

Capital Planning Committee  
March 7, 2024 Meeting Minutes  
Via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jonathan Barry called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The following persons were present: Jonathan Loer, Jim McCaffery, Marc Conroy, Peter Jurmain, Craig Schultze, Finance Director Carol Johnston, Town Administrator Mike Guzinski, Library Director Kim Tolson.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Library Director Kim Tolson reviews the status of their library building repair plan. Including cleaning and repairing the cedar siding on the building, replacing the gutters in the courtyard area, and replacing bollard lighting that is currently not working.

Fire Chief Rick Barrett reviews his capital planning requests. The first being the replacement for Car 2, he states since he started as chief 13 years ago, they have been on a 5-year replacement plan with their smaller vehicles. He states car 2 is a 2012 Chevy Tahoe with 70,000 miles on it with some major repairs coming up and some body rot. He is asking for \$85,000 to replace the vehicle. Committee member Jurmain questioned why the price is high. Chief Barret states the car is around \$60,000, lights and radios will be about \$10,000, plus any other additional necessary items. Chief Barrett reviews his second capital request for new radios. He states they got into a grant program together with Bellingham. He is requesting 10% which equals \$26,000, if they do not receive the grant the money will go back to the town. He states they have never been able to replace all the radios at the same time they have some a few here and there when they were able to.

DPW Director Jim McKay reviews his capital requests for safety equipment. He explains over the last year he has had to call Medfield to borrow safety cones and police horses, etc. He is requesting \$10,000 to purchase enough safety equipment to have it on hand when it is needed. Mr. McKay reviews his request for a small articulating loader to replace a 2011 version, it is a multiuse machine but mainly used to clear sidewalks. He is looking to use chapter 90 funds to purchase the loader. Committee Member Jurmain questioned if the DPW and the school have been in communication regarding sharing machines. Mr. McKay states they have. Chair Barry suggested potentially buying the items together to see if there is a discount available.

Chair Barry reviews the timeline for the next few weeks. He is presenting to the Finance Committee on April 3rd. The Board discussed the process for being made aware of items being purchased through grants, they agreed to revisit the bylaw to make things clearer.

**Chair Barry made a motion to score the DPW articulated loader as part of the process for Spring 2024. Committee Member McCaffery seconded the motion. Chair Barry Polled the Board, Jurmain – nay, Schultze – yay, Loer – nay, Conroy – nay, McCaffery – yay, Barry – No. The motion failed two to four.**

**Committee Member Jonathan Barry made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM. Committee Member Pete Jurmain seconded the motion. Chair Barry polled the Committee by roll call Barry – yay, Loer - yay, Jurmain – yay, McCaffery – yay, Conroy - yay, motion passes unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted by Victoria Schindler