

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT MEETING  
MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**November 29, 2023  
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Members Ken Jacques, B Manning, Jeff Milne, Tamara Butcher and Whit Smith also present Pat Zullo Police Chief, Tim Hayes Road Agent, Poul Heilmann Select Board Rep, Don Hill Buildings and Grounds Committee

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> Discussion of the “little” truck sentence in the second paragraph. The decision to remove the second part to better understand what was discussed. B moved to accept as amended , Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> Committee approved.

Police Department: Chief Zullo presented to the Committee the change in opinion of the 2016 cruiser that Tim Julian currently drives. Darrin Patten previously felt the cruiser would last another 18 months and has reversed his opinion on that to needing to be replaced in the next year. There appears to be much more wrong with it than originally thought and has been in the garage weekly and the diagnostics are not returning what the problems actually are. An example is recently Seargent Julian observed a speeder and when he put the cruiser into gear to pursue the cruiser did not have enough power to engage and move forward. Estimated cost of a new cruiser is \$60K, \$40,000 for the cruiser and \$18,000 for outfitting it with the equipment in the current cruiser. Whit Smith remembered that the town paid \$55K for the 2022 cruiser, to which Chief Zullo responded that the cruiser was \$35K and just over \$13 was paid for outfitting it with the interior equipment removed from the previous cruiser. A 90/10 grant of about \$50K was used to pay for that cruiser. Chief Zullo researched Ford, Chevy, and Dodge prices. Ford and Dodge are going to be very short on 2024 models which means that it will be 2025 before there will be availability. Poul Heilmann wants to stick to the cycling of cruises to 5-6 years, the next year to purchase would be 2028 with a possible price tag of \$78K.

Highway Department: Road Agent Tim Hayes presented to the Committee research that he has done regarding replacing the 1994 Galien Grader in 2025/6. An estimate is \$360K if purchased or \$430K if leased. If the Town purchases a used grader at a cost of about \$250K though there will be no warranty and if, for example, the motor blows the repair could be \$80k. Parts for the current grader are very difficult to find as they are no longer being made. Bradford recently made a purchase using a grant they received. Whit Smith told Tim Hayes to get a grant writer to which Tim responded that he already has someone to assist him in that area. Whit also shared that when he looked at grants for the Town to purchase the fire truck he was shocked to find out that the income levels for the Town of Springfield was far higher than he expected and pushed the Town out of qualifying. Jeff Milne asked if sharing a grader with a neighboring town would be an option. The logistics of that would make that very difficult.

Next topic of discussion was replacing the 2015 Freightliner in 2025 with a 550 instead of a larger truck. The cost would be around \$105K and could be outfitted with a front plow and a sander in the bed, no wing. This would be used around the town buildings and the smaller roads. Selling or trading in the 2015 could yield between \$30-\$50K which would be used to offset the \$105K.

Paving was discussed next with the focus on Sanborn Hill Rd. The quote received from Pike for the entire road is \$192K and if we can be ready in the spring instead of waiting until fall there is a discount. The current plan is to take next summer to prep the road, replace culverts, dig out rocks and then let it set for 6-9 months to settle and then pave the entire thing in the spring of 2025. Going forward taking 2 years to prep and then pave the chosen road is the schedule the highway department wants to stay with.

Full Re-valuation the town is required to do every 10 years will be during 2025. Avitar has done this in the past and will be doing it again for us. The current estimate is \$90K+.

Discussion of the culvert at the outlet of McDaniel's Marsh which has been on the State of NH Red List for many years. Questions of who owns the dam just prior to the culvert. Tamara will reach out to Mike Hansen who repaired the culvert on George Hill Rd where Gove Brook passes through and find out if he would give an estimate of cost to repair. She will also call NH Fish & Game to question ownership of the dam.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by,

Tamara Butcher