

Town of Rockland, MA  
Capital Planning Committee

**DATE:** Thursday, March 30, 2023, 7:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Rockland Town Hall, Lower Conference Room 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

**ATTENDEES:** Richard Harris, Chairman  
Bill Principe  
Doug Walo  
Linda Sternfelt, Secretary

**GUESTS:** Steve O'Donnell

**ABSENTEES:** Chris Fulton, Vice Chairman, Lauren White

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Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the 3/16/23 meeting. Mr. Walo made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Principe seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Principe made a motion to re-open the Capital Plan. Ms. Sternfelt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. O'Donnell appeared on behalf of the Community Preservation Committee. He confirmed that the Reeds Pond land acquisition was previously on the Capital Plan and was previously approved by Town Meeting for FY 2024 in the amount of \$55K.

Mr. O'Donnell asked that the 48 Carey Street purchase in the amount of \$500,500 be added to the Capital Plan. The land is valued at \$445K, and the additional funds would pay for Phase II environmental testing and legal fees to effectuate the sale. Two parcels of this property abut existing Town owned land. This purchase would add additional park land around the school campus. This would be funded by CPA funds.

Mr. O'Donnell asked to add the purchase of the portion of the Girl Scout camp that is in Rockland, which is currently owned by the Town of Whitman, to the Capital Plan. The Open Space Committee would like to buy this land. It consists of approximately 30 acres of land, and it is proposed to use the land for active recreation. The cost of \$1 million would be expended in FY 2025.

Chairman Harris inquired as to the CPC's available reserves. As of 2/9/23, Mr. O'Donnell reported the following reserve balances:

\$102,400	Historic Resources Reserve
\$104,041	Community Housing Reserve
\$57,440	Open Space Reserve

\$445,651      Budgeted Reserve

Mr. O'Donnell said that the CPC's annual administrative expenses are approximately \$30K.

Mr. O'Donnell asked to add \$100K to the capital plan for FY 2025 to provide funds for the Town contribution to obtain State grants for the conversion of Holy Family School into affordable housing for the elderly.

Mr. Walo made a motion to add these items to the Capital Plan. Ms. Sternfelt seconded the motion. All approved the motion.

Chairman Harris reviewed proposed additions and/or changes to the previously submitted Capital Plan that he discussed with Town Administrator Lapp.

Water Department: An article is contained in the Town Warrant for FY 2024 to take \$60K from the Water Undesignated Fund Balance for security and safety upgrades and plant maintenance. Another article in the amount of \$75K is requested in FY 2024 for pump and/or filter upgrades. These items need to be added to the Capital Plan.

Sewer Department: An article is contained in the Town Warrant for FY 2024 to spend \$62,153.32 for sewer pump and injector station repair and/or replacement. \$37,153.32 was approved at the May 3, 2021 Town Meeting, and the remainder will come from the Sewer Undesignated Fund Balance. This needs to be added to the Capital Plan.

The \$667,200 Digester Building Gas Lines line item in the Capital Plan should be re-titled to Digester boiler repair and replace.

Highway Department: The Capital Plan contained the correct amount for the requested loader. The amount in the Capital Plan for Weymouth Street paving should be increased to \$85K.

Parks Department: The amount in the Capital Plan for the requested mower needs to be increased to \$90K.

School Department: The amount in the Capital Plan for the requested Security Technology Upgrade should be reduced to \$150K.

Fire Department: The \$70K administrative vehicle request in the Capital Plan should be moved to FY 2024.

Police Department: The amount for the two new police cruisers in the Capital Plan should be increased to \$119,904.

Mr. Principe made a motion to add and/or modify the items listed above in the Capital Plan approved at the Committee's 3/16/23 meeting. Mr. Walo seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Principe made a motion to close the Capital Plan. Mr. Walo seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Harris noted that the MA Governor and Legislature signed an extension through March of 2025 to allow Town Committees to meet via Zoom.

Mr. Walo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Principe seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Sternfelt, Secretary