Town of Plympton Community Preservation Committee

**Minutes of October 15, 2019**

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) met on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the Plympton Town House.

**Members Present:**   Chairman Mark Russo; Deb Anderson; Irv Butler; Susan Ossoff; Jane Schulze

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Russo at 6:00 pm.

Newly appointed CPC member Justin Shepard attended the meeting but had not yet been sworn in as a member.

**Minutes for Approval**

On a motion by Deb Anderson, seconded by Jane Schulze, the minutes of August 6, 2019 were approved by a vote of 5-0.

**Ongoing Project Updates**

Some of the funds from the Pre-acquisition Funds Project approved last year are being used to fund a hydrogeologist working with the Water Resources Working Group to map potential water resources that could be used for future municipal wells.

The Gazebo Project has painting and electric work outstanding.

For the Old Town House Project, there is restoration work needed for the front windows and there is interior painting that needs to be done.

The Dennett Playground Project was bid but the bidder disappeared.  The School Committee is hiring a consultant to help get the project moving forward.

The Churchill Park Conservation Restriction is being reviewed by the State.

The Two Brooks Preserve Project has gone through 2 rounds of unsuccessful bidding and the Open Space Committee is determining how to proceed and is working with Town Counsel to try to simplify the procurement process if possible.

**Financial Update**

After Town Meeting, there should be approximately $109,000 in the Community Housing Reserve; $31,000 in the Historic Reserve; $5,000 for administrative expenses; and $172,000 in undesignated funds.

The idea of raising the CPA surcharge that is now at 1.5% to 3% was discussed.  The Community Preservation Coalition provided some analysis of the impacts of that change.  Using 2018 data, the local surcharge provided $90,878 and there was $17,280 in state matching funds.  With a 3% surcharge, which also makes the Town eligible for second and third round matches from the State, there would have been $181,756 from the local surcharge and a total of $114,211 in State matching funds; this represents a 174% change in CPA revenue compared to the 1.5% surcharge or approximately $188,000.  Over 10 years this would represent 1.9 million dollars in additional revenue.  Increasing the surcharge requires both a Town Meeting vote and a vote at the polls.

**Projects for 2020**

Mark Russo informed the Committee that no projects were submitted by the October 15 deadline for consideration at the 2020 Annual Town Meeting.

**Closing Out Completed Projects**

Mark Russo said there are no projects ready for closeout.

**Approve Bill Payments**

Mark Russo said there are no bills requiring payment.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be December 10 at 6:00 pm.

**Adjourn**

On a motion by Irv Butler, seconded by Deb Anderson, it was voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 pm.