

TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024

PRESENT: Calouro, Teixeira, and Sweeney
Absent: Clerk Cordeiro, Vice Chairwoman Parella, Councilman Ley

ALSO PRESENT: Steven Contente, Town Administrator, and Sara Hassel, Town Treasurer

The council met on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, and called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, Council Chambers, Council Chairman Calouro presiding:

Prior to the commencement of the regular order of business, Chairman Calouro that Clerk Cordeiro, Vice Chairwoman Parella, and Councilmember Ley were unable to attend the meeting due to o prior commitments. He emphasized the importance of advancing the discussion before the regular budget conversations.

1. Bid 1032-Mount Hope Avenue Drainage Improvements

Teixeira/Sweeney- Voted unanimously to refer this matter to the Town Administrator, Department of Community Development, and Department of Public Works and to act in the best interest of the Town.

Prior to the vote being taken, Director Williamson read the following bids received:

- D'Ambra Construction in the amount of #1,360,690.00
- Narragansett Improvement Company in the amount of \$1,849,970.00
- CB Utility Company Inc., in the amount of \$1,188,140.00
- Loureiro Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$1,516,220.00
- New England Building & Bride in the amount of \$1,070,829.50
- Key Corporation in the amount of \$1,158,670.00

2. Five-Year Capital Plan

It is hereby noted for the record that no action was taken on this agenda item

Town Administrator Contente offered a brief overview of the town's initiatives and provided a status update for the fiscal year 2024. He emphasized the completion of several projects, including road resurfacing and repairs, sidewalks along Central Street, installation of an HVAC system in the gymnasium, improvements to Lisa Lane Park, and renovations at Rockwell Playground.

Regarding the ongoing project for the Wally School community resource center, estimated at \$4.3 million from previous years, Town Administrator Contente explained that grant funds are being utilized to ensure its progress. He mentioned that numerous bids will be solicited for tasks such as roofing, plumbing, electrical work, and mechanical installations.

Discussions ensued regarding some of the Walley School Community Center project details and phasing the project completions.

Members of the council reviewed the various departmental Capital Projects status reports as presented in table chart 2 of the Capital Projects report.

Director Diane Williamson provided an overview of the Community Development capital projects report and status report of the following projects:

- Leahy Pond implementation- Annawamscutt/Sowams area
- Varnum watershed project construction
- Burnside Street usability construction
- End of road public Access- Gibson Construction
- Tree Planting Grant Match
- Independence Park access improvements
- Waterfront access imp. Hope & Burton Street
- Church Street Seawall

The council members deliberated and assessed the progress of these projects.

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Director Chris Parella provided an overview of the Community Development capital projects report and status report of the following projects:

- Road Reconstruction & Repaving
- Sidewalk repairs
- Automated trash truck replacement
- Mack heavy-duty dump truck
- Salt shed repairs
- Medium duty utility body
- Two one-ton regular cab pickups
- DPW Facility building

The council members deliberated and assessed the progress of these projects.

Town Administrator Contente highlighted that the operating capital has consistently increased annually, and it currently stands as cash. The initial plan was to avoid seeking bonding this year; however, due to escalated costs, we may need to consider moving in that direction.

Police Chief Lynch provided an overview of the department's capital projects report and status report of the following projects:

- Mobile Command Center
- Site repeater
- Greenhouse Property environment Site Plan
- Police Station- Feasible study/design

The council members deliberated and assessed the progress of these projects.

Harbor Master Greg Marsili provided an overview of the department's capital projects report and status report of the following projects:

- Independence boat ramp
- Fire suppression improvements on Church Street Dock
- Pump Out Boat
- State Street Boat Ramp
- Rockwell Park Dock improvement

The council members deliberated and assessed the progress of these projects.

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Fire Chief DeMello provided an overview of the department's capital projects report and status report of the following projects:

- EKG monitor
- Ventilators
- Roof repairs at Fire Department headquarters
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Radio Communication Equipment
- Breathing Apparatus

The council members deliberated and assessed the progress of these projects.

Library Director Dyer provided an overview of the department's capital projects report and status report of the following projects:

- Generator for Building
- Community facilities grant
- Carpeting

The council members deliberated and assessed the progress of these projects.

Chairman emphasized that the majority of the funding, totaling \$3,232,000, comprises grants, which signifies a remarkable achievement. He underscored the significance of these grants in enhancing various aspects of Bristol, including the library project receiving a \$1.7 million grant. He highlighted the positive impact these grants have on improving Bristol, whether through initiatives like library renovations, equipment procurement for the fire department, or upcoming projects such as the command center.

Chairman Calouro expressed gratitude to the town employees and council members for their efforts, acknowledging that these grants alleviate the burden on taxpayers and enable essential town improvements. He extended thanks to all involved and congratulated them on this significant success.

Director of Parks and Recreation Warren Renshausen provided an overview of the department's capital projects report and status report of the following projects:

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- Town Beach & Sports Complex Court repairs
- Asylum Road Street Lights
- Flooring for QG Fitness Room

The council members deliberated and assessed the progress of these projects.

There being no further business, upon a motion by Councilman Sweeney, seconded by Councilman Teixeira and voted unanimously, the Chairman declared this meeting to be adjourned at 9:10 pm.

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