

Capital Planning Task Force

Minutes

February 17, 2021 – Approved 3/17/21

Via Zoom

Present: Terri Ackerman, Select Board member;; Elise Woodward, Stephen Crane, Town Manager, Karle Packard, citizen, Cynthia Rainey, Concord School Committee, Parashar Patel, Finance Committee Liaison, Kerry LaFleur, Concord Finance Director

Absent: Jared Stanton, Director of Finance and Operations, Concord Public Schools, Laurie Hunter, School Superintendent

Meeting was convened at 3:05

No minutes were available.

Next meeting will be held on 3/3

There was a discussion of pros and cons of a standing capital planning committee vs and enhanced capital planning process.

There was a concern that the process might not be followed if there is not a standing committee. Also questions about how the public can take part and provide feedback on the 10-year plan using the enhanced process.

There was a discussion about the timing of the process. Should it occur during the town meeting process or off-cycle. Ms. Woodward pointed out that there will be exceptions because opportunities will arise, i.e., land acquisitions.

There was a discussion as to how this will be documented. The town has a financial practices document. Maybe via an APP? How can we recommend to the Select Board that the process be adopted.

Mr. Crane pointed out some of the disadvantages of a standing capital planning committee.

Ms. Ackerman suggested that we need to investigate the gaps between to the proposed processes and maybe close the gaps between them.. What do we really lose with the enhanced process vs. the standing committee?

Ms. Woodward stated that the committee will take up this process at the 3/3 meeting.

The 3/3 meeting will include a review of the Town's 2003 facilities planning report.

There was a discussion of a potential case studies The CCHS building project and the Gerow land purchase were cited as good candidates for a case study once the committee firms up the process.

Ms. Woodward will send out a report outline for the 3/3 meeting.

Citizen Comment: None

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Rainey