

TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

5:30 P.M. Tuesday
October 14, 2014

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Leslie Lewis, Leandra MacDonald, Roland Patten, James Kelly, Bob Hanson, Donna Hanley and Alan Zeller.

Also Present: Peter Throop, Director, and Laura Norton, Administrative Assistant, Office of Community Development.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Opening Comments & Introductions:

Chair Lewis welcomed the members.

Minutes:

A motion was made/seconded (Patten/Zeller) to approved the Minutes of October 7, 2014 will all in favor.

Chair Lewis welcomed Department of Public Works Director Rodney Bartlett who noted he would be presenting only new capital improvement items for FY 2016.

Department of Public Works/Route 202 & Main Street Bridge:

Mr. Bartlett told the members “two months ago we got the approval to start an engineering study” adding HTA has begun that preliminary engineering.” Noting the 80/20 formula (80% funded by state aid and 20% by the town) he reviewed the time frame involved “to be in position for 2015 funds.” He told the members the numbers they saw on the justification sheets “are worse case scenarios” and that he hoped to be able to adjust those numbers after the studies in January and February to be ready for town meeting in May.

Mr. Hanson asked about a temporary bridge with Mr. Bartlett essentially replying that the state would be doing as little as they could in the least amount of time. “They are finally cognizant of spending money” he said adding “because they don’t have any.”

Mr. Bartlett went on to note the importance of finishing the Main Street Bridge in 2016 because of the reconstruction of the Route 101/202 Bridge in 2017. “That went from a deck rehabilitation to a full replacement” he said. Ms. MacDonald asked about the common walkway that runs underneath the bridge. Mr. Bartlett replied the state would relocate the path and repave it “but they won’t do the lights.”

A brief discussion about bundling this project with the Granite Street/Route 202 retaining wall (which is funded fully by federal and state money) and the Transcript Dam and Pine Street sidewalk components followed. Ms. MacDonald interjected “so the cost of the bridge s \$973,600.00?” with Mr. Bartlett replying “yes and with the other components it will be approximately \$1,73360.00 to bond.”

Noting the weight restriction on the Main Street Bridge Mr. Zeller asked if the bridge could be closed without warning. Mr. Bartlett relied that was unlikely unless a catastrophic event occurred. He told the members that the bridge was not showing signs of accelerated deterioration but the thought was to stay in synch (both financially and schedule-wise) with the other projects.

Route 202 & Pine Street Sidewalk:

Mr. Bartlett told the members “the state will not pay for the sidewalk, lighting or any other amenities.” He reiterated the “worst case scenario” concept and said he hoped to see lower numbers for town meeting.

Storm Drainage Reconstruction/Upgrade Storm water Separation Downtown:

Mr. Bartlett explained the reconstruction of existing man-holes, storm drains and catch basins identified in a 1996 catch basin cleaning program. In addition he noted the provision of new storm drainage in roadways that was previously non-existent and the separation of storm water from the sanitary sewer system. He briefly detailed the location of the previously open canal that ran along the south side of the Town House, under Grove Street and the current public parking area and emptying into the Contoocook River.

Road Repaving:

Mr. Bartlett told the members “the intent is to repair existing town roads with a surface management program of shimming and chip sealing.” He explained the process noting it would be used in various locations. “Yes, East Mountain Road is still out there” he said adding “that is the elephant in the room that you cannot miss.” He went on to describe the road as being four miles long making it cost

prohibitive to repave the entire road at once. “We have the drainage accounted for” he said adding “we will take it a piece at a time.”

Sidewalks:

Mr. Bartlett told the members that the Downtown TIF was contributing to the sidewalk replacement efforts “and by next year all of the downtown will be complete and we will be in good shape.” Ms. MacDonald asked “where will the sidewalk money be going after that?” Mr. Bartlett replied “well obviously the TIF stays in the district but the intent is to move from the downtown out.” Mr. Patten noted the town was getting away for the brick edging on the sidewalks. Mr. Bartlett explained the numerous attempts using numerous materials to maintain the edging “but the brick/joint connection to the granite or hot top just does not work.” ’

Transcript Dam Rehabilitation:

Mr. Bartlett explained the difficult experience encountered with the stop logs under the bridge while trying to evaluate the dam. He noted the seepage flow underneath and around the dam. He said that the abutment on the west side of the dam is also compromised. This abutment is own by the bank that sits on top of it.

He told the members it was appropriate to bundle the rehabilitation of the dam with the Main Street Bridge project adding “breaching the dam will also be addressed.” He noted the aesthetics of the dam as he told the members “there is not a picture or a painting of that area that does not depict the dam.” Ms. Lewis asked “is there any grant money that might be available?” Mr. Bartlett replied “no, not for dams.”

North Dam Reconstruction:

Mr. Bartlett explained the water flowing underneath the dam spillway and told the members if the seepage continued the dam could structurally fail. This failure would have a negative impact on recharge to the north aquifer and the upstream wetlands.

Town House Architectural Services:

“This is a new project” said Mr. Bartlett adding “the Town House will turn 100 years old in 2018 it will be rededicated at that time.” He told the members the Town House was listed on the National Historic Register and its last renovation was in 1996. “We want to maintain the elegance and beauty of the building as well as improve the performance quality in the Upper Hall” he said adding “so we are going to do an architectural and engineering assessment of the building for upgrades.” Mr. Bartlett briefly reviewed the building’s ADA accessibility challenges were a major concern. Ms. MacDonald asked about the potential for using Downtown TIF funds for the project with Mr. Bartlett relying “that is a possibility” but reminded the

members of other projects “in the works” which including an additional parking area by the GAR Hall that TIF funds have been potentially ear marked for. Mr. Bartlett also told the members about two active grant applications that would total \$30,000.00 in revenue to help fund the assessment. “We will know later this year” he said.

Recycling Center/RC Loadall Replacement:

Mr. Bartlett began with “this is a key piece of equipment at the Recycling Center.” Ms. MacDonald asked “what is it?” Mr. Bartlett explained the bailing type activity of the machinery.

Buildings & Grounds/Equipment Replacement:

Mr. Bartlett briefly reviewed the need to replace a Buildings & Grounds 1-ton dump truck and Highway’s 1993 Ford pickup truck and 2004 Freightliner 6-wheel dump truck, all with significant operational and auto body problems. The members discussed the Equipment Management Capital Reserve Fund (monies set side to pay the cost of replacing DPW vehicles) and the status of the program. Mr. Bartlett also noted the 1987 SMI snow blower used for cleaning up snow in the downtown and how he was requesting an additional \$50,000 to be contributed to the capital reserve fund to cover its scheduled replacement in FY 2021. He told the members parts were no longer manufactured for the snow blower and that replacement parts actually had to be manufactured. He noted a potential alternative of mounting a snow blower attachment to a front end loader “but it will cost \$400,000.00 one way or the other” he said.

Mr. Zeller asked about a Bobcat with Mr. Bartlett replying the vehicle did not have the production time to clean up the downtown overnight. Mr. Hanson noted the safety issues associated with unplowed sidewalks on Route 202. Mr. Kelly asked for clarification on the Public Works subtotal on the CIP Master Spreadsheet. After clarification and some discussion of the flexibility of the balance of the CIP over time Chair Lewis noted “when you look at the total bottom line it is very erratic right now” and suggested the members table any further discussion about the bottom line until the end of the presentations.

Ms. Hanley asked if the town routinely looked at options for second-hand equipment. “I am just curious” she said. Mr. Bartlett noted it was a good thought but for much of his fleet “it is not an option.”

Mr. Bartlett concluded by reiterating he had only concentrated on FY 2016 CIP needs. He noted the Wastewater Treatment Plant had very few projects going on

noting “we are taking care of what we have” and ended with an update on the solar array at that wastewater treatment facility.

Mr. Throop thanked the members for coming and reminded them next week’s meeting would be held at the Fire Station at 5:15PM and they would be hearing from the Fire and Police Departments, the Library and *me* (the Office of Community Development).

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Norton
Administrative Assistant