

**MEETING OF THE
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE
Saturday, February 28, 2009**

Town Council Chambers, 3rd floor of the Memorial Building, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut

Chairperson M. Lisa Moody called the meeting to order at 9:23 a.m.

In Attendance:

Present: Capital Improvement Committee Members Mark Etre, Marie A. Herbst, M. Lisa Moody, Timothy J. Poloski, and Mark Vesco.

Also Present: Jason L. McCoy, Mayor; James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer; John D. Ward, Town Administrator

Business Items:

Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Luddecke presented the capital improvement proposal book for fiscal year 2009 -2010 through 2014-2015 to the Committee which along with department requests, included the current six-year plan as approved for fiscal year 2008-2009; a vehicle listing; and a separate worksheet of requested items for fiscal year 2009-2010.

A discussion was held concerning the requests from the following departments and their representatives: Animal Control – Craig Segar; Data Processing – Arthur Beirn; Fire and Ambulance – William Call; Police Department – James Kenny; Planning Department – Len Tundermann; Parks and Recreation – Bruce Dinnie; Town Clerk – Bernice Dixon.

The worksheet, as revised, was approved unanimously as an provisional list to recommend to the Mayor, pending final action at the next meeting on March 7, 2009; and is attached to these minutes.

Stimulus Package

If approved for federal stimulus funding, the Committee approved all such projects and equipment submitted for said funding.

Parks and Recreation

Director, Bruce Dinnie, informed the Committee that all projects submitted for fiscal year 2009-2010 could be moved forward one year; with the exception of the Community Pool – sandblast and paint project. Mr. Dinnie suggested that the original request of \$25,000 be reduced to \$21,000. The Committee concurred with those recommendations.

Mrs. Herbst made a motion, seconded by the Chair, to include \$15,000 for the Valley Falls Park Nature Center renovations. After a discussion, the Committee voted against the motion, 4 to 1, with Mrs. Herbst voting in the affirmative.

Police

Police Chief James Kenny informed the Committee about the proposed project in fiscal year 2011-2012 of a radio upgrade from analog to digital, estimated at \$1,060,900. The Committed suggested that the Fire Chief review the fire department's requirements and explore the possibility of cost savings by combining with the police project.

State Representative Claire Janowski spoke to the Committee concerning the recent removal of funding for bridge projects; and will continue to update the Committee and administration of any further action by the General Assembly and funding alternatives.

The motion to approve the projects on the bond improvement list, as attached to these minutes, was carried unanimously, with the provision that the administration research the addition of the reconstruction of an additional road in areas throughout the town, exclusive of the northeast region. The motion to approve the projects was done so for purposes of advancing discussion by the Town Council and public in preparation for a town-wide vote on the bond proposal.

The Committee also recognized that although several of the bond improvement projects are not listed on the six-year capital improvement plan, most notably school projects, to avoid any misinterpretation that may lead to funding duplication, it is intended that the bond projects be considered as part of the six-year capital improvement plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.