

## **Capital Planning Committee Meeting**

February 9, 2016

7:30 pm

Attending: Andrew Beard, Chair; Jacquelin Apsler, Jim Henderson, Peter Braun, Peter Montero, Al Schmertzler, Maria Hylton, Tim Moynihan and Audrey Kalmus.

Also attending: Mary Day, Assistant Town Administrator and Jeff Birchby, Finance Committee Member.

### **Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Beard to approve the minutes for 1/5/16 and 1/19/16. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hylton. The vote was unanimous.

### **25 Year Plan**

There was discussion regarding whether, when, and to what extent CapCom should present information about the plan at the Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Braun reported that at the most recent Board of Selectmen meeting, a resident had inquired about whether the plan would be presented at the Town Meeting. The context for the inquiry was the Board of Selectmen's receipt of the report of the Campus Master Plan Committee (CMPC) on the Ballfield Road campus and the ensuing brief discussion of the potential future uses of the report with respect to expected major improvements of the School and potential consideration of a Community Center. It was the consensus of CapCom that the plan should be presented by the CapCom chair as soon as feasible during the Annual Town Meeting, such as during the cash-capital presentation. This would then provide financial context for warrant articles later in the Town Meeting regarding how to proceed with addressing the Schools' needs, as well as the CMPC's presentation of its report. It was also the consensus that a subcommittee should work on the usual annual update of the plan.

### **Special Town Meeting**

The CapCom then discussed whether it should take a position on the Minuteman-related Warrant Articles. Mr. Braun reported on the activities of the Vocational Education Options Working Group (VEOWG), its objective to gather facts to inform the town about the withdrawal option, and its intention to not take a formal position, which would be left to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee to determine. Mr. Birchby suggested that a CapCom position should logically use the building project as its context, in light of the separate roles of FinCom and CapCom. After discussion, it was the CapCom's consensus that it should make a recommendation on the withdrawal-related Warrant Article and should make its rationale public as soon as possible, to assist the town to understand the complicated facts involved. It was moved by Mr. Beard, seconded by Mr. Schmertzler, and unanimously voted that the Capital Planning Committee recommend that the Town Meeting vote "yes" on Articles 1 and 2, i.e. to authorize withdrawal, based on the following considerations:

- 1) the cost of vocational education services at Minuteman is high relative to other options;
- 2) a disproportionate and unfair percentage of the cost of the proposed building project would be borne by Lincoln;
- 3) the risk that enrollment lower than projected by Minuteman could significantly increase the cost to Lincoln;
- 4) the potential impact on the affordability to taxpayers of other Lincoln capital projects; and
- 5) the desire to enable those towns that support the building project and amended Regional Agreement to proceed without impediment from towns that do not support the project and/or amendments.

Mr. Beard will speak with FinCom Chair Peyton Marshall as to whether CapCom and FinCom could or should coordinate communication of their recommendations. It was CapCom's consensus that CapCom's recommendation and rationale should be published in the Lincoln Squirrel as soon as possible. Mr. Beard will also determine a CapCom spokesperson at the Annual Town Meeting, since he will not be able to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Beard, seconded by Ms. Kalmus. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Day

Approved on: March 15, 2016