

**PLANNING BOARD MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 1999**

ROLL CALL:

David Dubay-Chairman-Present
Bernie Rouillard-Vice Chairman-Excused
Jack Gattinella-Secretary-Present
Wayne Morris-Regular Member-Present
Russell Wilder-Regular Member-Present
Annette Stoller-Regular Member-Present
Walter Kolodziej-Alternate-Excused
Keith Goldstein-Alternate-Present
Margaret Crisler-Selectman-Present
Galen Stearns-Selectmen's Alternate-Present

Mr. Goldstein replaced Mr. Rouillard on the Board.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM - PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Charles McMahon, Chairman of the CIP Committee, introduced the members of the committee in attendance; Galen Stearns, Brian Carne, Dick Gumbel, Ralph Titus, Ron Coish, Rick Horrigan, Wayne Morris and Dave Dubay.

Mr. McMahon gave a brief history of the meetings the committee held from May 28, 1998 though December 8, 1998. The recommendation of the committee was to increase the CIP funding to \$1.75 to meet the near and long terms goals. The committee studied many options and the majority voted to recommend the new Fire Station and Griffin Park go forward this year with the School proposal going forward in 2000.

Mr. Rick Horrigan, representing the School Board, spoke to the Board concerning the very large, competing projects and the CIP document being subject to change. Mr. Horrigan explained the growth in the school population and the need for a school building.

Mr. Edward Richards, Facility Planning Committee, expressed his concern with all the necessary projects in town and suggested the CIP rate be set at \$2.00. Mr. Richards also pointed out delays would cause an increase in costs.

Mrs. Christy Devine spoke of the overcrowding at the schools and expressed

the need for new schools should take precedence over playgrounds.

Mr. McMahon clarified several points, i.e. the warrant article requesting a study of the CIP rate, the charter of the CIP Committee and the methodology of meeting the goals of Windham.

Mr. Goldstein questioned what it would cost to do all three projects this year. Mr. McMahon stated the cost would be \$2.73 and without any additional spending in future years the cost would go down to \$2.55. Mr. Dubay received letters, unsigned, from the Make Room for Education Now Committee. The Chairman did not accept the letters. Mrs. Devine explained the makeup of the grassroots group and their purpose to support the school plan.

Discussion followed on the two options requested by the Planning Board, placing the Fire Station and Griffin Park first with the \$5.992 million for the school second and option two reversing the sequence.

Marcia Unger, of the School Board, spoke of the two options and fielded questions regarding changes in the state law and school funding, growth in school population, operating costs and the number of new classrooms to be added by the school building proposals.

Several members of the Planning Board questioned the incremental operating costs, projected growth percentage per year and the total number of classrooms when the project is completed. Mr. Goldstein questioned the projected enrollment numbers. Mr. Andy Desrosiers, of the Facility Planning Committee, responded to the Planning Board questions and enrollment projections.

Mr. Goldstein motioned to accept the CIP, as written, and submit to the Board of Selectmen the 12/14/98 report as written. There was no second to the motion. Mr. Gattinella motioned to amend the CIP to, the school first, the fire station three years latter and forget Griffin Park and the bike paths. Mr. Wilder seconded. The Board discussed the motion. Mr. Wilder motioned to move the questions and Mr. Gattinella seconded, voted 7-0 to move the question. Voted on the main motion failed 1-6 with Mr. Gattinella in favor.

Mrs. Stoller motion approved the CIP proposal and push back Griffin Park to 2001 and Mrs. Crisler seconded. Discussion followed on the motion with Mr. Goldstein asking whether the school proposal could be split. Mr. Horrigan explained the school would not consider splitting the building proposal as they needed to alleviate overcrowding in all three schools. Motion failed 3-4 (A.

Stoller, W. Morris, R. Wilder voted in the affirmative).

Mr. Wilder motioned to accept option two, school first and fire station second. Mr. Morris seconded. Mr. McMahon stated that option two, if approve, should go to the Board Selectmen as a Planning Board plan not as a CIP recommendation. Motion failed 3-4 (R. wilder, W. Morris, J. Gattinella voted in the affirmative).

Mr. Goldstein motioned to accept option one as written and submit to the Board of Selectmen. Mrs. Stoller seconded and passed 4-3 (R. Wilder, W. Morris, J. Gattinella opposed).

ROAD BOND:

Mrs. Stoller motioned to release \$35,822.00 and retain \$20,700.00 for the Glenwood Road bond. Mr. Wilder seconded and passed 7-0.

Meeting adjourned 11:15 P.M.

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