

MONTAGUE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 3:15 PM

Meeting Held Remotely

In Attendance:

CIC Members: Gregory Garrison (GG), Ariel Elan (AE), Jason Burbank (JB), Chris Menegoni (CM)

Town Staff: Water Ramsey (WR)- Assistant Town Admin, Chelsey Little (CL)- Clean Water Superintendent, Jon Dobosz (JD)- Parks Director

Meeting convened 3:15, GG presiding

1.Approval of Minutes: None

3. Review and Consider Recommendation of Capital Requests for FY24 Annual Town Meeting: including but not limited to the following requests:

Clean Water Facility- Operations Building Boiler Replacement (\$113,419)

CL briefed the Board and provided updated information. A 56Kw Vacuum Pellet Boiler pellet system with an external silo for pellet storage is the most suitable heating system for the operations building. The CIC and CL considered several fuel options for the new furnace. Natural Gas is not available. Heat Pumps are not recommended due to the hydrogen sulfide and plant safety requirements. Oil burners would carry a cost premium to re-line the chimney.

The CIC recommends replacing the oil boiler with a pellet fuel system for the following reasons:

- Pellet boiler will be cheaper than in-kind replacement of an oil boiler. (\$113,500 for pellet system vs \$130,000 for oil).
- Pellet fuel cost savings are projected to be \$12,000 per year over oil
- The pellet boiler system carries a 30 year warranty and 30 year life cycle. This equates to a 10 year payback.
- The town may be eligible for a 35% grant from USDA Forest Service Wood Innovation Grant Program (\$39,725)

- Numerous municipal facilities such as the Olver Transit Center in Greenfield use pellet fuel.

Exterior (silo) storage will be necessary due to the lack of physical space for pellet storage inside the Operations Building.

The CIC notes that there will still need to be a future ventilation system capital project in the operations building to address air quality due hydrogen sulfides. However, the CIC agrees with the CWF Superintendent that pursuing the boiler at this time as a separate project is prudent.

MOTION to Recommend at \$113,500 by AE. Seconded by JB. B. GG- AYE, AE- AYE, JB- AYE, CM- AYE. **MOTION CARRIED**

7. Parks and Recreation- Unity Skatepark Lighting Project (\$66,000)

The CIC is not comfortable recommending the project without an installation quote. JD will work to receive that quote from a qualified installer. He anticipated bringing this back for Fall Special Town Meeting

REQUEST WITHDRAWN by JD. More info is needed on installation costs.

6. Parks and Recreation- Montague Center Park Improvements (\$400,000)

Yesterday, the Parks Department received an Order of Magnitude cost estimate from the project architect. The cost is over \$1.5M for the total project. This blows the current, voted, budget out of the water. Jon thinks substantiation elements can still happen under PARC, however, we needs to work with his park planning committee to adjust the scope of the project. He will do that and revisit the CIC in advance of a Fall Special Town Meeting.

REQUEST WITHDRAWN by JD. Scope needs to be defined based on new budget figures.

MOTION to rescind the vote to recommend the article taken on 3/1/23 by GG. Seconded by JB. B. GG- AYE, AE- AYE, JB-AYE, CM- AYE. **MOTION CARRIED**

4. Review of annual CIC Report. The Board authorized the submittal and distribution of the FY24 annual CIC report as authored by WR.

Next Meeting: 3/15/2023 6:00 Joint CIC meeting

***MOTION** to close the meeting at 4:40 PM by JB. Seconded by AE. GG- AYE, AE- AYE, JB- AYE. Motion Carried*

Respectfully Submitted,

Walter Ramsey