

CIAC - Capital Improvement Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2020
Via Zoom

Present: Jamie Gossels, Tom Travers, Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, Michael Cooper, Matt Dallas
Absent: Sue Abrams,

Also Present: William Barletta (Sudbury Combined Facilities Director), Beth Suedmeyer (Environmental Planner), Jennifer Roberts (Select Board), Daniel Carty (Select Board), Janie Dretler (Select Board), Scott Smigler (Finance Committee), Henry Hayes (Town Manager), Len Simon (Citizen)

Chair Gossels, following acknowledgement of a quorum, called the meeting to order at **7:04 PM**.

1) Minutes of the March 12, 2020 meeting (with attachment of CIAC report).

Motion to accept the March 12, 2020 minutes as presented was seconded.

Aye- Jaime Gossels, Tom Travers, Michael Cooper, and Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi

Abstain- Matt Dallas

2) Presentation of the CSX Corridor Acquisition under Article 17 of the 2020 Annual Town Warrant

Ms. Suedmeyer and Ms. Roberts made a presentation regarding the purchase by the Town of Sudbury of 11.26 acres and 1.4 miles of rail road tracks from Union Station and continuing to the Framingham town line. The price of this proposed purchase is \$1,220,500. \$820,500 would be raised by a debt exclusion and \$400,000 would be funded by state grants received which could be applied to the purchase. This corridor purchase could be used to develop a multi-use rail trail and bicycle path, for open space, conservation, and active recreation purposes or other municipal purposes in the Commonwealth.

Five reasons presented for purchasing this corridor are:

- 1) It will be a buffer for conservation land
- 2) Protect critical drinking and natural resources
- 3) Enables the possible southwest extension of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail.
- 4) Links neighborhoods, business districts and open space, and
- 5) Facilitates control of potential development or utility use.

Members of the committee had questions about the value, other uses other than a rail trail and whether this was the sole opportunity to purchase this land. Members wanted to review the \$1,145,000 appraisal of the land and hear what was discussed and presented at the Select Board meeting on Tuesday September 8, 2020 regarding this purchase.

A motion was made and seconded to take a vote on the CSX purchase. The vote would be subject to possible reconsideration after hearing the Select Board's discussion and review of the appraisal. **Mr. Barletta will post a meeting for either Wednesday September 9, 2020 or Thursday September 10, 2020 for the committee to have a potential revised vote.**

Aye- Jamie Gossels

Nye- Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, Michael Cooper, Matt Dallas

Abstain- Tom Travers

3) Review of relevant Town Meeting Articles and CIAC positions on those Articles.

Chair Gossels presented the Annual Town Meeting warrant articles that were considered by the CIAC.

Town Manager Hayes informed the committee that due to the Covid-19 certain capital projects that had been presented and voted on by CIAC were eliminated in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant by agreement of the various sponsors of the capital projects.

The committee by unanimous vote agreed that there was no need to change our position on any of the CIAC related articles.

Aye- Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, Tom Travers, Michael Cooper, Matt Dallas, Jamie Gossels.

4) Recruitment of new member for the open position on the committee

Mr. Barletta was going to post the opening for the open position on the committee with the hope that we would fill it before the 2022 capital project reviews began.

5) Selection of 2020-2021 Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk.

A motion was made and seconded to elect the following for 2020-2021:

Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi – Chair

Tom Travers – Vice Chair

Susan Abrams – Clerk

Aye- Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, Tom Travers, Michael Cooper, Matt Dallas, Jamie Gossels.

6) Date for next meeting.

The committee agreed that due to Covid-19 no meetings would be schedule until the situation warranted a meeting. The one exception was for the September 9, 2020 or September 10, 2020 meeting for possible reconsideration of the CSX corridor purchase.

7) Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

Aye- Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, Tom Travers, Michael Cooper, Matt Dallas, Jamie Gossels.