

**10 Year Capital Improvement & Strategic Planning Committee
Minutes of Special Meeting
March 15, 2021**

Members Present: Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Mary Fortier, Glenn Heiser, Tom Hislop, Peter Kelley (*entered at 4:45 p.m.*), Dave Preleski, Orlando Cafe, John Smith and Diane Waldron.
Also present from the Comptroller's Staff: Skip Gillis.

Call to order.

Mayor Zoppo Sassu called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

To approve the March 8, 2021 minutes and to take any action as necessary.

Commissioner Smith made a motion seconded by Commissioner Fortier "to approve the minutes from March 8, 2021." Motion approved.

To approve the Capital Budget for 2021-2022 and to take any action as necessary.

Mayor Zoppo Sassu provided an update from the last meeting, in the past week the Mayor and Comptroller have attended various sessions on the American Rescue Plan Act, there are three pieces of the plan which will fund local, Education and Counties. The Mayor explained the four categories the funding must go towards that includes, responding to the public health emergency, compensating essential workers, aid for the reduction in revenue losses, and provide for investment in water, sewer and broadband services. Diane explained what projects in the Capital Budget the City feels may qualify for funding under this plan, which the City will have three years to spend. The City Broadband Network Evaluation and Network Replacement should qualify for funding under the Rescue Plan along with the Bathrooms for Veterans Memorial Boulevard which should qualify as a Water/Sewer project. The Underground Storage Tank projects qualify for funding from ESSER funds the BOE is receiving. The South Side Mechanicals, because it is HVAC related may qualify under the Rescue Plan along with the Pequabuck River Stabilization project. The rest of the projects would remain under the current proposed funding source indicated. There is some discussion if the HVAC work within the City Hall project may qualify under the American Rescue Plan as well. Diane explained this does bring the General Fund cash amount down to \$0, from the current proposed amount of \$721,000. The current budget has \$150,000 budgeted and the goal was to increase it each year.

Commissioner Smith stated the Committee is not prepared to approve the Capital Budget tonight. Mayor Zoppo stated the Department of Treasury is issuing additional guidance, the Committee has time to revisit when these additional details are released so there is no need to rush the approval. The City will be receiving \$17 million, and the Board of Education \$19 million. Diane explained the City has reached out to the auditors, as each of these programs have specific guidance on how the auditors must audit for the single audit along with the backup required. They have not received any guidance yet either.

The Committee will reconvene mid-April to approve the Capital Budget. The Mayor will share any additional information when it becomes available with the Committee.

To review the 10 Year Capital Improvement Program and to take any action as necessary.

No action taken.

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Adjournment.

John Smith made a motion seconded by Mary Fortier to adjourn at 4:59 p.m. Motion approved.

Jodi A. McGrane

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Recording Secretary