



**Town of Amherst
Special Meeting of the Town Council
Public Forum on the Town Capital Improvement Program
Monday, June 10, 2019 6:30 p.m.
Town Room, Town Hall
4 Boltwood Avenue**

Minutes

1. Call to order and declaration of a quorum

President Griesemer declared the presence of a quorum and called the forum to order at 6:47 p.m.

Councilors present: Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, DeAngelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, Swartz.

Councilors absent: None

Councilors participating remotely: None

Others present: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, Clerk of the Council Margaret Z. Nartowicz, Regional Schools Finance Director Sean Mangano, Fire Chief Tim Nelson, Assistant Fire Chief Lindsey Stromgren

President Griesemer announced audio and video recording by Amherst Media.

Call to order the Special Meeting of the Town Council at 6:47 p.m.

2. Announcements - None

3. Presentations and Discussion

a. Public Forum on the Capital Improvement Program [Charter Sec. 5.7(d)]

President Griesemer explained that, per the Charter, more than one-half of the meeting time will be devoted to public comment.

Mr. Bockelman briefly explained the Capital Projects process, and introduced Mr. Mangano.

Mr. Mangano spoke about the JCPC process, history of the JCPC, and spoke about the input that came from Town departments and the public.

4. Public Comment

David Clooney of 984 East Pleasant Street, and full time firefighter and paramedic for the Town. Asked about the ladder truck maintenance and the value of shifting priorities from maintenance to new equipment. Assistant Fire Chief Lindsay Stromgren responded that it is known that the ladder truck and ambulance have exceeded their lives, ideally ambulances would be on an 8-year replacement cycle; the new vehicles did not make it on the JCPC request for this budget. Councilor Steinberg added that the JCPC did give very serious consideration to the ladder truck and has been discussed for a number of years; the question became weighing that against the Town's other largest need, which is road repair. Ultimately, the committee decided that the \$16 plus million backlog on roads and sidewalks would be recommended to the Town Manager. Councilor De Angelis commented that we are not doing the needed maintenance to buildings and equipment; understanding that the roads are an issue but there is a need to maintain the equipment that the Town owns. Mr. Bockelman responded that the Chief and Assistant Chief were clear about the department's needs. There is hesitation to invest too much in maintenance of buildings that are planned to be replaced. Councilor Pam asked about fire trucks fitting inside the station. Chief Nelson responded that a new truck will fit.

Sarah Marshall of 64 Eames Avenue asked if this plan is the same as the "One Town One Plan." Mr. Mangano responded that as the One Town One Plan is developed, it will feed into this Capital Improvement Program.

Councilor Schoen the more detailed tables show a deficit for new debt cost for buildings. Mr. Mangano explained the costs reflected in the tables.

5. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the President 48 Hours in Advance – None

6. Adjourn

MOVED: Councilor Schreiber moved, second by Councilor Swartz to adjourn the public forum.

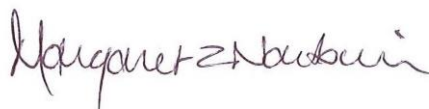
VOTED unanimously to adjourn the public forum at 7:22 p.m. on June 10, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



Athena O'Keefe

Approved June 17, 2019



Margaret Z. Nartowicz
Town Clerk & Clerk to the Council

Record of Agenda Packet Materials and Documents Presented

Capital Forum Slides 6.5.19

CIP Forum 6.5.19

Draft Motions for Town Council 06-10-2019 Special Meeting CIP Forum

FY20 Capital Plan - JCPC Report