

## **CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION RE: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2018

PORTSMOUTH, NH  
TIME: 6:30PM

City Council Present: Mayor Blalock, Assistant Mayor Lazenby, Councilors Roberts, Pearson, Denton, Reynolds and Becksted

City Council Absent: Councilors Dwyer and Perkins

Staff: John P. Bohenko, City Manager; Juliet Walker, Planning Director; Peter Rice, Public Works Director; David Moore, Assistant City Manager; Alan Brady, IT Manager; Terry Desmarais, City Engineer; Brian Goetz, Deputy Public Works Director; Andrew Purgiel, Deputy Finance Director; Steve Achilles, Fire Chief; Karen Senecal, Administrative Services Manager; Steve Bartlett, School Administrator; and Kelli L. Barnaby, City Clerk

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

City Manager Bohenko said we are presenting the 6 year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY19-24. He spoke to the Planning Board holding an informational meeting regarding the plan. He stated that the document has been improved and includes element sheets for the projects. City Manager Bohenko stated city staff will be presenting details relative to their projects.

Fire Chief Achilles spoke to the various projects for the Fire Department.

Karen Senecal of the Police Department provided details regarding the Police Department projects.

Business Administrator Bartlett spoke to the projects contained in the CIP for the School Department.

City Clerk Barnaby spoke to her two projects for the records preservation and records storage room projects.

Planning Director Walker outlined the various projects for the Planning Department.

Assistant City Manager Moore provided information relative to the various special projects for the City as well as the CDBG projects.

Public Works Director Rice addressed the large number of projects for the Public Works Department.

IT Manager Brady spoke to the IT needs and the replacement of servers required for the departments.

Deputy Public Works Director Goetz presented the projects for the Water Department and addressed Enterprise Funds of the department.

City Engineer Desmarais presented the projects from the Enterprise Funds for the Sewer Department.

City Manager Bohenko announced there will be a public hearing on the CIP at the February 20, 2018 City Council meeting with adoption of the CIP scheduled for the March 5, 2018 City Council meeting.

Councilor Denton said that this is a policy document once funding is approved.

City Manager Bohenko explained that the document is reviewed every year and we need to be more direct with time lines. He said if the Council wants to move any projects up, that can be done at the March 5, 2018 City Council meeting.

Councilor Denton spoke regarding the digester project and said he wants it to be considered with the \$50,000.00 study on this project.

Councilor Pearson asked about the Peirce Island Master Plan. Assistant City Manager Moore explained improvements to the area and stated there were a few items that were not implemented from the 1999 plan.

Councilor Pearson spoke regarding the Vaughan-Bridge-Worth Lot project and stated it does not need to be part of a public partnership.

Councilor Denton said he would like the City plan to start purchasing electric vehicles and he would like to see electrical charging stations as part of the Foundry Garage. Public Works Director Rice said that charging stations are part of the garage. Councilor Denton also suggested that there be wayfinding signs for the location of the garage with the hours of operation listed.

Councilor Roberts spoke to the State Street paving project. Public Works Director Rice announced that the street will be paved this year. Councilor Roberts asked if it would include traffic calming. Director Rice said traffic calming is not needed on that section of the road.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby spoke to the improvements in the CIP. He asked when we would sort out the TBD for the land acquisition for the Police Department. City Manager Bohenko said we need to decide if we stay here at the Municipal Complex or look at a stand-alone Police Department. He said we will have a meeting with the Police Department in a Work Session to discuss which way we will go on this matter. Public Works Director Rice said the department looked into if the Police Department could be updated, but more information is needed. He said this would be a policy decision. City Manager Bohenko said there is substantial cost and something needs to be done to upgrade the facility. He said we should have a discussion with the Police Commission and hold a work session before we move forward on this building.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby asked where we are at with the sewer separation and how many years do we have left. City Engineer Desmarais said that we have a plan where we identified seven additional projects. He said we will do a long term control plan by 2025 and have another set of studies. Public Works Director Rice said that this is a long process and we need to manage the projects incrementally with our finances. City Manager Bohenko said we have spent over \$40 million on the project and we need to evaluate how many projects the City can absorb.

Mayor Blalock said we have a comprehensive program for when we make improvements to streets.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby asked Planning Director Walker about the bike/ped plan and would like to see what has been completed and what needs to be completed. Planning Director Walker said the Planning Department is currently working on a prioritized lists.

Assistant Mayor Lazenby said it looks like more than 100 requests came in from residents. Planning Director Walker said we have less than last year, residents are advised to follow the process.

Councilor Reynolds asked the Planning Department also on the status of the bike/ped plan. City Manager Bohenko said we will take a look at that and get something out for the February 20, 2018 City Council meeting where the public hearing on the CIP will take place.

Mayor Blalock asked about the rail project. Planning Director Walker said the State and Pan Am cannot come to an agreement on the cost for the appraisal because the latest appraisal was quite high.

Councilor Becksted asked about the renovation to the Doble Center and said the costs seem much higher. Assistant City Manager Moore said the allocation of the trust from Daniel Street is needed for the building and desired program we may use all of the funds of \$1.3 million and the design we will be revisiting that. Councilor Becksted said he hopes that we do not use all the funds and that at some point we have a complete community center. City Manager Bohenko said we would not have an emergency shelter but more of a warming center. Councilor Becksted said he would like to look at the pump house at the pool that would be funded this year. Public Works Director Rice said money is allocated in a fiscal year but funds sometimes are not expended until the following year. He said the design would be done in the fall and would be completed in 2019/2020 year. City Manager Bohenko said he would work with the Recreation Board on the design.

Councilor Becksted spoke regarding the Russell Street rotary and said he would like to see us rotate some of the funding back. City Manager Bohenko said we would move forward with the design and moving projects around slows the project process down. Councilor Becksted expressed concern with spending all the money and having wear and tear on the streets when you could use some of the money on other projects and move the project back.

Councilor Denton asked about the water fund and the rebates program. Deputy Public Works Director Goetz said we are in our 4<sup>th</sup> years and still funding. He said we have had 750 rebates for toilets and 100 washer rebates.

At 8:20 p.m., Mayor Blalock closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:

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