

## CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION RE: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2016

PORTSMOUTH, NH  
TIME: 6:30PM

City Council Present: Mayor Blalock, Councilors Perkins, Dwyer, Lown, Pearson, Spear, Cyr and Denton

City Council Absent: Assistant Mayor Splaine

Staff Present: John P. Bohenko, Andrew Purgiel, Deputy Finance Director; Peter Rice, Public Works Director; Brian Goetz, Deputy Public Works Director; Terry Desmarais, Water & Sewer City Engineer; Juliet Walker, Principal Planner; Steve Achilles, Fire Chief; James Heinz, Deputy Fire Chief; Steve Bartlett, School Business Administrator; David Moore, Assistant City Manager for Special Projects; Dave Mara, Police Chief; Karen Senecal, Police Department; Roberta Orsini, Business Administrator; Alan Brady; IT Coordinator; and Kelli L. Barnaby, City Clerk

Others Present: Richard Gamester, Fire Commissioner and Brenna Cavanaugh, Police Commissioner

### I. Call to Order

Mayor Blalock called the work session to order at 6:30 p.m.

### II. Introduction

City Manager Bohenko introduced the Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2017-2022 that outlines the needs for the City over the next 6 years. He spoke to the process held thus far on the plan from the 101 Presentation, which was well attended, to the Public Hearing by the Planning Board held in December. He reported on the new layout of the plan and the addition of 6 new appendix as well as changes to the process to have more involvement by the public. City Manager Bohenko stated the average appropriation has been \$1.6 million over the last six years and the target this year is \$2 million. He announced that the Public Hearing on the CIP would take place on February 16<sup>th</sup> with the adoption of the plan on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

### III. Review of Projects FY17 – FY22

#### CIP Summary

- I. *Equipment and Vehicle Schedule*
- II. *Building & Infrastructure*
- III. *Information Management Systems*
- IV. *Transportation Management Plan*
  - *Capital Contingency*
- V. *Total Enterprise Funds*

The various staff reviewed the projects with the City Council.

#### IV. Questions and Discussions

Councilor Spear said he would be looking at the bonding portion of the projects and the CIP has a financial element to it.

Councilor Cyr asked if old vehicles would be traded. Discussion followed regarding the process followed for rolling stock.

Councilor Dwyer expressed concerns regarding dividing projects by wards and the need to do it when it really makes sense. City Manager Bohenko stated there was discussion to not include the wards and they may not be included next year. He said it may well be addressed in an appendix. He said it is important to note that some projects go beyond more than one ward and affect multi-wards within the City.

Councilor Dwyer spoke to acquiring land for a new Police Department. She said the City Council put aside some funds for a training firm to review the various needs of a Police Department and the type of building. She said the funding set aside was \$2,500.00 - \$3,000.00 and wants to see a training firm hired to complete the process and provide that information to the City Council.

Councilor Spear said land acquisition needs to be looked at for a new Municipal Complex to include the Police Department that would keep the facilities together. City Manager Bohenko said we will be speaking to that matter at the Council Retreat on March 12<sup>th</sup>. He said he would be seeking policy direction from the Council on this matter.

Councilor Spear spoke regarding playgrounds and if there were needs for improvements to any of the playgrounds. City Manager Bohenko said we would be looking more at pocket park improvements with this plan. He did indicate the next park to have improvements made to it would be Sagamore Creek. Councilor Spear spoke to seeing playgrounds in downtown settings and would like the City Council to consider that as an option.

Councilor Dwyer spoke to the playground at the former Library and would like to see that looked at for the new Library. She addressed the need for playground equipment at the Granite Street Field. Assistant City Manager Moore spoke to recreation facilities and fields. Councilor Spear said he feels the funding is too low for the projects. City Manager Bohenko said this is another item that would be discussed at the Council Retreat of March 12<sup>th</sup>. Assistant City Manager Moore discussed the project at the stump dump for the creation of a recreational field. City Manager Bohenko said the project is fluid and asked Public Works Director Rice to speak on this matter. Public Works Director Rice spoke to the stump dump and its current use he also addressed what the City is planning in terms of recreational use at the site. Councilor Lown said he would like to see the stump dump project moved up in the CIP for funding this fiscal year and the field should have artificial turf. City Manager Bohenko said the next step is to bring the project to the Recreation Board followed by a report to the City Council.

City Manager Bohenko said another project we are looking at is side loaders for trash and recyclable trucks with a mechanism to lift the container to go in the back of the trucks which have been retrofitted. He also addressed looking at the land owned by Seacoast Foundation for Health to expand our recycling center, which is an A priority. Councilor Dwyer asked if this includes land acquisition and design. City Manager Bohenko said we would like to purchase the land sooner than later.

Councilor Dwyer asked about improvements to the intersections on Pease. Public Works Director Rice said it is the responsibility of the Pease Development Authority. City Manager Bohenko said the PDA would look at a warrant on the design and review the Municipal Services Agreement relative to this matter.

Councilor Denton asked various questions relative to recyclables and Public Works Director Rice indicated we have a mechanism to weigh the totes. He said we can take representative samples and look at contamination rates of the items. He said we are looking at improving our educational program.

Councilor Dwyer asked if water system upgrades include Newcastle. Deputy Public Works Director Goetz said we have funds set aside and identified. Discussion followed regarding water efficient programs and revenues received. Deputy Director Goetz stated last year we saw a 30% reduction due to low flow toilets and a 20% with new economical washing machines. City Manager Bohenko suggested putting these figures in a newsletter to make individuals aware of the savings these items can create.

A review of the sewer system was completed by Terry Desmarais, Water & Sewer Engineer.

City Manager Bohenko said we have completed the CIP review and the public hearing on Tuesday at the City Council meeting would be an abbreviated version of this evening's presentation. He also indicated we would be discussing a few items reviewed this evening at the Council Retreat on March 12<sup>th</sup> and a draft agenda would be going out in the next few days.

#### V. Adjournment

At 8:15 p.m., Mayor Blalock closed the work session.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kelli L. Barnaby, MMC, CMC, CNHMC  
City Clerk