

**Special Board of Finance Meeting
July 25, 2006**

A special meeting of the Board of Finance was held on Tuesday, July 25, 2006 in the City Hall, Council Chambers, 1st floor. The following Commissioners were in attendance: Chairman Richard Miecznikowski, Mayor William T. Stortz, Vice Chairman Roald Erling, Commissioners Robert J. Dunlap, Ronald Messier, Donald Soucy, and Delores Capers. Commissioner John Smith was absent.

July 17, 2006

Ladies and Gentlemen:

There will be a Special Board of Finance Meeting on Tuesday, July 25, 2006 immediately following the regular Board of Finance meeting in City Council Chambers.

Agenda

1. **Chairman Miecznikowski to call the meeting to order.**
2. **Discuss and approve the 2006-2007 Capital Budget in the amount of \$8,165,500 or as amended.**
3. **Adjournment.**

**PER ORDER OF THE CHAIRMAN
Richard Miecznikowski**

1. **Chairman Miecznikowski to call the meeting to order.**

Chairman Miecznikowski called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

2. **Discuss and approve the 2006-2007 Capital Budget in the amount of \$8,165,500 or as amended.**

Chairman Miecznikowski asked Comptroller Glenn Klocko to briefly discuss the debt situation of the City, how much debt we have, how much debt is anticipated and the affect on the City's financial situation.

Comptroller Klocko explained the five year Capital Improvement Plan is up for discussion, which the first year is called the Capital Budget and is the only year the Board is required to fund legally. The other years are called the out years and are important for the City and rating agencies, but the appropriation carries no legal weight.

Once the budget is approved it will be referred to the Planning Commission. Things are out of order this year; normally Planning Commission would approve the plan before the Board of Finance reviews it. After Planning Commission approves the plan, the Joint Board will approve and adopt it. If an addition, a new project is added, it must go back

to the Planning Commission. After Joint Board approves the plan, Bond Counsel will produce resolutions which come back to the Board of Finance.

Using June 30, 2006 financials there is roughly \$38 million in outstanding debt. Each year approximately \$1.5 million in principal is retired. During the past fiscal year \$11 million in Bond Anticipation Notes were issues with \$9.1 million critical to the city (the rest was Water Department). Another 5.5 million will be issued for Ivy Drive and Mountain View school projects. The proposed Capital Budget has a total bonding of \$5.5 million which debt will be issued around the end of January. The City has a policy to issue debt once every two years, which is the norm for a City Bristol's size.

Glenn Klocko discussed with the Board his conversations with the City's Bond Counsel and Financial Advisors regarding the City's financial situation if the proposed debt is issued and where it would place the City among others and with the rating agencies.

07-26 City Clerk Vault Space.

Mayor Stortz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Erling.

"To approve item 07-36 City Clerk Vault Space. "

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

07-30 GIS System.

This project would provide the City of Bristol with a GIS System. The system would serve all City departments as well as the public. The information available under this system is valuable and can be shared amongst the public safety and public works departments more effectively as well as enhance and save time researching various properties. The cost is estimated to be \$1,000,000. This years request would provide the necessary software to get started with the project. The initial funding of \$200,000 would come from general fund cash and the remaining costs in the out years would come from the issuance of bonds.

Scott Smith, MIS Manager, explained the project would be built in layers. The initial money would be to purchase the basic parcel layer and software. The parcel layer is useful for all departments. Each layer the City adds will provide additional features along with additional costs. Engineering work would need to be done to update maps, which may incur additional costs.

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.

"To delay item 07-30 GIS System to next year."

Following a voice vote the Chairman declared the motion carried. Commissioner Messier and Commissioner Soucy voted no.

07-24 Fire Department Feasibility/Renovation Study

This would be a feasibility/renovation study for Engine 2, 3, 4, 5. This project would address obtaining renovations to the existing firehouses throughout the City. The present buildings are over 40 years old. The eventual scope would be the renovation to update and modernize the buildings. The cost of the study is estimated to be \$72,500 and the funding source would come from the General Fund Reserve (Fund Balance).

Chief Pose clarified the study does not include Engine 1 Headquarters because a few years ago a study was done and put on hold because the future of downtown was unknown at the time and there was a possibility of relocating Engine 1.

Commissioner Messier made a motion seconded by Commissioner Soucy.

“To approve project 07-24 Fire Department Feasibility Study.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

07-27 Parks Department- Birge/Hoppers Trails & Roberts Property

Councilwoman Zoppo explained the project has been in the planning stages for the past 7 years, since the property was bought in the late 90's. The past three months have been spent considering different options of the conceptual drawing which was presented in the spring. The original request was for \$650,000 which was raised to \$6,650,000 during the Mayor's Capital Improvement Committee meeting. \$300,000 is being set aside for improvements to the Birge/Hoppers Trails. The two pieces have been considered together as one project because the Hoppers compliment the Robert's Property by providing passive recreation activities. The original request of \$350,000 was for the entrance, gateway treatments, start of the driveway and original parking. Additional funding would be used to lay the groundwork of the project along with the utilities. The City's interest is high in the project, each meeting consists of at least a dozen public participants, and many people follow the project in the papers. The request now is for \$2,650,000 this year, which will complete the majority of the project. Additional State funding will be sought in a variety of ways, to reduce the cost to the City, but the amount of funding is unknown at this time.

Commissioner Erling questioned Ellen if this project will produce any income to the City. Ellen stated there will be a fee based structure used for those who want to rent out the fields along with opportunities for tournament play. There is a concession stand similar to that of Muzzy Field the City can contract out. There will be employee and maintenance issues that will have to be addressed. Councilman McCauley has made site visits to other cities that own synthetic fields to find out about the associated costs with a synthetic field.

Mayor Stortz pointed out the fact that our other fields will get a chance to rest and may require less maintenance if they are not used as much, which can be a slight cost savings to the City.

Chairman Miecznikowski requested to know what the original \$650,000 would cover. Since \$300,000 is set aside for Birge Pond, the \$350,000 remaining would cover some of the

entrance, some of the sidewalks, some paving, storm water management, excavation and draining.

Chairman Miecznikowski asked if the \$350,000 allocated for Roberts Property would be enough to live with for now, until next year when more funding can be allocated.

Councilwoman Zoppo stated no it would not be enough. The project has been eight years in the making and a repercussion of putting the project will be an increase in cost which is expected to raise 5-7% per year.

Mayor Stortz addressed the Board stating the City spent 1.2 million dollars in 1998 and if the City makes this kind of commitment, now or in the future people need to realize there will be more to it. The City will be seeking funding from the State but it will be frivolous to look for help if the City is not willing to put up money themselves. If the City puts up nothing, we are likely to get nothing in return.

Councilwoman Zoppo explained the site preparation costs are estimated at \$2 million, because if you have seen the sight, one would know there is a slope and excavation will need to be done. This piece of property is not your normal property where work can just begin. The best way to accomplish this would be to do it all at once. It doesn't make any sense to piece mail it.

Councilwoman Zoppo continued to explain the benefits the property will have for the City. Essentially a number of local groups will be able to benefit from the use of the fields. In particular, the men's slow pitch league was displaced from the Mix Street field and could use a field. If any of the City's recreational activities saves just one child or one group of children because they have had something to do other than the alternate plan the City has done their job.

Councilwoman Zoppo stated she would be very disappointed if the Board did not approve the \$2,650,000 for the project to keep the momentum going on a project the community is deeply involved in. She would be willing to work with the out years and stretch the project over three years instead of two, but the initial money is necessary.

Also, after August 25th the City will not have access to the property because West Cemetery owns the only entrance which will be closed and fenced by the association.

Councilwoman Zoppo expressed her concerns, without the \$2,000,000 the project will not be able to get off the ground and she will not be happy with any other amount. Ellen feels based on the community input and people who have come to the meetings, who have been waiting anxiously for the project, the Board will hear about this if they do not approve the funding.

Commissioner Soucy made a motion seconded by Mayor Stortz.

"To accept the funded as presented funding \$2,650,000 in the 06-07 fiscal year."

A roll call vote was taken:

Commissioner Messier: Yes

Commissioner Erling: No

Commissioner Soucy: Yes

Commissioner Capers: No

Commissioner Mayor Stortz: Yes

Commissioner Dunlap: No

Chairman Miecznikowski: No

Motion failed. Yes- 3 No- 4

Glenn stated the entire project was denied, Chairman Miecznikowski clarified it was because Ellen wanted an all or nothing deal. Councilman McCauley explained, with all due respect, as explained the \$2.65 million is what was needed to get started. A million dollars is worthless, it might as well be zero.

Ed Swicklas asked the Board for the \$300,000 to do work to the Hoppers and Birge Pond, he has waited since 1974 to do work there. If the majority of the project is defeated, the Hoppers section should still be saved.

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap
"To appropriate \$300,000 for Birge Pond/Hoppers."

Following a voice vote the Chairman declared the motion carried. Commissioner Messier and Commissioner Soucy voted no.

Mayor Stortz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap
"To appropriate \$700,000 for the Roberts Property."

Councilwoman Zoppo respectfully thanked the Board but stated that she was not bluffing, if the \$2.65 million was not approved, the money would just sit there and not be used for the project.

Commissioner Messier: No	Commissioner Erling: No
Commissioner Soucy: No	Commissioner Capers: Yes
Commissioner Mayor Stortz: Yes	Commissioner Dunlap: Yes
Chairman Miecznikowski: Yes	

Motion Failed. Yes- 4 No- 3.

07-28 Parks- Underground Tank Removal

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.
"To approve project 07-28 Parks- Underground Tank Removal."

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Commissioner Soucy left the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

07-29 Parks- Roof Replacement at Malone Aquatic Center

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Messier.
"To approve project 07-29 Parks- Roof Replacement at Malone Aquatic Center."

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mayor Stortz left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

07-25 Parks- Remove Pond Sediment from Page Park

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.

“To approve project 07-25 Parks- Remove Pond Sediment from Page Park.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

07-26 Parks- Tennis Courts & Basketball Courts Repaint

Commissioner Dunlap made a motion seconded by Commissioner Erling.

“To approve project 07-25 Parks- Remove Pond Sediment from Page Park.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

07-32 Water- Bypass Line Reservoir #7 to #1

Commissioner Dunlap made a motion seconded by Commissioner Erling.

“To approve project 07-32 Water- Bypass Line Reservoir #7 to #1.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

07-35 BOE- Parapet Walls- Memorial Blvd/Jennings

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Messier.

“To approve project 07-35 BOE- Parapet Walls- Memorial Blvd/Jennings.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

07-20 WPC- Rehabilitation of Broad Street Pump Station

Commissioner Dunlap made a motion seconded by Commissioner Erling.

“To approve project 07-20 WPC Rehab. of Broad Street Pump Station.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

07-21 WPC- Broad Street Sanitary Flow- Contributing Area

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.

“To approve project 07-21 WPC Broad Street Sanitary Flow- Contributing Area”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Comptroller Klocko stated Ed Swicklas is requesting to take item 07-25 out of cash instead of LoCIP because the project needs to be completed now.

Commissioner Erling made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.

“To fund project 07-25 Parks- Remove Sediment from Page Park from Cash instead of LoCIP.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mayor Stortz returned to the meeting.

- 07-01 PW- Transfer Station
- 07-02 PW- PW Garage Rehab- Architectural
- 07-03 PW- PW Everett Street and Hoover Ave
- 07-04 PW- South Street widening- Main to West
- 07-06 PW- Rehab Hill Street
- 07-07 PW- Rehab North Main Street
- 07-08 PW- Rehab Mix Street
- 07-09 PW- Rehab Round Hill Road- Phase 1
- 07-10 PW- Real. Union, South Church Streets
- 07-11 PW- Rehab Tracey Court
- 07-12 PW- Rehab Round Hill Road- Phase 2
- 07-14 PW- Rehab Jennings Terrace
- 07-15 PW- Sidewalks Willowbrook Road
- 07-16 PW- Chapel Street & Maxine Road Water Stops
- 07-17 PW- Matthews Street Culvert Replacement
- 07-18 PW- Main Street Culvert Replacement
- 07-19 PW- North Main Street Culvert Replacement

Chairman Miecznikowski asked Public Works Director Walter Veselka if the projects were all top priority or if there were any projects that could be put off. Walter responded, they are all priority items to maintain the infrastructure of the City. Some of the items are study items to get ready for actual construction. In preparation for the Route 72 expansion, South Street will become a highly traveled alternate route. There are five projects which are for design work only. The Round Hill Road project is project into two phases because some work will be done in the fall and the rest will be done in the spring.

Commissioner Dunlap asked if any of the projects will alleviate any of the flooding issues the City has experienced the past few years. Walter responded these projects will not ease the flooding issues; they are mainly road maintenance projects.

Mayor Stortz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.

“To approve the Public Works projects 07-01 to 07-19”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

07-33 Police- City Traffic Control Signals

Mayor Stortz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Capers.

“To approve project 07-33 Police City Traffic Controls Signals.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

3. Adjournment.

Mayor Stortz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dunlap.

“To adjourn at 9:17p.m.”

Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

Attest:



Glenn S. Klocko
Board of Finance Clerk