

## **MONTAGUE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:15 PM**

### **Meeting Held Remotely**

#### **In Attendance:**

CIC Members: Gregory Garrison (GG), Ariel Elan (AE) (3:20), Jason Burbank (JB), Chris Menegoni (CM), Lynn Reynolds (LR)

Town Staff: Water Ramsey (WR)- Assistant Town Admin, Chelsey Little- CWF Superintendent, Tom Bergeron- DPW Superintendent

Meeting convened 3:15, GG presiding

#### **1. Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION by JB to approve the meeting minutes of 6/14/23. Seconded by CM. GG-AYE, JB- AYE, CM- AYE, LR ABSTAINING. MOTION PASSED**

#### **2. Review and Consider Capital Article Requests for October 10 Special Town Meeting**

##### **Clean Water Facility- Facility Generator Installation (\$209,000)**

CL presented the project. Budget request is based on 8/21 bid results and includes a 10% construction contingency. A significant contingency is needed because the low bidder is significantly lower than the next lowest bidder. The bid is taken under advisement and town is conducting due diligence. The specs were developed by Wright-Pierce. CL confirmed the engineers will be involved in the project administration and that should help mitigate potential change orders. All possible measures have been taken by CWF to reduce project costs including the procurement of used generator at a savings and the assumption of significant elements of site work. The transfer switch alone costs over \$50,000. The project now totals \$439,000. Funded by a 5/22 \$130,000 article, a \$100,000 state earmark grant, and the current \$209,000 supplemental request. The CWF is legally required to have an operational emergency backup generator.

**MOTION by GG to recommend that Town Meeting authorize up to \$209,000 to complete the generator installation at the CWF. Seconded by LR. GG-AYE, JB- AYE, CM- AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE. MOTION PASSED**

##### **Clean Water Facility- Pump Station Generator Replacement (x2) (\$95,000)**

CL presented the project. J Street and G Street pump stations are the two oldest. The generators were planned for replacement in the CIP starting FY25, but a Feb 2023 report indicated that the replacement must be fast-tracked because the stations are at risk of an expensive failure. Parts

are not longer available for the current generators. CWF is legally required to maintain working backup generators at each pump station. The report was provided in the materials. The Committee reviewed the budget.

**MOTION by GG to recommend that Town Meeting authorize up to \$95,000 to replace emergency backup generators at two sewer pump stations. Seconded by CM. GG-AYE, JB- AYE, CM- AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE. MOTION PASSED**

#### **National Pollution Discharge Elimination Program Compliance (NPDES) articles**

There are 3 articles related to NPDES compliance: Local Limits Study, Collections Maintenance and Operations Plan, and general collections system compliance efforts. These do not meet the definition of 'capital project' in the town financial policies, however they are contextually important for capital planning. GG notes that collectively the 3 articles approach \$200,000. The last NPDES permit was issued to the town in 2008. Typically NPDES permits are issued every 8 years. GG suggested that the town should budget/plan for these expenses in the long term. It was noted that the cycle and the needs are unpredictable, but it would be good to plan ahead as much as possible.

**No Votes taken.**

#### **Department of Public Works- Skid Steer (\$90,000)**

TB presented the request for a new skid steer. This a new piece of equipment that will be added to the equipment inventory. DPW currently borrows the Airport's skid steer and the DPW has found that there a significant efficiencies to be gained through this piece of equipment for plowing, mowing, and public works. The DPW anticipates being able to share attachments with the Airport (mower, snowthrower, blade, etc). The DPW requires this piece of equipment for mowing of steep, difficult to access slopes such as the burn dump. As of this year, the town is legally required to mow this area. The skid steer will also improve the efficiency of plowing streetscapes and sidewalks. This piece of equipment is not listed on the Capital Plan as it was not an anticipated expense. TB expects the equipment to last for at least 15 years. GG was surprised that DPW did not already have a skid steer.

**MOTION by GG to recommend that Town Meeting authorize up to \$90,000 to purchase a skid steer loader for the Department of Public Works. Seconded by LR. GG-AYE, JB- AYE, CM- AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE. MOTION PASSED**

#### **Parks and Recreation- Montague Center Playscape PARC grant match (\$160,000)**

WR recapped the project. In March the CIC has previously reviewed the project and voted to support the article. The article ultimately delayed to Fall so that Parks could do some more due diligence and refine the scope. Currently the plan is to replace the playscape only for the grant. The total project cost of \$500,000 is the maximum project amount and also based on a landscape architects opinion of probable cost. The project is listed as a FY24 project on the current Capital Plan. Accessibility improvements are a central piece to the project.

**MOTION by GG to recommend that Town Meeting authorize up to \$500,000 through the reimbursable PARC grant program for the purpose of reconstructing the playscape in Montage Center. Seconded by LR. GG-AYE, JB- AYE, CM- AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE. MOTION PASSED**

3. **ARPA Capital Project updates:** Tabled to next meeting
4. **Establish next meeting date(s):** Wednesday September 6 3:15PM

Meeting adjourned 4:35PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Walter Ramsey, Assistant Town Administrator