

Community Preservation Committee

June 13, 2017

Police Station Conference Room

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Mike Dissette called a regular meeting of the Community Preservation Committee to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Mike Dissette, Jane Healey, Don Little, Paul Healy, Jim McCarthy, Dan Koen, Sarah White and Steve Sawyer. Also in attendance was Kate Newhall-Smith.

3. Minutes

Dan Koen moved to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2017 meeting. Paul Healy seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Sarah White and Steve Sawyer abstaining.

4. Deliberations on FY18 Applications for Community Preservation Funds

The estimated FY17 surcharge revenue and FY18 State match are expected to be \$791,041.82 and \$118,656.27 respectively, which along with the Community Preservation Fund balance of \$252,400.98 would bring the estimated amount of funds available to a total of \$1,162,099.08. Obligations of \$409,070 would reduce this amount to \$753,029.08. These obligations include payments of \$161,920 for the City Hall bond, \$102,480 for the open space bond, \$124,980 for the stadium bond and \$7,690 for the Cherry Hill bond, along with \$12,000 for administrative expenses. There is currently \$429,965.98 in the open space reserve and \$26,803.50 in the community housing reserve.

Andy Port previously sent an email to the CPC requesting the consideration of the application for the acquisition of the Evergreen Golf Course be delayed for several months. The Water Department is in the process of testing the property's capacity to support a viable public water supply and the information necessary to support the applicant is not be available at this time. The project would be bonded and would not be in competition with the funds immediately available. Mike Dissette moved to remove the Evergreen Golf Course Acquisition application from consideration. Jim McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Steve Sawyer and Dan Koen abstaining.

Don Little said he is an active member of Central Congregational Church. He has filed the necessary ethics paperwork and is eligible to vote on all projects.

The CPC members deliberated over their recommendations to City Council for Community Preservation Funds. The amount requested in the 12 applications received totaled \$983,544. The Committee members agreed to set the amount to be awarded at \$728,000, which would leave a cushion of \$25,000 to be added to the general reserves.

To focus the discussion, Mike Dissette asked for a show of hands from members who would support funding an application in any amount. All 12 projects had support from at least five members of the committee.

Dan Koen spoke in favor of fully funding the project to rehabilitate the community building. He said the residents have worked hard to change the perception of Kelleher Park and

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they lack the resources to raise funds from other sources. Mike Dissette, Dan Koen and Don Little spoke in favor of funding the project to restore the Newburyport High School exterior woodwork. The CPC has not recommended the project be funded in the past two grant cycles. The work done to date has been thorough and professional but without additional funding it is likely future work would be done in an inferior way. The project is not one that could be partially undertaken. Mike Dissette said the Maritime Society is facing an emergency situation with the need to restore its slate and copper and has wisely used the funds it was previously awarded. It was noted any amount the CPC has to give would not do much to close the large funding gap for the Fuller Field Track Renovation.

Sarah White moved to recommend to the City Council the approval of awards totaling \$728,200 for the following applications:

YWCA Women's Residence	\$26,500
Community Building Rehabilitation.....	\$129,500
Affordable Housing Trust Fund.....	\$75,000
Restoration of Cushing Carriage House Windows	\$14,500
Central Congregational Steeple Project.....	\$75,000
Newburyport High School Exterior Woodwork Restoration.....	\$125,000
People's United Methodist Church Weathervane Restoration	\$8,700
Open Space Reserve Fund	\$100,000
Gateway Trees – Phase 2	\$13,000
Fuller Field Track Renovation – Phase 2	\$60,000
Clipper City Rail Trail – Phase 3	\$75,000
Slate and Copper Restoration.....	\$26,000

Dan Koen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mike Dissette moved to recommend the City Council approve payments of \$161,920 for the City Hall bond, \$102,480 for the open space bond, \$124,980 for the stadium bond and \$7,690 for the Cherry Hill bond. Don Little seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mike Dissette moved to recommend the City Council approve a payment of up to \$12,000 for administrative expenses. Paul Healy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mike Dissette moved to recommend to the City Council that the \$26,803.50 in the community housing reserve be moved to the Affordable Housing Trust. Paul Healy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Other Business

The next meeting of the Community Preservation Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Police Station conference room.

6. Adjournment

Mike Dissette moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Paul Healy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.