

Grantham, NH
Capital Improvement
Project Committee

Meeting Minutes September 18th, 2018



Members in attendance: Peter James & Ray Miner

Guests, Justin Hastings, Fire Chief, Jeremiah Fountain & Doug Wood, Conservation Commission Chair.

5:40p.m. Meeting Opened & Called to Order

- *9/11/2018 Meeting Minutes accepted and approved.*
- *Discussion of Fire Department C.I.P. requests. Requests look well thought out and straight forward.*
 - *Discovered that C.I.P. worksheet for Priority #4 of 8, Rescue Tools scheduled for Budget Year 2028-2029 was missing... Item was listed on our C.I.P. worksheet by Peter.*
 - *Question regarding Priority item #6 of 8 S.C.B.A. (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus): Will equipment last the 15 years before being out dated? Jason stated they should last the anticipated life expectancy. They provide 30 minutes of air. Fill station & compressor was last replaced in 1986. Each engine has 4 extra tanks. Tanks are made of saved aluminum that are carbon wrapped.*
 - *Call volume isn't currently at a point to justify full time staff.*
 - *Fire Department is fortunate to have a day time crew of 4 to 5 available (depending on the day).*
 - *Grantham receives good response from Newport and New London.*
 - *90% of calls are bad batteries & carbon monoxide alarms.*
 - *Justin and Jason stated the Fire Department is fortunate to have good quality equipment which is well maintained.*
 - *Justin asked that we be cautious about cutting existing reserves.*
- *Discussion of Conservation Commission Land Acquisitions with Dave Wood, Conservation Commission Chair.*
 - *There is question regarding the funding for the 373 acre 'Dillion' land acquisition. The proposed purchase would be a collaborative effort with the Conservation Fund and Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation.*
 - *Ausbon Sargent doesn't currently have any land in Grantham. Having this land on their books will help increase their donor base.*
 - *Discussion about upcoming special meeting to appropriate funds for 373 acre land purchase. Dave believed the meeting is to approve spending of \$300,000, Peter was quite certain that the meeting is to approve the \$40,000 appropriation of Conservation Funds. He will email Melissa to confirm which is correct.*
 - *Question for Tax Payers is what will the cost of not purchasing the land be to the tax payers. If a developer purchases the property the possibility of 60 new homes would cost tax payers much more than the land purchase in the long run due to school.*

- *Dave stated the land was harvested a few years ago.*
- *24 Acre Lot – Known as the Karen Leavitt property. Cost \$24,000.-*
- *Funds for this land acquisition along with the ‘Smith Lot’ will come from the Town’s Land Acquisition Fund.*
- *Recent projects included lot being stumped, raked and hydro-seeded to create a pollinator meadow in the northeast corner across from what’s known as the Flewelling (sp) property.*
- *Another project being considered (but not necessarily endorsed by committee) is building a bridge (cost approx. \$10,000) across skinner brook which would extend Faye Rd providing better access for those using the property.*

7:20p.m. Meeting was Adjourned