

MEETING MINUTES

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT & PROJECTS COMMITTEE Wednesday, April 15, 2015 - 5:00 p.m. – Municipal Building

The Capital Equipment & Projects Committee members: Morack, Barrington, Herter, Romberg and Way (5:20).

Others present: Henke, O'Connell (5:10), Steinhorst, Hager, Radke, Bodoh, Hunt, Hoerth, Watling, and Schlais.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm. Morack/Barrington to adopt agenda. Carried 5-0.

City Treasurer Judy Radke introduced Library Board members Greg Watling and Ginny Schlais. Judy explained that she had previously met with the Library Board at their request to visit with them about the City budget process. She also was asked to research and report to the Library Board on what it would look like financially for the average taxpayer if there was sufficient debt issued to construct a new library. Judy asked the City financial consultants, Ehlers and Associates to do some research as well. Library Board members Greg Watling and Ginny Schlais informed the Committee that no specific plans are in place at this time regarding a new library; rather they are initiating a discussion about the topic of a new facility. It is important to get the topic of a new library worked into the City capital budget plans and now is the time to do so. It was noted that the upcoming construction of a new City Garage was on the books for nearly 20 years. It is important to have all taxing entities in the community work together particularly regarding major new capital projects. We all need to be on the same page to try and mesh our plans together; this is particularly so regarding the School District and the City. We all need to work together for a plan for our future that is affordable for all of us. The Committee thanked Greg and Ginny for their comments and assured them that the lines of communication are open and the Library Commission's future plans will receive the appropriate consideration.

Chairman Romberg reminded everyone that in prior discussions the Committee had asked City Staff to work up a plan for a debt issuance of \$7 million. In the capital planning process that has been conducted over the past 8 months, over \$8 million dollars of capital projects and equipment were identified in the first three years of the ten-year plan. There is a need to reconsider the priorities placed on the equipment and projects to cut back the requests to the \$7 million budget now being planned for. We need to get a better handle on the specific costs for these items and to determine if some of the projects can be postponed or phased in. Chairman Romberg suggested that each City Committee work in more detail on the capital projects and equipment plan and make adjustments in order to fit into the proposed \$7 million dollar debt issuance budget.

After discussion regarding this matter, the Capital Equipment and Projects Committee will meet again on Thursday, June 11th at 5:00 pm to consider the results of the additional work that City Committees will accomplish to refine our future plan, particularly the plan for the next three years.

A motion was made by Morack to adjourn, seconded by Barrington. Carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 5:22 pm.