**Capital Improvements Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 6:00 pm**

**Bellingham Municipal Center**

**Lower Meeting Room**

Capital Improvements Committee Members Present: R. Lavallee (Chairman), J. Collamati, M. Hennessey

Capital Improvements Committee Members Absent: J. Kuzmeskas, J. McCarthy

Meeting Commenced: R. Lavallee called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

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Approval of Minutes from the April 11, 2023, Capital Improvements Committee Meeting were tabled until the next meeting.

M. Hennessey made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 26, 2023, Capital Improvements Committee Meeting. J. Collamati seconded. Recommended 3/0.

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**Public Hearing** – Building Commissioner, Tim Aicardi was present to discuss the request of a Message Board in front of Town Hall, as presented below:

Mr. Aicardi provided members with information regarding a digital sign that is being requested to be placed in front of the Town Center. Details and photos of similar sign types were presented to members to show different options.

M. Hennesey made a motion to recommend the purchase and installation of a Town Center sign to be installed in front of the Town Hall entrance. Motion was seconded by J. Collamati. Recommended 2/1.

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**Public Hearing** – DPW Director, Jesse Riedle, was present to discuss the Departments Capital Requests, as presented below:

**DPW:**

Mr. Riedle gave a brief summary on the request for the replacement of truck B-9, which is a 2014 Peterbilt, to be replaced with a new Freightliner Six-Wheel salt, plow, dump truck. The truck availability would not be until 2025. However, funding is needed in FY24, in order to secure the purchase.

M. Hennessey made a motion to recommend the purchase of a new Freightliner truck to replace B-9, which is a 2014 Peterbilt, as described above. The old truck will be taken off the road and out of the fleet. Motion was seconded by R. Lavallee. Recommended 2/1.

A request for the replacement of truck B-10, which is a 2015 F-550 diesel dump truck with extensive body rot was presented to the Committee. The replacement vehicle being requested is a 2024 gas powered

F-600 Salt, Plow, Dump Truck.

J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the purchase of a 2024-F-600, to replace the 2015 F-550, as described above. Motion was seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

Mr. Riedle presented a request for the replacement of a 2014 MT-6 multi-purpose trackless machine, with a new MT-7 multi-purpose John Deere roadside trackless mower, snowblower and plow with a diesel engine.

J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the purchase of a new MT-7 Trackless Machine, as described above. Motion was seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

**PARKS:**

A request for replacement of vehicle P-1, which is a 2013, 2-wheel drive F-250 truck was presented to the Committee. The replacement vehicle requested is a 2024 F-350, 4-wheel drive truck with an 8’ plow to also be used as an additional snow operations vehicle during the winter months. The 2013 F-250 would be repurposed for the town carpenter that doesn’t currently have a truck.

J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the purchase of a 2024 F-350, 4-wheel drive truck, and for the current 2013 F-250 to be repurposed for the town carpenter, as described above. Motion was seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

Mr. Riedle gave a brief summary of parks repairs and upgrades that need to be done for some items that they normally come across yearly. However, there are some items at Silver Lake Park that are in further need of upgrades than others, and this would be taken care of with this funding.

J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the upgrades and repairs to Silver Lake Park, as needed, dependent on funding availability. Motion was seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

**SEWER:**

Mr. Riedle gave an update on the replacement of the Old Bridge Lane Sewer Pumping Station that needs to be completed. Ms. MacKinnon let members know that the Sewer Enterprise will cover as much as it has funding for. However, the Sewer Enterprise has not been generating Retained Earnings to this level historically. Due to the necessity of the repair that is needed, Ms. MacKinnon said she would be looking into doing a General Fund subsidy to make up the difference of what is needed.

J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the replacement of the Old Bridge Lane Sewer Pumping Station, as described above. Motion was seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

**STORMWATER:**

Mr. Riedle gave a brief summary on the Stormwater Asset Management Program. This will be to evaluate the condition of drainage infrastructure in town and develop an associated risk-based Capital Improvement Plan. Total project cost is $149,700, in which the Department is seeking a Grant for a portion of the project, plus funds from Retained Earnings and the balance being done with in-town labor.

J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the evaluation and Capital Improvement Plan for stormwater, as described over. Motion was seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

**TREE WARDEN:**

The request for additional funds to remove dangerous dead trees throughout town was made to Committee members. These are trees that need to be removed due to safety concerns and/or chronic power outages at water supply areas. This project has been continuing for a number of years and in having conversations with the Tree Warden, additional areas were discussed and reviewed for the need to have dangerous trees removed.

J. Collamati made a recommendation for a continuation of the tree removal project, as described above. Motion seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

**WATER:**

Mr. Riedle let Committee members know that the department would like to establish a new water vehicle that would be truck B-12. This would be used for water breaks and service-related repairs. The truck would be equipped with a crane, onboard air, 9’ plow, and PTO tool manifold in order to power miscellaneous tools on-site. This additional vehicle will be used in conjunction with 2 additional DPW personnel for all-season operations.

Committee members did not make a recommendation at tonight’s meeting and instead have tabled this request until more information is provided to the Committee. Mr. Riedle was asked to obtain additional information and specs on this vehicle in order for them to be able to make a decision. Mr. Riedle will reach out to the company and get the information requested for the next meeting.

The request for preliminary design, engineering, test well exploration, and reporting for the 3 replacement Wells at Site #11 was provided to Committee members. This would be for the replacement of 3 failed Well sources. These wells had to be taken offline and the town has been fortunate because of the amount of rain this summer that required lower demand during those months.

J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the funding of this request for preliminary design and engineering of the Well sources described above. Motion was seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

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New Business, Emails, Correspondence, Bills:

The next Capital Improvements Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, October 30, 2023, at

5:30 pm, via the Zoom option only.

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J. Collamati made a motion to adjourn at 8:19 pm. Seconded by M. Hennessey. Recommended 3/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina M. Griffin

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