

Town of Cromwell  
Board of Finance Special Meeting  
Thursday, February 14, 2008  
7:00 p.m.  
Cromwell Town Hall  
Room 224/225

Record of Votes / Minutes

Present: Chairman Michael Gengler, Loraine Caruso, Donna DiMauro, Edwin Maley Jr.  
Joe Corlis Alternate Jack Henehen & John Flanders

Also Present: Finance Director Marianne Sylvester.

A. Call to Order:

B. Citizens Comments:

Al Diaz - Thistle Dow, Cromwell resident spoke on the importance to capitalize and maximize the costs for these proposals.

C. New Business:

1. To consider and take action on one or more proposals with respect to an appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to improvements to various Town infrastructure and facilities contemplated to include, but not limited to expansion of parking, landscaping, land and easement acquisitions related to the town infrastructure and facilities and related appurtenances for use by the Cromwell High football team and for other recreational and athletic uses, and related matters.

(a) Nooks Hill Road Improvements

Loraine Caruso made a motion, seconded by Donna DiMauo, to recommend to Town Meeting the resolution regarding the appropriation of \$238,000 and authorizing the issuing of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to improvements to portions of Nooks Hill Road and it was unanimously approved. Motion Passed.

Marianne Sylvester - Finance Director commented on the widening of the road to mitigate the drainage issue in the road to widen the curbs John Flanders mentioned that this is one of the most dangerous areas in town. Edwin Maley Jr. stated that it is a jurisdictional issue and that we have no control over the bridge only the areas around the bridge. The bridge will not be repaired for a number of years. Jack Henehan mentioned that the scope of the trestle could be changed based on language.

Marianne Sylvester stated that there are limited funds available and there are constant complaints of fire trucks having difficulty accessing. This would be an odd project to allocated funds for at this time a plan is needed to be set into place. We need to look at what has to be fixed immediately on Nooks Hill Road rather than long term.

(b) Various Town Infrastructure and Facility Improvements

John Flanders made a motion to, seconded by Alternate Jack Henehan, to recommend to Town Meeting the resolution regarding the appropriation of 5,311,000 and authorizing the issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the

appropriation, for costs related to improvements to various Town Infrastructure and facilities and it was unanimously approved. Motion Passed.

Donna DiMauro is a resident of Chelsea Estates and recused herself. Alternate Jack Henehan will be voting on this issue.

John Flanders commented that this had to do with the revitalization of the Main Street area updating with lights, parking and sidewalks. Edwin Maley Jr. commented that this has more to do with the aesthetics of the area.

(c) Various Recreational and Athletic Facilities Renovations and Improvements.

Loraine Caruso made a motion, seconded by Donna DiMauro to recommend to Town Meeting the resolution regarding the appropriation of \$825,000 and authorizing the issuing of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to improvements to various Recreation and Athletic Facilities Renovations and Improvements, Donna DiMauro, Loraine Caruso, Chairman Michael Gengler and Joe Corlis were in favor. Edwin Maley Jr. and John Flanders opposed. Motion Passed.

Rick Mandeville went over the fact that this is a matter of setting the money in place for the schools and fields. Bonding was put forth voted on by the recreational committee that is seeking reimbursement. Edwin Maley Jr. does not see any reason to split the two.

Marianne Sylvester went over the resolutions of the work project and the 1/2 reimbursement to the state to facilitate state funds with these would be applied for at the legislature by June of 2008 to be acted on by June of 2009. Edwin Maley Jr. expressed his concerns with conflicting statements from the work product and this is not a well thought out plan. Loraine Caruso felt that this item was not explored enough and is very upset that no one took the time to look into this Alternate Jack Henehan felt the same he feels that there is a lack of clarity.

2. To consider and take action on one or more proposals with respect to an appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to renovations and improvements to Edna C. Stevens Elementary School, Cromwell Middle School and Cromwell High School and related matters.

(a) Roof Replacement, Asbestos removal and General Renovations

Loraine Caruso made a motion, seconded by Donna DiMauro to recommend to Town Meeting the resolution regarding the appropriation of \$7,167,000 and authorizing the issuing of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to improvement to Edna C. Stevens Elementary School and Cromwell Middle School Roof Replacement, Asbestos Removal and General Renovations and Improvements, and it was unanimously approved. Motion Passed.

The Edna C. Stevens Elementary School has met the 50% reimbursement fee for this project. To qualify they have to be over 1 million to make the threshold for administrative level after that it goes to the legislature level. This is an independent capital cost and is more expensive due to the new technology of roofing. However, there will be a reduction in costs for the electrical consumption used. Mr. Maley stated that this is a plan of substantial rehabilitation. Chairman Michael Gengler discussed possible funding through state and federal to receive more money that may be available for funding.

Alternate Jack Henehan asked about the long range planning committee and using them to our maximum potential. Joe Corlis discussed the importance of the solar panel roof and how it will prevent water damage to the schools. The money for this is only available

for a certain time period and is highly important to set a system in place. The solar panels will be a long-term benefit. John Flanders felt that this is a good thing to pursue and it is a reasonably good recommendation. Rick Mandeville went over the bonding pricing with the contract. Loraine Caruso agrees with everyone's comments for funding only for the threshold period.

(b) Security and Safety Issues, General Site Renovations

John Flanders made a motion, seconded by Loraine Caruso to recommend to Town Meeting and Resolution regarding the appropriation of \$1277,000 and authorizing the issuing of bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to Security, Safety issues, and General Site Renovations and Improvements to various Town School Facilities and it was unanimously approved. Motion Passed.

Rick Mandeville gave an overview of the growing of better security of the school buildings. They have accessed visual badges and proximity devices for staffing, they have a simple box on the wall for handicap access with high maintenance and they have a 3rd camera system, complete fencing, lighting, playground improvements, shed, and bigger bleachers for soccer.

D. Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Milardo  
Clerk