

MINUTES

Capital Improvements Program Committee

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, October 27th, 7:00 PM

Meeting Place: Old Town Hall, 19 Meeting House Hill Rd, Sanbornton NH

Present: Nina Gardner, Scott Fogg, Chair Andy Sanborn, Selectman Brandon Deacon

General Business

a. Minutes of 9/27 – Nina Gardner made a motion to approve the draft minutes of 9/27. Selectman Brandon Deacon seconded the motion and the motion passed, with Selectman Deacon abstaining.

b. Highway Dept CIP requests – Highway Department Director Johnny Van Tassel explained that he is requesting \$600,000 for roads as in years past and provided a preliminary road plan. He stated that a project using fabric below a foot of gravel was recently completed on Perkins Rd to help with mud season and he is beginning the same project on Hermit Woods Rd next. His plans for next year include the same treatment for Knox Mountain Rd, and then shim and overlay of pavement on Prescott Rd. Chair Andy Sanborn noted that there is \$362,000 in the CRF currently.

Nina stated that she is concerned that the yearly \$600,000 is not allowing the Highway Dept to get ahead of roads and is only trying to keep up. She added that she is in favor of bonding large projects like roads because it is easier on the tax rate but doesn't think residents are in favor of that. Johnny explained that he thinks many of the roads on his plan can last longer than ten years; Scott Fogg stated that if the projects on Perkins and Hermit Woods are successful then that could be a way of getting ahead. Selectman Deacon stated that the road study recommended that the yearly funding put toward roads is actually double.

Selectman Deacon explained that the Selectmen are exploring a grant for engineering studies and technical assistance for Dr. True Rd and are putting out an RFP to get engineering assistance with solutions for that road. Chair Sanborn asked if monies should be set aside for that project or for other projects that the Winnisquam Watershed Network has identified that would help with silt runoff into the lake. He added that this would make it clear to residents that this is an important issue. Nina stated that she would like to know the formula for how much each project increases the tax rate. Chair Sanborn noted that the CRF for roads and bridges appears to be combined when it used to be separated.

Johnny explained that he is requesting \$150,000 for bridges which are expensive to fix. Regarding the Heavy Equipment request for \$100,000, he explained that a new loader was just purchased and starting in 2024 \$9,000 will be put in the CRF specifically to save toward a new one. Chair Sanborn noted that there is almost no money in that CRF as of now.

c. Board of Selectmen CIP requests – Nina stated that the \$25,000 Town Building Improvement/Design request is to replenish that account; that account was depleted to build the new building which helped to keep the tax increase low. The \$50,000 request for Town Facilities Repair/Refurbish includes \$7,000 in FY24 for Transfer Station facilities. Regarding the \$35,000 request for Transfer Station Equipment, Chair Sanborn stated that this CRF needs to stay funded because the Transfer Station uses very expensive equipment. The Town Hall Repair/Restoration

request is for \$50,000 and the current balance is \$128,000; Chair Sanborn stated that there is no plan for Old Town Hall but there needs to be one, especially since it will be used for meetings weekly. Nina stated that there may be matching funds available so it's important this CRF stays funded.

Selectman Deacon will ask Selectman Dick if the BOS request of \$110,000 for Road Evaluation/Repair/Heavy Equipment is a duplicate of Johnny's request.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm. The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 14th at 7:00pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Audry Barriault