

Joint Session - Finance Committee and Capital Improvements Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 5:00 pm
Video Meeting Conducted on Zoom

1. Finance Committee Members Present: J. Allam, J. Collamati, K. Keppler, J. Kuzmeskas, J. Flannery
2. Finance Committee Members Absent: All members present
3. Capital Improvements Members Present: R. Lavallee, K. Grant, J. Collamati
4. Capital Improvements Members Absent: All members present
5. Meeting Commenced: J. Allam called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm
R. Lavallee called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

6. **5:00 pm – Pubic Hearing** – Ms. Jasinski-Dutil, Director of the I.T. Department was present for tonight's meeting via Zoom with an FY21 Capital Request for e-permitting software.

The e-permitting software is already in use in the Inspectional Services Department for some select services. The funding being requested is to add additional modules to the software for the Board of Health and Inspectional Services Departments, as well as the Fire Department. These upgrades and additions would allow Departments to do online open-burning permits, as well as receive complaints and issue violations.

The Department is seeking a Community Compact Grant. The deadline to apply for the Grant is October 15, 2020. If the Grant is unsuccessful, then the Department would be moving forward with their FY21 Capital Request.

Finance Committee - K. Keppler made a motion to recommend \$53,035 from Free Cash for the e-permitting software, if the Grant is unsuccessful. J. Collamati seconded. Recommended 5/0.

Capital Improvements Committee - J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the purchase of additional e-permitting software modules if the Grant is unsuccessful. K. Grant seconded. Recommended 3/0.

7. **5:15 pm – Public Hearing** – Ms. Rivard, Library Director was present for tonight's meeting via Zoom to discuss FY21 Library Capital Requests.

Ms. Rivard explained the need to replace the HVAC System in the Library, as the repairs for the outdated system have become too costly. They are looking to have the system completed under the MGL c 25A Exemption for Utility Upgrades under \$100,000. The Library is approximately 17,000 sq. ft. and currently has an electric air conditioning system and gas for the heating system.

J. Collamati discussed the option of replacing the unit with a combined Heat / AC unit instead of replacing just the AC system at this time and then the 30-year-old, heating system in the near future.

R. Lavallee told Committee members that he would also like more information about combining the systems and if it would be more cost effective to go with a heat pump system.

All Committee Members agree that the HVAC system needs to be replaced. However, they just want to make sure it wouldn't be more cost effective to do both systems at one time.

No motion was made at this time. This Capital Request will be continued to the next meeting so that Ms. Rivard can gather information about replacing both units at the same time.

8. **5:30 pm – Public Hearing** – Ms. Dutil, Director of the Senior Center was not present for tonight's meeting. The Council on Aging does not have any FY21 Capital Requests to present for Fall town Meeting.

9. **5:45 pm – Public Hearing** – DPW Director, Donald DiMartino was present for tonight's meeting to discuss the following FY21 Capital Requests:

DPW REQUESTS -

6-Wheel Dump truck with plow in the amount of \$221,000 from Free Cash to replace B-19 which is a 2001 dump truck that will be taken out of service. This pricing is from the State bid list. The Request was recommended by the Capital Improvements Committee in September 2019 but was not funded last Fall.

Small Hook Truck with slide-In Hot Box in the amount of \$110,800 from Free Cash to replace B-14 which will be taken out of service. The small utility truck can be used for various purposes and the hot box has a 2-ton capacity. The request was recommended by the Capital Improvements Committee in September 2019 but was not funded last Fall.

Sidewalk Tractor (Multi Hog) with necessary attachments, in the amount of \$190,000 from Free Cash. This will add a second sidewalk tractor to the fleet and can be used to sweep, plow sidewalks, cut brush and more. The Request was recommended by the Capital Improvements Committee in September 2019 but was not funded last Fall.

New backhoe to replace the existing one, in the amount of \$124,000 from Retained Earnings. The trade-in of an older backhoe would give a credit of \$2,000 towards this purchase. All Committee members agreed to have the Department keep the old backhoe as a spare due to the low salvage value of the trade. Mr. DiMartino agreed and will evaluate whether to keep the 2002 Backhoe as spare or auction as surplus at a later date.

Removal of the Underground Storage Tank at the DPW in the amount of \$60,000 from Borrowing. The Town is required to remove this tank within 5 years of going offline (deadline is August 2022). This is the only known Underground Storage Tank on Town property. This FY21 Request is for the design phase that needs to be completed before the actual removal.

Replacement of the Fire Station concrete apron in the amount of \$9,500 from Free Cash for the design phase of the project. The actual construction portion of the project will be presented for FY22.

Flood Mitigation and Stormdrain project in the amount of \$250,000 from Borrowing for the Green Acres, Lizotte Drive areas to address the chronic flooding issues. Application is due in December 2020 and awards will be provided in November 2021. Mr. DiMartino will be applying for a BRIC Grant. No action will be taken on any borrowing until the Town receives the reimbursable Grant. Total project cost is \$3,000,000 with a 75% Grant of \$2,250,000 and the Town match of \$750,000.

Capital Improvements Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the purchase of a backhoe, removal of the underground storage tank and the Flood Mitigation project. K. Grant seconded. Recommended 3/0.

Finance Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the above listed items from the Funding Sources included in each description. K. Keppler seconded. Recommended 5/0.

WATER REQUESTS –

Scott Hill Boulevard water main project in the amount of \$125,000 from Water Retained Earnings. This is the additional funding needed to complete the road repairs now that new water mains and services have been installed.

Engineering for South Main Street Standpipe restoration in the amount of \$15,000 from Water Retained Earnings. This standpipe was built in 1940 and was last renovated in 1997.

Arthur Street road repair in the amount of \$7,000 from Water Retained Earnings. This is the additional funding needed to complete the road repairs now that new water mains and services have been installed.

Oakwoods Apartments to Cliff Road Water Loop in the amount of \$30,000 from Water Retained Earnings. This request is to address the issue with maintaining proper chlorine residual in the dead-end water mains in this area.

Poirier St Water Main Upgrade in the amount \$130,000 from Water Retained Earnings. This project will consist of replacing the existing 2" iron pipe with 8" ductile iron water main and renew all water services. Also includes installation of a hydrant to improve fire protection in the area.

Link Street water mains in the amount of \$130,000 from Water Retained Earnings. Project consists of installing new 8" water main and services to address poor service line location and condition for customers. Includes installation of a hydrant to improve fire protection in the area.

A preliminary analysis for a new Well site to expand water services due to all the development in Town in the amount of \$100,000 from Water Retained Earnings. This is for preliminary testing to determine viability as a new public water supply well.

Capital Improvements Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the Scott Hill Water Main project, Poirier Street Water Main upgrade, Link Street Water Main installation and Preliminary Analysis for a new Well site. K. Grant seconded. Recommended 3/0.

Finance Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the above listed FY21 Capital Requests in the amount of \$537,000 from water retained earnings. J. Kuzmeskas seconded. Recommended 5/0.

SEWER REQUESTS –

North Main Street Sewer Pumping Station Generator in the amount of \$86,526 with \$50,000 from Sewer Retained Earnings and \$36,526 from the Wrentham Road Article. These are the additional funds needed to cover the anticipated construction cost to replace the 30-year-old standby generator.

Capital Improvements Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the North Main Street Pumping Station Generator replacement. K. Grant seconded. Recommended 3/0.

Finance Committee – J. Flannery made a motion to recommend the above listed FY21 Sewer Capital Request from the funding sources listed. K. Keppler seconded. Recommended 5/0.

10. **6:15 pm – Public Hearing** – School Superintendent, Peter Marano and School Committee Chairman, Michael Reed, Jr. were present to discuss the following FY21 School Capital Requests:

Repairing of the High School Gymnasium Floor in the amount of \$548,000 from Borrowing. This floor has been an ongoing issue for a number of years. Engineering has been done and core samples have been taken from the floor to determine the best method of repair. The entire floor will be shot-blasted and then covered with a water barrier and a vapor barrier before new flooring is installed on top. There is also a humidity issue in the gymnasium which is contributing to the moisture problem in the floor. A new air conditioning unit will be installed to also control the humidity in this area.

Capital Improvements Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the repairing of the High School Gymnasium floor and installation of a humidity control system. K. Grant seconded. Recommended 3/0.

Finance Committee – K. Keppler made a motion to recommend \$548,000 from Borrowing for repair of the High School Gymnasium Floor and installation of a humidity control system. J. Collamati seconded. Recommended 4/1. J. Flannery opposed.

Entrapment area at the Middle School in the amount of \$160,000 from Free Cash. Project includes new doors and frame, pass thru window, cameras and other security measures.

Capital Improvements Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to recommend the Middle School Entrapment area upgrades. K. Grant seconded. Recommended 3/0.

Finance Committee – K. Keppler made a motion to recommend the Middle School Entrapment Area upgrades in the amount of \$160,000 from Free Cash. J. Flannery seconded. Recommended 5/0.

11. New Business, Emails, Correspondence, Bills:

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 5:00 pm. The meeting will be held in-person and via Zoom for Committee Members and Departments. The Public can attend through Zoom due to the current Covid restrictions and limited number of people allowed in the Arcand Meeting Room.

The next Capital Improvements Committee meeting is to be determined.

Finance Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to adjourn at 6:54 pm. Seconded by J. Kuzmeskas. Recommended 5/0.

Capital Improvements Committee – J. Collamati made a motion to adjourn at 6:54 pm. Seconded by K. Grant. Recommended 3/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina M. Griffin
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