



March 30, 2017

TO: Board of Finance, Board of Selectman

FROM: William McKersie, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools, Ellen Uzenoff, Board of Education Chairperson

CC: Board of Education, Jonathan Luiz, Town Administrator, Richard Rudl Director of Finance & Operations

SUBJECT: Board Approved FY 2018 Replacement Capital Budget

Special Meeting of the Board of Education 3-31-2017

At a Special Meeting on March 31, 2017, the Board of Education adopted a recommended modification to the previously approved FY 2018 capital budget. Adopted unanimously, the motion of the Board of Education reads:

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education replaces its previously approved FY 18 Capital Budget of \$482,600 (with the specific projects contained therein) with a capital budget for FY 18 in the aggregate amount of \$420,687 (with the capital and security infrastructure projects recommended by the Superintendent in his March 30, 2017 memorandum to the Board of Education) (the "Revised FY 18 Capital Budget Request"). Furthermore, the Board of Education authorizes the Chairperson of the Board of Education and the Superintendent to issue a letter to the Weston Board of Finance and the Weston Board of Selectman notifying them of this action and requesting that the \$380,000 in undesignated capital funds, from closed Town and Board of Education projects, previously requested by the Board of Education on February 3, 2017, for security infrastructure projects, be applied instead to the Revised FY 18 Capital Budget Request. The Board of Education notes that this will result in a request for new funds of only \$40,687. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Spaulding, all in favor. (7-0)

Board Approved Replacement Capital Budget FY 2018

At the end of last fiscal year, the Board of Education and Town of Weston closed out existing capital accounts for projects that were completed under budget. This allowed for \$380,000 to fall to the Town's undesignated capital fund balance. The Board of Education had voted earlier this year (February 2, 2017) to request a special appropriation to use the \$380,000 balance for Security Infrastructure. Now, as a way to maximize the use of Town of Weston resources and respond to concerns about possible state reductions, the Board of Education approved using the \$380,000 of existing funds to be applied to a mix of Capital and Security Infrastructure items, resulting in a revised Capital Budget covering the following:

1. Air Conditioning and Electrical Upgrade of South House and East House at Hurlbutt	\$280,000
2. 9-1-1 Enable (Emergency Gateway Appliance)	\$30,000
3. Engineering Study for Repair of Knee Walls at WIS	\$15,000
4. Security Infrastructure*	\$44,187
5. Removal and Replacement of Oil Tank at Hurlbutt**	\$51,500
Total Capital Budget	\$420,687

**See explanation below of Security Infrastructure Budget.*

***Hurlbutt Oil Tank must be removed since it is at the end of its useful life. Failure to remove the oil tank could result in a fine of up to \$10,000 per day. An additional \$8,500 from the sinking fund would be used for the removal.*

The request of \$420,687 would require additional capital funds above the existing \$380,000 in the undesignated capital fund balance of \$40,687. **The \$40,687 would represent the only new tax burden on the residents of Weston for Board of Education capital projects in FY 2018. This would result in a reduction to the Board of Education's capital budget request for FY 2018 in the amount of \$441,913.** We would require approval from the Board of Selectman and the Board of Finance for the use of the existing \$380,000 of undesignated capital funds. The amount of \$40,687 would require approval at referendum as this would represent the only new money requested for capital projects.

The Board of Education also requests the Chevy Suburban replacement vehicle for Special Education transportation remain in the Town's Vehicle Sinking Fund for FY 18.

Capital Projects that will be deferred based on this plan:

1. Exterior Cameras District Wide	\$312,872
2. Refinishing the Gym Floor at Weston High School:	\$35,000
3. Replace Cove Base and Ceiling Tiles at Weston Middle School:	\$27,000
4. Energy Management Upgrade at Weston Middle School:	\$15,000
5. HVAC Controls for G-Wing at Weston Middle School:	\$20,600
Total	\$410,472

A 10 Year Master Plan Facility Study is being conducted by Silver Petrucelli and Milone and MacBroom. After this study is completed, we will begin to prioritize the deferred projects and the other items noted in the original FY 2018 Capital Budget as Tier 2 and Tier 3 (future year) priorities.

Update on Security Infrastructure Budget FY 2018

For the purpose of update, we want the Board of Finance to be aware of the Board of Education's plans for Security Infrastructure spending in FY 2018. We have available \$99,675 for Security Infrastructure Projects in an existing Security Capital Account. We also have been notified by the State of Connecticut that we have been awarded a grant reimbursement for Security Projects in the amount of \$120,719. While we have not received the funding, we have received signed notification of the grant. This leaves available \$220,394 for security infrastructure investments, which added to the \$44,187 noted above in the Capital Budget (Item #4), would allow for a Security Infrastructure Budget of \$264,581 in FY 2018 covering the following:

1. Interior Cameras District Wide	\$152,945
2. Mass Notification	\$111,347
Total:	\$264,292

We would be moving forward on a portion of our master security infrastructure enhancement plan, with remaining items in future years to include:

1. Exterior Camera's District Wide	\$312,872
2. Hybrid PBX Phone System (Planned for FY 20)	\$225,785
3. Fencing at Hurlbutt	\$30,000
Total Remaining Security Projects:	\$568,657

Conclusion

We look forward to the deliberations and vote of the Board of Finance on April 3, 2017 regarding the Board of Education's Operating Budget and the Replacement Capital Budget FY 2018. We believe the two budgets optimize the needs of the Weston Public Schools and the judicious application of Town of Weston financial resources.