

Town of Rockland, MA
Capital Planning Committee

TOWN CLERK, ROCKLAND
FEB 6 '23 AM 8:08

DATE: Thursday, January 19, 2023, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Rockland Town Hall, Lower Conference Room 1st Floor

ATTENDEES: Richard Harris, Chairman
Chris Fulton, Vice Chairman
Bill Principe
Doug Walo
Linda Sternfelt, Secretary

GUESTS: Jeanne Blaney
Fire Chief Scott Duffey

ABSENTEES: Lauren White
Jeff Leafer

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the January 12, 2023 meeting. Bill Principe made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Vice Chairman Fulton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Harris invited Ms. Blaney to detail the Recreation Department's Capital Plan requests.

Ms. Blaney asked that the \$431K item for the Hartsuff Park Entrance and Lot that was on the Capital Plan for 2022 stay on the Plan. This is currently on hold until the building on the site is approved. She asked that this item be moved to the FY 2025 Plan year.

Ms. Blaney added \$10 million to the Plan for a new building at Hartsuff Park for FY 2026. There is currently a feasibility study looking at this possibility. There are no grants available for this, but funds from the sale of the McKinley building will offset the cost.

Chairman Harris thanked Ms. Blaney for her time.

Chairman Harris asked Chief Duffey if there was any grant money available for fire stations. Chief Duffey said that there are not a lot of grants available, and those that are available are targeted for shovel-ready projects.

Chairman Harris reviewed the list of items for the Fire Department that are currently on the Capital Plan. These were as follows:

- Chief Duffey asked that the new Fire Station that is currently on the Capital Plan be pushed out by one year to FY 2025. The projected cost of the Fire Station has increased from \$20 million to \$28 million due to increases in construction and labor costs. This project is slated to appear on the April Town ballot, and will also go to Town Meeting this year. It is proposed to be financed with a debt exclusion.
- Replacement engine approved for the last fiscal year was approved at Town Meeting, and the contract was signed in May, 2022. Delivery period is 22 months.
- New ambulance approved for the last fiscal year was approved at Town Meeting.
- Floor repairs to the Fire Station were approved at Town Meeting and have been completed.
- New pickup truck was approved at Town Meeting and has been delivered.
- Radio system upgrades for FY 2024 can be moved to FY 2025. Chief Duffey is working on a funding source for this. This is less critical as Holbrook is doing our dispatch through the Regional Dispatch Center.
- The fire alarm truck in the Capital Plan for FY 2026 should be moved to FY 2024, and should be increased to \$150K, as this is the current price of the vehicle.
- The new fire engine line item in 2027 for \$800K should be reduced, as the Department obtained a FEMA grant in the amount of \$650K in October of 2022. This grant requires the Town to match 5%. Since the grant application, the cost of the engine has increased to approximately \$825K. The line item should be reduced to \$175K, which is the difference between the cost of the vehicle and the amount of the FEMA grant. The line item should be moved to FY 2024.

Chairman Harris asked if there were any new items to add to the Capital Plan.

Chief Duffey added the following items to the Capital Plan:

- Fire Station study: Cost to stay where the Department is currently located if a new Fire Station is not approved. Cost \$75K, in FY 2024.
- New admin vehicle: \$70K, in FY 2025. Current vehicle is a 2013 Tahoe.
- Replace firefighter turnout clothing: \$150K, in FY 2025. The clothing has a 10 year useful life, and will cover 31 firefighters.
- New admin vehicle: \$70K, in FY 2027. Deputy's current vehicle is a 2016 Tahoe.
- New ladder truck: \$1.5 million, in FY 2028. The current ladder truck will be almost 30 years old at that point.

Chairman Harris thanked Chief Duffey for his time.

Bill Principe made a motion to add the Recreation Department item listed above to the Town's Capital Plan, and to change the timing of the other item listed above. Vice Chairman Fulton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Doug Walo made a motion to accept the new Fire Department items listed above to the Town's Capital Plan, and to change the timing and/or amounts of the other items listed above. Linda Sternfelt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Harris asked if there was any New Business to come before the Committee. There was none.

Chairman Harris indicated that he will reach out to the Highway and Parks Departments to present their lists of revisions and/or requests to the Committee at next week's meeting.

Vice Chairman Fulton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill Principe seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Sternfelt, Secretary

