

Finance Committee Meeting
February 27, 2006
Judge Welsh Hearing Room, Town Hall, Provincetown, MA 02657

Members Present: Ruth Gilbert, Chair, Sue Buerkel, Gary Delius, Mark Leach, Ed Gage, Walt Winnowski and Robert Vetrick

Members Excused: Tom Thurston, Ginny Ross, Alice Foley and Matthew Clark

Also Present: Keith Bergman, Town Manager

Meeting was called to order at 1 pm

FY 2007 Budget Review con't

Capital Improvements Program

For FY 2007, there are proposed to be no raise-and-appropriate projects in the CIP—only borrowing with debt service starting in FY 2008

Mark Leach stated that it seems ridiculous to approve expenditures that were going to increase debt service for future when we can't even fund present budget. Members agreed and decided to reserve recommendation on most expenditures until BOS had their meeting on CIP tonight.

	Request	Recommended
<i>General Fund</i>		
421-1 DPW Stormwater Improvements	\$150,000	\$150,000
Robert Vetrick made a motion to reserve recommendation. Mark Leach seconded and it passed 6:0:0		
422-1 DPW Road Reconstruction Phase I	\$400,000	\$400,000
These funds will be used to implement a five-year program for repaving streets with Commercial St. at the top of the list. Using a calculation of \$1,000,000 per mile and the area of concern (Commercial St) is approximately two miles equaling \$2,000,000. Also knowing we cannot do all of Commercial St. at once we are funding 20% each year for five years. The priority areas of the paving will be set by the BOS. There may also be opportunities to link this reconstruction project with the Streetscape Improvements program being discussed by the Economic Development Council and its MCC Adams task force.		

Mark Leach made a motion to reserve recommendation. Walt Winnowski seconded and it passed 6:0:0.

Wastewater Enterprise Fund

440-1 Sewer Extension & Optimization	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000
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20 years at 2%
This will cover extension for Shankpainter Road, Brown and Court Streets.

Robert Vetrick made a motion to recommend \$1,500,000. Ed Gage seconded and it passed 6:1:0.

Gary Delius arrived at 1:50 pm

Water Enterprise Fund

450-1 DEP Water Permit/New Source	\$500,000	\$500,000
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The Water Department has been evaluating alternatives for new public water supplies under a multi-year program. During FY 2005 these evaluations did focus on the new sites identified in Truro (North

Union Field and C5). Coordination with Truro, and the USGS and DEP will continue as the technical, regulatory and economic implications of these alternatives are evaluated and pursued. These activities will also support the Town's ongoing Water Management Act permitting activities. In FY-07 we will be doing Pump Tests for North Union Field.

450-2 Well Station Security Fencing CDBG \$500,000 \$500,000

This will provide security fencing for Knowles Crossing, South Hollow and the Winslow St Tanks. This request falls under the Federal Bio-Terrorism Act and is also in the DEP Sanitary Survey Requirement. This will be submitted as Town's march 2006 Community Development Block Grant.

Robert Vetrick made a motion to reserve recommendation on 450-1 and 450-2. Mark Leach seconded and it passed 7:0:0.

General Fund con't

210-1 Police-Fleet Replacement Program \$47,332 \$47,322

Requesting Ford 500's instead of Crown Victoria's.

Mark Leach made a motion to reserve recommendation. Robert Vetrick seconded and it passed 7:0:0.

299-1 Parking Vehicle \$10,000 \$10,000

The Parking Department currently operates a retired police cruiser which is too large for many of the employees to drive, uses too much fuel and has had costly repairs with mileage in excess of 200K. In its place the Department proposes the purchase of a used small pickup truck which would be used to patrol lots, carry supplies and otherwise be more comfortable for the employees of the Parking Department. A new one is not necessary and it is believed we should be able to locate a good used one for the price of \$10,000.

Robert Vetrick made a motion to reserve recommendation. Mark Leach seconded and it passed 7:0:0.

Requested Recommended

299-2 Parking Lot Fee Computers \$25,200 \$25,200

Replace the Auditor Powerpad fee computers in two parking lot booths. These fee computers are revenue control devices that calculate fees and provide reporting features at our three parking lot booths. This is a sophisticated fee computing system, which provides attendant accounting for all pay/permit categories of vehicles that enter the lot. The system automatically calculates the amount owed and/or the amount a Permit holder would have been charged. The attendant balances out against the transaction report at the end of each shift. These computers provide a variety of date/time specified management reports, which provide the data for the updated revenue and permit usage figures that we keep. The present Powerpad fee computers were installed in 1998. We will replace our current fee computer in the MPL next year.

Gary Delius made a motion to reserve recommendation. Sue Buerkel seconded and it passed 7:0:0.

Discussion of Proposition 2-1/2 Override Question. (Keith Bergman and Dennis Anderson)

The BOS voted to insert onto the May 2, 2006 Annual Town Election ballot a Proposition 2-1/2 override question to fund supplemental FY 2006 (\$350,000) contingent appropriation for the Cape End Manor Nursing Home and balance the budget for the current fiscal year. The BOS further voted to insert onto the warrant for the April 3, 2006 Special Town Meeting a contingent appropriation article to raise and appropriate or transfer the sum of \$200,000 to fund operating budget for Cape End Manor.

The supplemental FY 2006 appropriation of \$550,000 is needed for Cape End Manor, due to higher

census and higher spending and that some revenues won't be collected until FY 2007. This figure also reflects some \$140,000 in projected revenues from out-patient rehab services that never materialized.

Ruth Gilbert objected to \$200,000 being borrowed and would like to see that number lowered. Keith will work on coming back with a lower number. Ruth is also concerned that School budget will continue to rise every year. Issue of one time override; override/underride, etc. was discussed.

Robert Vetrick talked about his reaction to and feelings about letters to the editor in last weeks Banner. He read a letter he wrote in response but has not sent. Ruth Gilbert read an email from Matthew Clark in which he proposes not sending that or any other response to The Banner. Walt Winnowski stated that he did not support sending a letter in response to any of the letters but that instead the Finance Committee may want to send an "informational letter" for the general public. Other members that were present expressed support for Robert Vetrick sending his letter as a direct response to previously published letters.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm

Next meeting Monday, March 13 at 3-6pm

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Lutsky

Phyllis Lutsky

Recording Secretary

Approved by _____ on _____