

CIP Committee
Draft Minutes
Wednesday, May 20, 2015
6:30 pm

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm in the Fire Station Meeting Room

Present: Steve Felton, Susan MacLeod, David Toth; Absent with notice: Ingrid Heidenreich
Also present: Library Trustees Mardean Badger, David Ruell, Alice Staples, Librarian Sara Weinberg;
SAU Asst. Superintendent Trish Temperino; Fire Chief Steve Heath; Eli Badger, Norm DeWolfe

Initial Review with Library: Trustees pleased that town voted the \$25,000 capital reserve, and the plan is to ask for another \$25,000 for 2016. They are working with library consultant Tom Ladd to collect information to formulate what the Ashland Library should be, research locations including the Tri-Cap school building and look at grant schedules for available funding. He will be submitting a findings report (no date set). They will go for a planning grant first, probably with CDFA. Fundraising efforts have been initiated with a building fund account and a PayPal link on the website. There is a fundraising concert with Art Harriman on July 30th, and outreach to local businesses is planned. All information gathered and a grant-funded plan will all be helpful for voter education and all fundraising efforts. The Trustees also want the warrant article to come from Board of Selectmen and CIP rather than as a petitioned article to show municipal support. With the building, nothing has changed with the Scribner Trustees, and other locations must be considered for expansion. Discussion about the old school building centered on the space it provides, especially an accessible meeting space that this town lacks. Dave suggested it was worth talking with all groups with this need. The trustees have visited other libraries in the state to learn about the process they went through to get expanded or new buildings. They also saw some of the physical layout options such as movable shelving and partitioning and successful programs like an 'ask an expert' knowledge sharing and specialty check-out items i.e. fishing gear. Next trustees meeting Susan will attend as CIP liaison.

Initial Review with SAU: Trish Temperino updated projects that had been submitted in 2014: Roof repairs now scheduled for 2017-18 with \$80,000 currently in capital reserves; two of the entrances to the school are done, but the main entrance still needs to be addressed. School has old lights and windows and very old boiler, and Trish is working on a lease-purchase with Honeywell energy-saving project to replace all of the above. Honeywell has done a 5.6 million dollar project for Inter-Lakes which will pay for itself in 12 years by going all solar and providing new fuel options, and she stated that they have been outstanding to work with. There have already been savings of 50% on fuel and 60% on electricity bills. A tour of Ashland Elementary will be done this summer to get a plan and estimate for the work to then present to the school board. Paving: In 2019 after roofing done. For door replacements and windows energy efficiency grants are being sought. Next year there will be a teachers' agreement on the ballot and SAU trying not to ask for too any other expenditures. Discussion regarding special ed.: there is \$66,000 in fund, and a current situation is the need to place a student now at Hunter which will be closing. Adequacy formula for funding involves federal money filtered through the state, with the legislature determining distribution. Dave will follow up with Trish (no meeting necessary) to finalize figures for September report to the BOS and Budget Committee.

Initial Review with Fire Department: Steve Heath and Tim Joubert worked on itemizing all apparatus, equipment and building/grounds needs including lifespan. With equipment purchased after 9/11 with grants, all due for replacement at the same time. They looked at how to stagger purchases and keep the cost in the operating budget rather than warrant articles for all replacements at once. Would have to take compatibility of older equipment with newer technologies into account when purchasing and determining where it would be used. There is still the need for new personal protective gear each time there is new personnel. All grant opportunities will continue to be pursued, including Firefighters Association and the EMS fund as appropriate. The overhead for equipment is huge and department is

working on a rotation schedule for replacement. Each firefighter is responsible for a complete check and maintenance schedule of equipment and tools, and to record fuel use. Captains will collect all data that then will be used to determine a replacement timeline. Steve looking to balance big expenditures as warrant articles with others to be included in the operating budget. All capital needs \$10,000 or more still should still be in the Capital Improvements Plan, with decision how to fund determined by BOS and Budget Committee. It is always problematic that defeated warrant articles and default budgets eliminate the ability to replace, repair or acquire on a planned timeline.

Current status of equipment: Engine 1 passed pump test, and body-wise is still solid. Engine 2 will have to be replaced first. All firefighters are learning to drive the standard Engine 1 assuming it will be in service until 2020. All brackets removed from trucks to slowdown corrosion issue. Ambulance can go until 2025, unless it goes to transport use that would need replacement sooner, probably with a different type of vehicle. Ladder truck has about 15 more years of service. Extrication equipment (jaws of life) circa 1988 is functioning, recently serviced, and parts are still available, but it is very heavy and a two-person job to use. A highway grant for a new one (\$50,000-60,000) may be an option. In June, there will be another equipment evaluation done this time by the Concord Fire Department Maintenance Director. Other Equipment: 16 SCBA Breathing Apparatus purchased in 2004 has 10-12 year lifespan, with masks being replaced as needed. Hoses are tested annually and can be replaced a piece at a time when needed. Personal Protective gear components get replaced and purchased new as necessary.

For building and grounds, the paving will be coordinated with DPW work on Firehouse Lane. Some dips in front of garage have been filled in by DPW. The Vehicle Exhaust Collecting Systems has problems. The downstairs heat sensors are inadequate, and the company that installed the system is no longer in business, so maintenance and servicing has been an issue. Work on upper floor was in proposed 2015 budget, but not in the default. Steve has contacted Clean Air Technologies of Belmont who will service and convert the current system for \$10,225, and will honor that quote.

Discussion on: Achieving success on warrant articles for lease/purchase needing 60% majority vote for multi-year expenditure unless there is an escape clause in lease which then requires yearly vote; revenue from all transports (\$20,000) in the Town expendable account; how to educate public for need of replacement for Engine 2 in particular – photo display of its corrosion and safety report. Susan will follow up with department on information/costs to put into spreadsheet.

Other: There is a FEMA and Emergency Management training on July 7-8 on “Security at Wastewater Treatment Plant” that Rusty Cross and the Commissioners should attend for information and contacts to have a study of the plant done to use for a grant.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2015, 6:30 pm at the Fire Station

8:30 pm: Motion to adjourn, all in favor.