



**TOWN OF NORTON  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

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Date: September 28, 2015      Time: 6:00 P.M.

Location: Selectmen's Meeting Room, Norton Municipal Center, 70 East Main Street, Norton, MA 02766

Members Present: Robert W. Kimball, Jr., George Burgess, Michael Flaherty, and Michael D. Yunits

Members Not Present: School Committee Representative

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Sewer Department

Bernard K. Marshall, Water/Sewer Superintendent

Mr. Marshall discussed the Department's request for \$50,000.00 to upgrade the SCADA Systems in the Great Woods and Cobb Street pump stations. A quote in the amount of \$23,250.00 was received to upgrade one of the systems. They are both the same, so Mr. Marshall estimates the cost to be \$46,500.00. Mr. Marshall is requesting \$50,000.00 for the job in case there are any contingencies. The two systems are 1990s technology and need to be upgraded. Cobb Street is the largest pump station in the system. The money for the upgrade is available in the Sewer fund.

The Town Manager asked the Water/Sewer Superintendent to speak on the need for more funding for the Town Center Pump Station project. Mr. Marshall stated that as they move forward in the design, their engineer has recommended that they increase the funding by \$300,000.00 to cover any contingencies. Right now, they are cutting it too close.

Highway Department

Keith Silver, Highway Superintendent

Mr. Silver spoke on the requests of the Highway Department. He reminded the Committee that new requests were deferred to the Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Silver expressed the Department's need to replace a 1991 dump truck that is falling apart, adding that he is concerned that it will not make it through the winter. Mr. Silver would like to replace the truck with a 2.5 Ton 6-wheeler with a plow. The total cost is \$155,000.00, and the Town can lease to own with a yearly payment of \$31,000.00. Mr. Silver also feels it is in the Town's best interest to replace a 1995 backhoe. The cost to purchase a 4x4 backhoe would be \$140,000.00, with a yearly payment in the amount of \$28,000.00.

Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Silver if it was his intention to get rid of the equipment he was seeking to replace. Mr. Silver indicated that he would be putting the equipment up for auction. Mr. Silver informed the Committee that his preference would be for the Town to utilize Municibid for the auction.

Mr. Burgess stated that he noticed the School Department has a request for a pick-up truck with sander in its capital request. Mr. Burgess was interested in learning whether a hydraulics license is required to operate it. Mr. Silver stated that such a license is not necessary and added that the School Department definitely needs a truck. In Mr. Silver's opinion, the dump truck they have is "junk", and he doesn't understand why the School Department would not purchase a small dump truck.

### Fire Department

Paul J. Schleicher, Sr., Fire Chief

Chief Schleicher began his presentation with the Department's request for replacement of turnout gear. The \$19,500.00 requested will enable him to stay current with the 10-year rule and will allow the purchase of 16 helmets and 7 sets of gear. The helmets are \$300.00 each, and the gear costs \$2,100.00 each. Mr. Burgess asked the Chief if he had researched grant money, and the Chief replied that grant money has pretty much dried up.

The discussion moved to the Fire Department's request for mapping software. The Chief stated that the Town is currently looking at regional dispatch, and we are way behind on technology. Chief Schleicher stated that this request should be a Communications Department request, but the Fire Department can use Ambulance Receipts to pay for half of it. The Town Manager stated that perhaps this matter should be brought before the Spring Town Meeting.

Mr. Flaherty asked about the current balances of the Ambulance and Capital accounts. The Town Manager advised the Committee that the information would be provided at the next meeting.

Chief Schleicher continued with a discussion of the requested Chartley Station renovations. The Chief added that he has had this matter as a placeholder on the Department's capital plan for a while; however, as the manpower of the Department is increased, it is his goal to open the Chartley Station. The Chief has received estimates and believes \$100,000.00 will do the job. Mr. Kimball asked the Town Manager if the Building Committee had reviewed this matter. Mr. Yunits indicated that he was not sure if the Building Committee had visited the Chartley Station.

### Municipal Building

Michael Yunits, Town Manager

The Municipal Building request was presented by the Town Manager. Mr. Yunits seeks \$70,000.00 for an envelope study of all Town and School buildings. Mr. Yunits stated that this study will give the Building Committee a baseline so that it can prioritize the needs and timelines for repairs. Mr. Kimball stated that he was not sure that the problems should be uncovered, and Mr. Flaherty expressed concern over the potential liability this could open up. The Town Manager stressed the importance of developing a priority list.

Out of necessity, a motion was made by Mr. Yunits to approve minutes of the May 11, 2015, Capital Improvements Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kimball, and it was so voted 2-0-2.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Flaherty and seconded by Mr. Kimball. It was voted 4-0 to adjourn.


**List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:**

Five Year Capital Plan with Spring Vote and Fall Requests  
Minutes (05/11/15)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

  
Chairman

