

## CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION RE: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2017

PORTSMOUTH, NH  
TIME: 6:30PM

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

City Council Absent: Assistant Mayor Splaine, Councilors Perkins and Dwyer

Staff Present: Nancy Colbert Puff, Acting City Manager; 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; Steve Bartlett, School Business Administrator; David Moore, Assistant City Manager; Dave Mara, Police Chief; Karen Senecal, Police Department; Alan Brady, IT Coordinator;

Others Present: Richard Gamester, Fire Commissioner

### I. Call to Order

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

### II. Introduction

Acting City Manager Colbert Puff explained that the Capital Improvements Plan is a multi-year scheduling and financing strategy for accomplishing necessary public improvements. She stated that the Planning Board adopted the FY18-FY23 CIP on January 19, 2017 and forwarded it to the City Council. Following the work session this evening, the Public Hearing will take place on February 21, 2017 with adoption scheduled for March 6, 2017. She stated that the FY19-23 years are for planning purposes only and the FY18 projects will all have to be voted on by the City Council separately with a 2/3 vote. Finally, she stated that each of the Department Heads will review their various sections of the Capital Improvements document and answer any questions the Council may have.

### III. Review of Projects FY18 – FY23

The various staff reviewed the projects with the City Council.

### IV. Questions and Discussions

Councilor Spear referred to page 56, Elementary School Upgrades, asking if the \$5 million in years FY18 and FY19 were both for Dondero Elementary School.

School Business Administrator Bartlett stated that Little Harbour School is completed so these are both for Dondero. He continued that these are life-safety renovations as well as asbestos abatement, and energy upgrades and bring everything up to current code while it is opened up.

Councilor Lown referred to page 49, Police Gym Equipment Replacement, asking if it would be more cost effective to just pay gym membership fees for the department than to put this money into this facility.

Police Chief Mara stated that this is important because officers have to pass physical testing every 3 years and we want to make sure they are in shape. He continued that if they gym is on-site, officers will come in before their shift of stay after a shift and use the facility.

Councilor Cyr referred to page 58, Historic Document Restoration, Preservation and Scanning, asking if these documents will be available on the website once they are all scanned.

Acting City Manager Colbert Puff stated that with the new server capacity, yes probably.

Councilor Denton asked about curbside composting and if this could be included in the CIP in case it gets approved in the future. Public Works Director Rice stated it could be a CIP item, or it could be incorporated into the existing recycling program and/or a \$50.00 investment per household could be added as well.

Discussion ensued regarding the new dispatch system and the ownership of the data. Chief Achilles stated that the EMS data is health related and cannot be shared.

Discussion ensued regarding the sidewalk replacement program. Councilor Spear feels that we should be looking at how many residents, etc. are served by the sidewalk in prioritizing them for repair. Councilor Cyr asked if we are keeping up with the repairs or falling behind. Public Works Director Rice stated we are keeping up but need more funding to make progress.

Acting City Manager Puff reminded everyone that the public hearing will be held on February 21, 2017.

V. Adjournment

At 8:05 p.m., Mayor Blalock closed the work session.

Respectfully submitted by:

Valerie A. French  
Deputy City Clerk