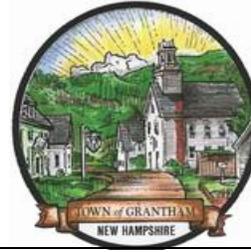


Grantham, NH
Capital Improvement
Project Committee

Meeting Minutes November 5th, 2019



Members in attendance: Peter James, Ralph Beasley, Ray Miner, Chief John Parsons, Jeff Hastings, Road Agent.

5:25p.m. Meeting Opened & Called to Order

➤ *Discussion of Highway Department C.I.P. requests:*

○ *Purchase of used Excavator:*

- The Highway Department has been renting an excavator for road and ditch work on average for two months at a cost of approximately \$8,000.-. The cost of a new excavator runs between \$80,000 and \$110,000. The expected average life span for it would be approximately 20 years. If the town owned its own excavator it would be utilized for approximately 4 months allowing for more road and ditch work to be completed and would be immediately available when needed and would eliminate the need to schedule a rental and picking it up.
- The recommendation that funds to purchase a new/used excavator into the Reserve Fund so funds will be available when a good deal has been located.

○ *The International Dump Truck scheduled to be replaced on the 2019 budget:* May be delivered soon. There is a need to revisit the replacement schedule for these dump trucks as it's taking about a year for the "build time" once the order has been placed.

- It is recommended that the scheduled purchase of the International Dump Truck to be replaced in 2029 be moved up to 2028 for ordering so it will be delivered in a timely manner in 2029.

○ *Discussion on Wood Chipper purchase:* Jeff is still on the lookout for a quality used chipper and has a lead on one from a dealer that the town of Springfield purchased one from. He's waiting on the dealer to give him a price.

➤ *Discussion of Police Department C.I.P Requests:*

- Chief Parsons stated the warrant article for the new Cruiser budgeted to be replaced in 2020 came in under budget. Total cost will be just under \$35,000 instead of the budgeted \$42,000. The primary reason for this is cost of the cruiser being slightly less than anticipated along with a large savings due to all existing equipment needed to up fit the cruiser being relatively new and should be able to be transferred over from Unit #2. There's a possibility of an additional \$1,000 up fitting expense by Addison Equipment.

○ *Cruiser Replacement Schedule was discussed:*

- The 2014 Cruiser (Unit 2) is being replaced. Chief Parsons expects the vehicle will be sold, however there was discussion that with only 65,000 miles on it, it might make a good vehicle for the Town's Building Inspector.
- The 2015 Cruiser will become the "unmarked Cruiser".
- The new "2020" Cruiser will replace the 2014 but as a new "marked" Cruiser.
- Chief Parsons also stated that all Cruisers will be 'AWD' now needing only good all season radials going forward. There will be no more need to have two sets of tires (summer and winter) resulting in additional department cost savings by not having to swap out tires twice a year.
- New UTV Purchase Discussion: The cost of the proposed purchase of a new UTV Vehicle at a cost of \$44,078.99 will be used to serve Grantham Emergency Services. This Polaris Ranger Crew XP 1000 eps North Star (VHAC edition) is an all-weather patrol vehicle. It is anticipated that there may be an additional \$3,000 up fitting cost for a custom emergency first aid kit, oxygen bottle and other additional incidentals that might be needed for emergency response.
- Although it will be marked as a police vehicle it will be available for all Grantham Emergency Response personnel who are trained to operate it, including the Fire / EMT Department.
- If approved, this 6 passenger UTV will be able to transport 5 emergency crew members along with custom emergency first aid kit. The bed of the UTV will be up fitted with a Wildland 6 horse water pump for fighting fires, a wench and collapsible sled for patient transport.
- Chief Parsons stated there have been a half dozen or so emergency calls over the few years that were difficult to respond to due to the remoteness of location. With the increase in the number of acres that the town has acquired and the number of hiking, ATV and snowmobile trails and active use, there is currently no way to patrol or provide emergency services. It is anticipation that this UTV will allow for quicker and more efficient response to emergencies occurring "off road".
- As of yet, Chief Parsons has been unable to find any grant money to assist in the purchase of the UTV.
 - There is however, State (NH Homeland Security) grant money that can be applied for the purchase of a trailer for the UTV.
 - There may also be grant money to help in "reimbursement" costs of patrolling the trails by the NH Fish and Game Department.
- John believes there are funds in the "Reserve" to apply toward the purchase of the UTV.
- Since the UTV qualifies as "Fire Apparatus" it's possible that part of the cost could come from the "Capital Reserve Fund". The NH Department of Revenue would need to approve funds to apply toward the purchase.

- Chief Parsons stated that he has had a discussion with the Fire Chief and the Fire Department is on board with the purchase.
- Chief Parsons also mentioned to the committee that he's requesting a fifth full time Officer and an additional \$43,000 to the Police Department budget to fund the position.

6:55p.m. Meeting was Adjourned