use as contingencies or additional services not included in the proposal.

#### Requested Amount

Whitman's Pond Vegetation Management Strategy Report

\$17,990.00

## To be held for Contingencies from Existing CPC funds

Transfer as needed from remaining funds from the Winter Lake-Level Drawdown, Princeton Hydro contract

\$5,456.23

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