

**Town of West Boylston
Finance/CIB Committee
Meeting of April 6, 2021**

A Zoom meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 6:00 pm online. Chair Ray Bricault read the Emergency Waiver and public access statement. Attending Fincom and CIB members were Chris Berglund, Ray Bricault, Paul Bohnson, Bill Fay, Mary Foley, Pete Murphy, and Paul Redmond. Austin Cyganiewicz and Jim Marinelli were absent. Town Administrator Nancy Lucier participated in the meeting.

The minutes for the meeting on March 29, 2021 were approved as amended 7-0 as moved by Chris Berglund and Mary Foley. The minutes were amended to clarify comments on the school budget.

The DPW truck capital request was discussed. Bill Fay reported that two trucks are in poor condition and cannot be properly repaired. The DPW wants to retire these two trucks and replace them with a single, new purchase. One truck, the 1999 International was inspected and is rusted out. Pictures were supplied. The other truck was not available for inspection but is supposed to be in similar condition. That truck is believed to be the 1996 International. The three 7400 trucks purchased in 2005 and 2006, and fitted with stainless bodies, are in good shape and will continue in service. Pictures were also supplied. The new Freightliner truck SD180 request is for \$111,000 for the truck plus another \$106,000 for accessories. New replacement is being requested versus the used requested last year because 2 trucks are being retired and reliability is now more important.

The DPW is also requesting a new deck mower for \$10,900.

Chief Welsh joined the meeting. The Fire operating budget is level funded with no increase in personnel. The original budget request included a personnel increase. The increase in the budget is entirely due to the expected Cola increase of 2% expected from current contract negotiations.

The Chief reported that the requested turnout gear will all be paid through grants and Care funds. No capital is required.

The Forestry truck request was discussed. There has been significant discussion of this request over the last few years. Funding was sought through grants and DCR with no success. DCR informed the Town Administrator that the town already receives a significant PILOT payment to cover such needs. The Chief reiterated that the truck will allow access to fires that is not possible with other equipment. He expects that other towns will supply support for large fires, but we need this equipment to respond quickly to avoid a larger fire.

The Fire building emergency generator was discussed. Inspection showed a 21 year old generator mounted on a wooden platform. Pictures were supplied. The generator is functional without known problems. The generator is not adequate to run the entire building and does not

have an out of date electrical transfer system. The generator can be repurposed as non-emergency. The generator is aging and is important to support emergency services. Efforts were made to find grant money for this replacement, but with no success, so town funding is needed.

The Fire building is being renovated steadily and is currently in good shape. One room remains to be renovated, but most work is complete in the other rooms. The Chief said he is continuing to look for grant money to support the renovations.

The next meeting will be the April 8 with the schools and the library .

The Zoom meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Pete Murphy
Secretary, Fincom and CIB