

# Capital Budget Subcommittee

February 16, 2022

5:30 PM

355 E. Central Street, 3rd Floor Training Room

## MINUTES

**Members Present:** Councilors Deborah Pellegri, Robert Dellorco, Brian Chandler, Ted Cormier-Leger

**Town Staff also in attendance:** Town Administrator - Jamie Hellen, Alecia Alleyne - Assistant to the Town Administrator, Michael D'Angelo - Facilities Director, Tim Rapoza - Director of Technology, James West - Deputy Police Chief, Joeseeph Barberi - Deputy Fire Chief, James Klich - Deputy Fire Chief, James McLaughlin - Fire Chief, Thomas Lynch - Police Chief, Kerri Bertone - Treasurer Collector, Chris Sandini - Finance Director/Comptroller

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### Councilor Pellegri called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

Town Administrator Hellen reviewed the Town Policies and the certified free cash totals, he mentioned that the Town has already spent a large portion of its snow and Ice budget and will most likely go over the budgeted amount in the upcoming year. The Town has paused its annual contribution to the open space stabilization account due to the impact of the passing of the Community Preservation Act. After all traditional obligations are filled, the Town is left with approximately \$2.073 million dollars to allocate towards capital projects. The departmental capital requests were as follows:

**Town Policy Requests** - There are several policy commitments the town must tend to prior to divvying up the available free cash for capital projects, most notably, contributions to stabilization accounts (per town policy) as well as the usual recommendation from staff to hold revenue for annual snow and ice removal. The policy commitments for FY22 are as follows; snow and ice removal/infrastructure - \$800,000, OPEB Trust Fund (10% of free cash) - \$447,000, Fire Truck Stabilization - \$0.00, Fields Stabilization - \$150,000, Open space stabilization \$0.00, Budget Stabilization \$1,000,000, Properties, projects and facilities stabilization - \$0.00. After these allocations are made a remainder of \$2,073,514 in free cash is remaining for capital requests. The budget subcommittee voted to approve all seven town policy requests. **4-0 APPROVED**

**Technology** - The Technology Department has requested to purchase six physical domain controllers (\$20,000). These devices will allow on site authentication of employees in the event that the fiber connection is lost. The tera block server (\$40,000) will be used for the purchase of a terrablock server which will allow Mac computers to back up and maintain video editing work. The FY22 technology requests are lower due to CARES money the town has received, nearly \$1 million of which was allocated towards the purchase of new chromebooks for students. **Approved 4-0**

**Town Clerk** - The Town Clerk is looking for \$10,425 for a new elections tabulator and three more poll pads due to the addition of the 9th precinct. **Approved 4-0**

**Facilities** - The Facilities Department is requesting \$100,000 to construct an outdoor pavilion at the senior center at the back of the cafe. This will provide shade and protection from the sun to seniors interested in being outside during the summer months. The town has reached out to Tri-County vocational school to have them work on the project. The pavilion will be approximately 30x40 feet. **Approved 4-0**

**Fire Department** - The Fire Department uses a municipal fire alarm system, the product the Fire Department has is coming up on the end of its life cycle and they are proposing to replace it with a computer based system (TRX50 model). In addition to the municipal fire alarm system upgrade, the two Deputy Chief emergency response vehicles are in need of replacements, they are 2011 models, there is wear and tear on the vehicles and it is time to replace. The final two requests from the Fire Department are 1. To fund year one (1) of a four (4) year upgrade program for their portable radios and 2. To fund the remaining \$10,000 not covered by the \$30,000 grant received by the Fire Department for structural clothing. **Approved 4-0**

**Police Department** - The Police Department requests capital funds for the replacement of five (5) Police vehicles. The selected vehicles are scheduled to be rotated out of service by the recommendation of DPW mechanics and fleet managers based on age, mileage and projected future maintenance costs. The Police Department also requests the replacement of electronic control weapons (Tasers). Their request is for the purchase of 46 units and they will spread the cost of replacements over a 5 year period. **Approved 4-0**

Councilor Pellegri made a MOTION to ADJOURN the meeting, SECONDED by Councilor Dellorco. ROLL CALL Vote was unanimous. **Vote 4-0**

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:29 PM**