

MINUTES
Special Board of Selectmen
Workshop Capital Project Requests
Wednesday, September 14, 2011 @ 7:00PM
Norma Drummer Room/Seymour Town Hall

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 10-5-20 11
TIME: 10:15 P.M.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Members present: First Selectman Paul Roy, Philip Wilhelmy, and Sandra Gesek.

Not present: Karl Trybus, W. Kurt Miller, Annmarie Drugonis, and John Conroy.

Others present: Dawn Valeski, Carol Ralston, Howard Simpson, Sean Walsh, Lucy McConologue, Tom Eighmie, Doug Thomas, Tony Caserta, Al Rochelle, Wayne Finkle, Tom Tomasheski, Craig Stevens, Tom Jensen and Mike Horbal.

- Due to lack of quorum the First Selectman cancels the meeting at 7:15PM, but due to attendance has a discussion session concerning the Capital Project Requests and the Request Forms.

Tom Eighmie, Emergency Management Director & Chairman of the Communications Commission: Would like to begin the discussion by stating that he feels the \$10,000 minimum to have to fill out a capital project request form is too low. He feels that it should be at least \$100,000 or greater. He states that the scope requirements are too in depth; the business review analysis cannot be done by a volunteer and should be given to paid employees. Feels that the 5 year capital plan doesn't work because of inflation and that it is the first thing to go during the budget process. Feels that money should be put aside each year in the budget so it is not taken out for other things.

Al Rochelle, Fire Commissioner: Also feels that the requirements for the capital project requests are not realistic. Agrees with Tom Eighmie about the \$10,000 expenditure being too low. He wants to know what the Board of Selectmen would do with blueprints if they are submitted and also reminds everyone that there are costs associated with all of these plans and requirements. Feels that since the ladder truck is coming off lease then the Town should use the savings for the rescue truck.

Sean Walsh, Chairman Board of Public Works: Agrees with the others about the \$10,000 being too low. Also states that it is a waste of the vendor's time to give quotes over and over and feels it is bad business and the Town will lose credibility. Feels that the document should only ask for a rough draft and amount for the request and feels it is asking too much for a volunteer group to get together. Feels that the Board of Public Works has done a great job getting all of the quotes and information together over and over, yet nothing is ever done with it.

Philip Wilhelmy, Board of Selectmen: States that this is a learning tool for the Board Members also. There are questions that may not pertain to every department, but they expect them to be answered if possible.

*The consensus from all present is that they would like to see a revolving capital line item so money can be saved every year and follow the 5-Year plan. This should include life span and projected cost of each item so the infrastructure never has a chance to fall apart.

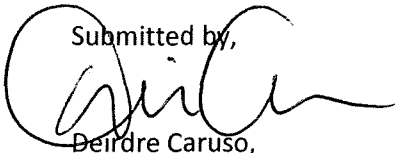
Paul Roy, First Selectman: States that they need these requests so they know how much to put into a capital line item for each item.

Mike Horbal, Economic Development Commission: Also feels that the \$10,000 is way too low. Would like to know after the requests are submitted where do they go, who puts the info together? Also, how does the Board pick priorities, how much can the Town afford to put toward capital projects each year? Are these lists going to be updated every year and by who and will the list be available to the public? Feels that there needs to be a State project list, which will include things like the trestle bridge, traffic studies, paving projects, etc. There are ponds that need to be dredged and the fish by pass project that are not done yet either. Would like the Economic Development Director utilized on these capital projections. Federal, State and Town projects need to be approved and pushed as well.

*The consensus is also that the Capital Project Request Form be redone and that a new meeting with a quorum is scheduled as soon as possible.

The meeting ended at 8:34PM.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deirdre Caruso', written over a circular stamp or mark.

Deirdre Caruso,
Recording Secretary