

**Town of West Boylston
Finance/CIB Committee
Meeting of April 20, 2021**

A meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 7:02 pm in the Senior Center multifunction room. Attending Fincom and CIB members were Chris Berglund, Ray Bricault, Paul Bohannon, Pete Murphy, and Paul Redmond. Austin Cyganiewicz, Bill Fay, Mary Foley, and Jim Marinelli were absent. Mark Frieden attended as a public observer.

The minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2021 were approved by a vote of 5-0.

The Library capital request for boiler replacement was reviewed. Pete Murphy reported that Rise Engineering, Roger Harris, responded to three options for heat pumps:

- 1) Air to water heat pump (AWHP) heating the existing circulating water system, similar to the boilers was feasible and would cost something over \$100,000, more than the boiler replacement (\$98,000).
- 2) Multiple Room heating and cooling units would require too many units and be much more expensive.
- 3) Add heat pump heating to the existing cooling air handling system may be feasible but will require an engineering study at \$5,000 to \$8,000 to determine the sizing and the cost.

After discussion, Ray Bricault moved and Paul Redmond seconded a motion to not fund Library replacement boilers now, but recommend to the Town Administrator the engineering study to determine the feasibility and cost of the two options (1 and 3). The motion was approved by Fincom and CIB, 5-0

The DPW capital requests were reviewed:

- The zero turn mower (\$14,000) and the aerator (\$17,000) are below the capital minimum of \$20,000 and will be considered for supply through free cash.
- The Excavator (\$70,000) and the Chevy 2500 truck with plow (\$44,000) were passed over for not enough information, as moved by Ray Bricault and seconded by Chris Berglund. The motion was approved 5-0.
- A motion was made by Pete Murphy, seconded by Paul Redmond, to endorse the 7400 truck with plow and salt spreader at \$220,000. The motion was approved 5-0. Discussion was that this truck was essential for winter operation.

The School capital request for paving was reviewed. The paving condition was inspected and is poor. Some work needs to be done. The Schools still do not have a current cost estimate or a DPW evaluation. School Choice funding is not available for this purpose and therefore the

Schools made a capital request. A motion to pass over was made by Ray Bricault, seconded by Chris Berglund. The motion was approved 5-0

The Fire capital requests were reviewed. The turnout gear request (\$25,000) will be funded through a grant and not capital. The generator replacement (\$35,000) requires more work to obtain a code compliant bid and will not be considered at this town meeting. The Forestry truck (\$140,000) was again extensively discussed. The CIB agreed that all the possible alternatives for funding of this equipment had been explored over the last 3 years with no success. There is little choice but to move ahead with this equipment to insure the fire department can respond adequately to any fire situation. Pete Murphy moved to endorse, Paul Bohnson seconded, this capital request. The motion was approved 5-0.

Fire regionalization was discussed. This effort to reduce the cost of fire equipment and ensure available personnel still needs a leader to promote the idea. The future for fire equipment replacement includes a ladder truck (new or rehab) and a pumper at great expense.

Winter cleaning of DPW trucks was discussed. A wash station is still needed to prevent continuing serious corrosion of the plow trucks. Paul Redmond volunteered to find out about the Leominster wash station and whether other towns could contract to use it. Mark Frieden commented that leasing companies have wash systems that could potentially be contracted. This item was tabled for further discussion at the next meeting.

Work on the Fincom CIB report to town meeting is ongoing. Ray Bricault and Pete Murphy will provide an outline.

The next meeting will be the April 26 in person at the Senior Center.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm as moved by Pete Murphy and Paul Bohnson.

Pete Murphy
Secretary, Fincom and CIB