



The TOWN OF NORWOOD

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

CAPITAL OUTLAY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

HYBRID MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024

6:30 PM

ROBERT M. THORNTON CONFERENCE ROOM, ROOM 24

NORWOOD TOWN HALL • 566 WASHINGTON STREET • NORWOOD, MASS.

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Anne Haley, Ernie Paciorkowski, Robert Donnelly, Anne Marie Mazzola, Gerald Miller, Sarah Sullivan, and Eric Fleming

COMMITTEE ABSENT: Tony Mazzucco, Tim McDonough, Kevin Connolly, and Alex Haggerty

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Sullivan, Mike Rosen

RECORDING SECRETARY: Kevin Rutherford

1. Committee Organization

Meeting called to order at 6:32 PM by Robert Donnelly.

Welcome to Committee and Anne Haley, the newest member, replacing Myev Bodenhofer as the representative of the Finance Commission.
Overview of various items.

Mr. Donnelly stated that he is willing to stay on as Chair if no one else was interested. No one volunteered, and Mr. Donnelly stated that he will stay on as Chair. Mr. Connolly will continue in his role as Vice Chair.

2. Meeting Minutes for approval of the Committee

Approval of Minutes from October 3, 2023.

Motion to approve the Minutes from October 3, 2023.

Moved by: Ernie Paciorkowski

Seconded by: Sarah Sullivan

Carried 6-0-1 Anne Haley abstained

3. Update on previous projects

Mr. Rosen went over memorandum information, including that night's updates. Mr. Rosen asked if there were any specific questions for the next meeting. Ms. Sullivan asked about Elliott field vandalism, which staff confirmed is not an issue because the building is currently closed. Mr. Fleming asked about the airport security fence. Mr. Rutherford responded that the Federal Aviation Administration has moved the program to 2025 for funding, but that appropriated funding from this year's plan will remain active. Mr. Fleming continued and asked about the bridge at Washington Street over Hawes Brook. Mr. Rosen confirmed that it will be completed after the pool is reconstructed. Question from Mr. Fleming about the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) connection on Route 1. Mr. Rosen will update the Committee on the connection after speaking to Mark Ryan in Public Works. Mr. Fleming asked to place water line items together, along with road programs, while bringing up concern about tearing up newly resurfaced roads by National Grid and other utilities. Discussion ensued about opening streets that were just paved. Mr. Fleming asked about lead water services. Mr. Rosen stated that he will ask Mr. Ryan about this, as he was unaware of any updates at that time.

Mr. Miller asked to address rumors about the pool going out to bid, which would result in closure of the Hawes Pool during the Summer. Mr. Rosen stated that this was the intent, and while there was a brief discussion on opening the pool at the end of August, that was never the intent by Recreation or the designer. Mr. Rutherford responded with the current bid schedule. Ms. Sullivan stated that the goal was to originally perform construction over the Winter. Mr. Paciorkowski concurred. Members state that Town Meeting members were told that the pool would be operational during the Summer months. Discussion about impact on Father Mac's Pool. Ms. Sullivan stated that she wanted to enter in the record that no one was told that the Hawes Pool would be closed during the Summer.

Mr. Donnelly asked for financial reports to be added that would specify spending by project. Mr. Rosen will work on this. Ms. Haley asked about timeline for vehicle deliveries. Mr. Rutherford responded with the procurement schedule for various vehicles that are on order. Mr. Paciorkowski brought up school vans. Ms. Mazzolla stated that the vans are in, except for a few that remain outstanding. Ms. Sullivan discussed the need to contract outside drivers less, but Ms. Mazzolla stated that while this

is occurring, the bottleneck is driver availability.

4. FY25 CIP Meeting Schedule and Work Plan

Mr. Donnelly stated that he recalled monthly meetings, including during the Summer, to affect a plan to go forward at the November Town Meeting. Further, Mr. Donnelly asked for status of Department Head updates, and asked when he would be able to bring them in to go over the list. Mr. Rosen stated that this meeting usually occurs in June or July, with department head meetings after the Operational Budget process is completed in May or June. Further, Mr. Rosen stated that what is before them tonight was transmitted from Year 2 of the 2024 Plan, and that everything listed has been carried over from the 2024 Plan, except for the Washington Street Bridge and the Savage Center Parking Lots, which were moved to 2025. Further, there is the addition of police training simulator. Mr. Rutherford stated that some projects have also been moved to 2026, so that there was not a large paving job for school projects. Question from Committee about the Savage lot and stormwater improvements, which Mr. Rosen stated will be completed together, as Holly Jones, the Assistant Community Development Director, has confirmed that the design of this is nearly complete.

Discussion on School information technology projects. Mr. Rutherford confirmed that they are current, per information from Joe Kidd. Mr. Miller asked if anything can be changed once brought before the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Donnelly confirmed, to ensure that they know before October and have an early look at it, due to a desire for proactive education. Mr. Miller asked to address bathrooms or concession stands at High School, as this makes the field a rarity without such amenities. Mr. Donnelly brought up bringing this back in the next meeting. Discussion over issues with covering this in the past. Mr. Donnelly noted that the high school concession stand would likely cost more than its equivalent at the Coakley Middle School.

Ms. Sullivan mentioned that they never voted on the five-year plan last year, and that per policy, it should be voted upon. Mr. Cheever noted the library study, and that there is nothing about updating the library as a project in the five-year plan. Discussion of the apparatus floor replacement being the reason why placeholder was added, even though there is no recommendation yet on work needs to be performed. Mr. Paciorkowski

asked about the ambulances, and why there is another ambulance for next year. Consensus that they came in sooner due to a lessening of delays in the supply chain.

Ms. Sullivan asked about the roofing study not being on the plan. Noted that there should be roofing work mentioned in 2025 and it is not there as a placeholder. Mr. Rosen stated that there was a plan to do so, but that the Town needs to investigate recommendations, per the recently-completed study. Mr. Donnelly stated that a department head meeting should be scheduled for updates on 2024 projects and inquired about doing this for the March 4 meeting.

5. February Agenda Items

Due to a desire to hold an March meeting, consensus centered around not holding a meeting in February. Department heads, financial report, and school project proposals will be discussed at this time. Mr. Rosen stated that it would be a good idea to have updates in March, but not to bring in department heads until Summer, as there is the risk that quotes will expire. Mr. Donnelly discussed last year's schedule, to inform this year's schedule. Presentations from department heads will begin over Summer, firming up financials in August and September, with an October meeting vote.

Motion to adjourn the meeting

Moved by: Sarah Sullivan

Seconded by: Anne Haley

Carried at 7:22pm