

Capital Planning working Committee
Minutes of Meeting
March 23,2021

Members Present: Michele McAuley, Chairwomen
John Halbreich
Steve Klein
Richard Long
Beth Reynolds
Mark Warner
Nat Yohalem

Others Present: Maureen Krejci

With all members present, Steve called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Mark approved Richard Seconded. Nat recused himself as he was not present at the last meeting. Roll call was taken and the minutes were approved.

Steve: please make sure that the minutes of the meetings are sent to the town Clerk.

Steve shared the Capital plan that he and Michele have been working on. It showed that the five-year requests amounted to \$8.8 million. That is in FY2022 request of \$1.8million, FY2023 request of \$1.1million, FY2024 request of \$3.7million, FY2025 request of \$1.8million and in FY2026 request of \$.4million.

Mark: the \$25,000 in the tree budget should come out of the capital plan and be out in the operating budget.

Richard: The transfer station will receive 80 hours of consulting for it future needs. More information will be provided.

Michele: What can we fund?

Maureen discussed the Enterprise Fund is to provide funding for the Ambulance budget. She outlined how there are increasing budget needs as there is a country-wide shortage of volunteers. New Marlborough has supported the EMT with a small stipend which in total is about \$32,000 annually. It is important to fund that stipend.

Steve: The total budget for the Ambulance and rescue is approximately \$74,000.

Richard: Fees should at a level to be able to pay for replacing the ambulance. He is looking into how the fund is set-up and we do not know if we are covering depreciation costs.

Nat: What is the balance in the fund, which is in excess of \$200,000. The life span of an ambulance is approximately 10 years. Joe said there is possible a secondary market for the the current ambulance of \$15,000 to \$25,000.

Maureen said that many of the fees charged were at a sublevel as they were Medicaid runs. Medicaid reimbursement is quite low.

We all know Maureen and Joe do a fantastic job and provide a great service for the Town of New Marlborough, and we are all thankful.
It is not Maureen's job to do the accounting for the Enterprise Fund.

Steve: we take in on annual basis approximately \$50/\$60,000 in fees. There is a shortfall.

Richard will look into more about the Enterprise Fund. The Fund might provide some help to the budget.

Steve provided the committee with a spread sheet that made assumptions that delayed some of the requests to the out years past perhaps the five years we are looking at and with 15 years debt at an interest rate of 2%.

Beth: we will have accumulated shortfalls.

Nat: Does not believe that the town will support \$2.1million for the renovation of Town Hall.

Mark: Can we find out if there is a secondary market where we can purchase vehicles rather than buying them new?

Beth has had conversation with Unibank and thought that we might have the capacity of \$1.1 million in debt.

Michele: what is the amount if debt that the town can take on without a huge jump in taxes and raising a reasonable amount if money for the stabilization fund?

Next meeting of the capital planning committee is March 30th at 7:00PM.

Meeting was adjourned was adjourned at 7:40PM.