**Capital Expenditures Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, January 9, 2017, 6:30 PM**

**O’Brien Meeting Room, Dedham Town Hall**

**Members Present:** Amy Paxson, Peter Springer, Michael Podolski, Susan Fay and Marianne Martin

Ms. Paxson called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

**Discussion and hearings for FY18 Capital Requests**

**Police Department:**

Police Vehicles- Chief D’Entremont explained this is an annual request. He confirmed that they do not have set in stone which ones are being replaces, but there are a couple of Chargers that are having a lot of problems and are operated 24/7. There are also some Tahoes with wear and tear on the engine that they can consider replacing.

6:43 PM: Marianne Martin arrived to the meeting.

Mr. Podolski commented that he is fine giving them the money and allowing them the freedom of choosing their own type of vehicles, as they did last year.

Ms. Fay asked if vehicles should be run 24/7 or if it would be better to have more cars. The Chief responded that generally there are not too many problems as a result of the 24/7 operation, and added that the Crown Victoria’s used to be able to handle it fine.

Ms. Martin confirmed with the Chief that they are averaging 5 years.

Communication Equipment**-** The Chief explained they are requesting replacement radios. The radios are generally replaced after about 10 years, and in the final year before they are discontinued they will replace the rest of them.

Mr. Podolski confirmed with the Chief that the radios are warrantied and that they normally buy an extended warrantee. He also confirmed with the Chief that Motorola is the market leader.

Mr. Springer confirmed with the Chief that they will replace the rest of the radios in 2020.

Laptop Computers-TheChief explained a request for 10 mobile data terminals. These computers allow the officers to connect into the records management system while in the vehicles. He confirmed there is a regular replacement cycle schedule they are following for these computers, and that there is a 3 year warrantee. The model they plan to purchase is new this year.

**7:00 PM: Fire Department**

Vehicles- Chief Spillane explained that the Chief’s car lasts 5 years, and they usually get another 3 years out of it for fire prevention.

Mr. Podolski confirmed the Ford Expedition being requested is for the Chief, and for $40,000 it includes the total package with lights, etc.

Ms. Paxson asked the Chief to provide a list of the Fire Department’s vehicles.

Extrication Equipment-The Chief explained that he is requesting a 3rd set of this extrication equipment, and that so far they have had good luck with them.

Fire Hose-This is an annual request. Fire hoses have a shelf life of 10 years, but they average about 5 years with each hose, especially the smaller diameter hoses.

Ms. Martin confirmed with the Chief that if there is damage to the hose, the whole hose needs to be replaced; it cannot be repaired.

Mr. Podolski confirmed with the Chief that while the hoses are warrantied, they will not consider anything beyond normal wear and tear.

Ms. Podolski confirmed each engine company has their own set of hoses.

Protective Clothing-The Chief explained that they need 2 sets of protective clothing per firefighter. 42 of the 65 firefighters have one set of gear that has not lapsed over 10 years. Equipment has to be disposed of after 10 years. The washing machine that was purchased a couple of years ago has helped them to preserve the useful life of this clothing.

Ms. Paxson confirmed with the Chief that the 65 being requested is for 1 new primary set for each of the firefighters. There are 42 sets that are still ok to use as secondary sets. The Chief believes he has enough money left over from this year and a previous year that can be factored in to purchase the additional 23 that are needed.

Truck Equipment-

* Mobile Radios**-** They need to replace the rest of the mobile radios this year. The last 3 of the previous model on the trucks is no longer supported by Motorola. The Chief confirmed that he tried to keep the same model as the other towns they need to communicate with where possible.
* Thermal imaging cameras- The current model they own was purchased 7 or 8 years ago. They still work well, but are bulky. At times, the screen will freeze. They are expensive to repair when issues occur. They would be able to clip the new ones on their gear when needed, freeing up their hands. They need to have one on each truck. The cameras are manufactured by Bullard and Scott.

**Planning & Economic Development**

John Sisson, the Economic Development Director was present along with Richard McCarthy, Planning Director.

Mother Brook National Park Registry- Mr. Sisson explained there is a community effort to get Mother Brook Canal nominated to the National Park Service with a historic designation. Ms. Martin questioned why this was capital. Mr. Kern responded that he would rather have the discussion of what is capital at a different time. Ms. Martin questioned why it is necessary to do this. Mr. Sisson explained that it is primarily for tourism. They feel this is an overlooked historical aspect and the hope is to have signage and overlooks for those who want to visit. The goal is to bring attention to it. Mr. Kern explained that capital has a longer view than operational, so that is part of the reason this is here.

Mr. Podolski asked how they arrive at the $15,000 number for the request. Mr. Sisson confirmed he had spoken with a consultant to get that number.

Richard McCarthy added that they need professionals qualified in this area to make the application in order to get the designation, and that is what the request is for.

Elizabeth Martin, from the Dedham Times, commented that she has experience with this process and agrees it is necessary to hire a professional to apply for it.

East Dedham Streetscape Improvements- The request was for $15,000 for have a plan created for East Dedham streets, parking and sidewalks improvements. It is possible they will get a grant for this.

Cost Benefit Analysis of Town Acquiring Property MBTA**-** Mr. Podolski confirmed with Mr. McCarthy that this would be to study the use of this property should it be acquired. Mr. Podolski commented that he hasn’t heard talk of this under Open Space Committee.

Mr. McCarthy responded that the evaluation is more focused on municipal use long term for different needs.

Mr. Kern added that they would also be able to better determine the opportunity cost.

Mr. Podolski confirmed with Mr. McCarthy that this study would include a 21-e assessment.

Zoning Layer Map- Mr. McCarthy explained that in 2019 he would like to improve the GIS layer accuracy for zoning. The cost he is estimating now is $60,000, but this number may be significantly higher than what is actually needed. They would use a consultant to inspect the maps then could get a better number. He needs to look externally because the internal GIS department has limited time to be able to address a project of this scope.

**Public Works**

Roads- Joseph Flanagan, Director of Public Works, explained the roads is his largest request, and also an annual request. The amount requested is $1.5 million, and they are on the 2nd year of a 3 year plan.

Sidewalks- The request was for $500,000 and is an annual request for repair and maintenance of existing sidewalks. It does not include construction of new sidewalks.

Sewer Repair- This is also an annual request that is funded out of the sewer enterprise fund to repair sewer mains and manholes.

Landscaping and Misc. Improvements- The request was for $40,000.

MS4 Permit- Mr. Flanagan explained this is required as part of an EPA federal mandate, and is an annual Request.

Motor Equipment- Mr. Flanagan explained this is an annual request. This year they would like to replace a 2008 street sweeper (5 year lifespan), a 2004 F-550, and a 1996 F-350.

Brookdale Cemetery- The request was for $25,000. This is an annual request.

Village Cemetery- This is also an annual request and it will be used primarily for cleaning and resetting stones.

Sprague Street Sidewalk- Mr. Flanagan explained that this will cost approximately $400,000. Some if it will be done by the Town, but they will need to bring in another company to do other parts of it.

Cedar Street Sidewalk- Mr. Flanagan explained this would go from Endicott to Oakdale Square. The request was for $275,000. When asked, Mr. Flanagan said this sidewalk was more of a priority in his opinion due to the nearby school.

Transfer Station- Mr. Flanagan explained this would be for a new facility. He doesn’t think the Town will need to come up with any of the money.

Culvert- Mr. Flanagan explained this would be for Wigwam Pond behind Boch Ice; it is having some flooding issues near Allied drive. Mr. Flanagan added that they have studied this for 2 years they would be requesting funding for the design and implementation.

**Old/New Business:**

Mr. Kern explained that he may have additional request to present to the Committee at the next meeting. Dr. Teehan had a request to look at the Wetlands Bylaw, but he will need to work with the Conservation office to put that request together for the Committee.

Ms. Martin asked, with regards to the ratings, why useful life is part of the equation. Ms. Paxson responded that while the importance of this aspect is questionable, the weight of it is so minimal within the ratings that she is not sure it needs to be addressed. Ms. Martin suggested adding quantity and unit price columns to the rating sheet, which the Committee agreed would be useful.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30 PM.

Mr. Springer made a motion to adjourn at 9:29 PM, seconded by Ms. Fay, UA.