

CIAC - Capital Improvement Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2023
6:06 PM – 8:13 PM
Via Zoom

Present: Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, Matt Dallas, Sue Abrams, Peter Iovanella, Tom Travers, Lisa Saklad

Chairman Asbedian-Ciaffi, following confirmation of a quorum, called the meeting to order at 6:06PM.

Vote taken to call the meeting to order:

Dallas: Aye Asbedian-Ciaffi: Aye Saklad: Aye Abrams: Aye Iovanella: Aye Travers: Aye

Item 1: Approval of minutes from March 1, 2023.

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2023 CIAC meeting by Sue Abrams, seconded by Tom Travers.

Dallas: Aye Asbedian-Ciaffi: Aye Abrams: Aye Iovanella: Aye Travers: Aye Saklad: Aye

Item 2: Review of Town Meeting articles

Discussion and Questions

Article 43: BFRT/CSX Extension

\$300,000 (CPA Approved)

Discussion:

- Town Meeting in 2022 appropriated \$300,000. \$86,220 of that funding has been spent. A MassTrails Grant provides an 80% match for funds spent until June, 2023. That would mean a \$240,000 matching grant.
- The current \$300,000 funding request for this project (advancement of the CSX portion/corridor of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail) has been approved by CPC. The funds will be used for design and construction of the project. The BFRT/CRX committee will seek an additional MassTrails Grant for the distance from AAA to Route 20.
- The BFRT/CRX committee decided that continuing the trail to the Framingham is the best option because it will make the project eligible for federal funding through a Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) grant.
- Framingham is currently negotiating to purchase the section from the Sudbury line to Eden Rd.

Motion to recommend approval of Article 43 by Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi and seconded by Matt Dallas.

Dallas: Aye Asbedian-Ciaffi: Aye Abrams: Aye Iovanella: Aye Travers: Aye Saklad: Aye

Article 45: Feeley Field Phase II

\$799,688 (CPA Approved)

Discussion:

- The water department is aware of this project and the need for irrigation for the lower Feeley fields. Park and Rec will work with the water department to address any concerns. The final design will assure that there is no runoff/soil drainage flow towards Zone 1.
- If the water department requests a meter, one will be installed. A well for irrigation was determined to be too costly. This was the only piece of the project that received value engineering.
- Regarding the dugouts: Phase I has 2 fields and 4 dugouts. Phase II has 1 field and 2 dugouts. Costs for Phase II dugouts should be similar to the cost of Phase I dugouts.
- \$100,000 toward the \$799,688 will come from Meadow Walk mitigation funds.

Motion to recommend approval of Article 45 by Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, seconded by Peter Iovanella.

Dallas: Aye Asbedian-Ciaffi: Aye Abrams: Aye Iovanella: Aye Travers: Aye Saklad: Aye

Item 3: Review of CIAC Report for the Finance Committee and Select Board

- There was a discussion about how a capital plan would be coordinated. Director Duran will be instrumental in developing a plan.
- Several edits and additions were made to the draft report.
- Tom Travers drafted a draft addendum to the report on the CIAC recommendations. It was decided that it should be included in the report because this is the best way to formalize the concerns regarding estimates vs final numbers and the need for robust capital planning going forward. The committee agreed to include the addendum in our report.

- It was decided to include the following comment in the report, in an effort to relay this concern to the Finance Committee.

The CIAC's recommendations and support for the articles are based on the estimates provided. Any material changes in cost from the estimates could potentially have an impact on the CIAC's recommendation for the applicable articles.

Motion to approve the CIAC's final recommendations to the Finance Committee and Select Board by Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, seconded by Sue Abrams.

Dallas: Aye Asbedian-Ciaffi: Aye Abrams: Aye Iovanella: Aye Travers: Aye Saklad: Aye

Other Business:

The committee will meet before Town Meeting but the meeting scheduled for March 15 will be cancelled.

A motion to adjourn at 8:31 was made by Tom Travers and seconded by Peter Iovanella.

Dallas: Aye Asbedian-Ciaffi: Aye Abrams: Aye Iovanella: Aye Travers: Aye Saklad: Aye

Next meeting TBD.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Abrams
Clerk