

Adopted Minutes

Henniker CIP Committee

Sept. 10, 2009

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Leon Parker (Vice Chairman)

Present-Lisa Hustis-Steve Connor, Leon Parker, Joe Damour and John Getts and Peter Flynn and Jean Lewis.

Leon moved that Joe Damour be nominated as Chair. This was seconded by Steve Connor. All voted in the affirmative.

Leon will remain as Vice Chair.

Joe Damour explained that the Board of Selectmen used to do a twenty-year plan. He stated that previous completed projects should be built back into the CIP in the long-term future and not just the short term.

Leon Parker stated that the Board of Selectmen tries to focus on the tax rate. People reflected the media driven hysteria.

He said that the Committee needs to defend their work more aggressively.

Joe Damour mentioned that he would find his old spreadsheet to illustrate his twenty-year plan format.

John Getts explained that for some time it has been the philosophy to “pay as you go” of which Joe Damour mentioned that we should not go back to that method.

Steve Connor said we should keep constancy in the bottom line number and Joe D. Responded that it always didn't work that way.

Joe said that we had been inserting \$90,000. in the operating budget and it should go back on the CIP listing. Leon stated the problem in that the state prefers that it be in the budget because it is for repairs and that the life span of a new road should be 50 years and a repair 20 years for rehab.

The effect of the population was also discussed.

The committee focused on priorities: Roads, Emergency services etc.

Steve Connor brought up the issue of ‘public education’ of the importance of the recommendations of the committee. He felt that a better sales job would be of benefit.

Leon stated that the economy is looking better this year and investments are improving.

Jean Lewis said, "Unless the taxes are kept even, the older people will leave".

Discussions of going out twenty-five years took place and Steve Connor mentioned that the insurance regs dictate the replacement of fire equipment. The committee would like a survey from John Margeson as to the life span of his equipment through an inventory survey.

Lisa said that the CIP needs to be replenished and the best thing is for Department Heads to focus on the real future.

Joe Damour requested a list of equipment from the Highway Department, Fire Rescue and Transfer Station.

The Committee requested information re: School bond listings and to ask each department what has been put off in the last five years.

It was the consensus to maintain our current level of services without having added equipment.

Joe Damour volunteered to attend the next Department Head meeting and follow-up with the Selectmen on October 6, 2009.

Motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm by Leon Parker seconded by John Getts. All voted in the affirmative 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Flynn