

**Town of West Boylston
Finance/CIB Committee
Meeting of March 7, 2024**

A meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 6:00 pm in the meeting room at Town Hall. Attending Fincom and CIB members were Cliona Archambeault, Chris Berglund, Jason Brockway, Ray Bricault, Mary Foley, and Pete Murphy. Town Administrator, Jennifer Warren-Dyment, also attended the meeting.

Ray Bricault made a motion to approve the minutes of meeting for February 29. Mary Foley seconded and the vote to approve was 6-0.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the FY25 department capital requests. Attending were Tom Degnan of DPW, Mark Sadowski of Fire, and Mike Long of the Library.

DPW capital requests:

1). 2016 IH truck - This truck experienced an engine failure this winter. The DPW had to borrow a truck from Boylston for winter plowing. The engine in this IH truck is known to fail early. Engine replacement expense is close to a complete truck body replacement. Since the stainless dump bed can be transferred, the DPW is recommended a truck replacement for \$272,000. This truck urgently needs replacement.

2) 2005 IH truck - This truck has been on the capital replacement schedule for FY25. It has significant corrosion and maintenance problems common in a 20 year old vehicle. Replacement cost is \$272,000.

DPW needs 3 operating trucks for winter plowing and other activities. The replacement truck ordered on the FY24 capital budget has not been delivered, but is at the dealer awaiting outfitting.

3). DPW has two additional trucks on the capital schedule for FY26, next year; a 2002 F450 and 2006 7400. These trucks will include stainless dump bodies.

4) Prescott Street Bridge - The replacement cost is \$1.3 million. The work needs to be done soon, but a grant is expected for up to 100% of the cost. Once the grant amount is known, any additional funding will be requested at the fall town meeting.

5) DPW building condition is poor and a replacement study is needed. A campus plan is needed together with Fire and \$200,000 in free cash set-aside will be requested at the May town meeting to fund the RFP for a study.

6). Pride Park phase 2 - \$25,000 is needed to complete the design, but the build out is expected to cost \$750,000, which is unfunded. Therefore, the entire project is on hold until funding is clarified.

Library capital requests:

One of the two boilers at the library is shutdown due to lack of repair spare parts. The system is obsolete after 25 years and must be replaced. A replacement boiler is \$30,000. A larger boiler system could be used to replace both old boilers with a cost of up to \$60,000. The proposed and engineered HVAC heat pump system remains unfunded and too expensive for the town.

Both the elevator rehab and the rubber roof replacement are being postponed. The elevator is operating well and is ADA compliant. The rubber roof is not leaking, but needs an evaluation and estimate, which will happen this summer.

Fire capital requests:

- 1). Air pack replacement is pending a grant approval. The grant application has just been submitted. If the grant includes the bottles, the FY24 capital expense approved for bottles will not be needed.
- 2) Engine 5 replacement is \$1 million and is being deferred.
- 3) Defibrillator replacement has been deferred to FY26 when they expire. Units are working and parts are available. A new and better product is also anticipated.
- 4) Campus feasibility study - Fire will be included in the study being funded by \$200,000 in free cash for the DPW.
- 5). Emergency generator replacement is requested for FY25 for \$75,000 from the CIF. The new generator will be sized to service the entire fire station and emergency systems at the DPW, including the fuel pumps. The generator will continue to use the propane system. The 20 year old propane tank has been inspected and is suitable for continued use with the new generator.
- 6). Polaris Ranger utility vehicle is requested for FY25 using a transfer of unspent ARPA money of \$40,074. The Select Board has approved this transfer. This is an off road vehicle to be used for remote trail locations and with large crowds. A motion to endorse this fund transfer and use was made by Cliona Archambeault and seconded by Jason Brockway. The motion was approved by Fincom vote of 6-0.
- 7). A used light tower has been acquired by Fire and will be restored and painted by Curtis Industries without charge.
- 8). Marine One boat and trailer have been inspected and are in good condition. A request for replacement will be deferred for the time being.

The next meetings are scheduled for March 14 and 21, in person at Town Hall.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:45 pm by Cliona Archambeault and seconded by Jason Brockway. All voted in favor 6-0 for Fincom and 6-0 for CIB.

Pete Murphy
Secretary, Fincom and CIB