

MONTAGUE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Accessible Via Zoom Only

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88366365837?pwd=RCK20VO2m7lxsIG74BkBlXjuHDCeL.1>

Meeting ID: 883 6636 5837 Passcode: 982186

Wednesday, February 5, 2025, 3:30 pm

In Attendance:

CIC Members: Gregory Garrison (GG), Chris Menegoni (CM), Ariel Elan (AE), Lynn Reynolds (LR) (arrived at 3:51PM), Jason Burbank (JB) (arrived at 4:00PM)

Town Staff: Christopher Nolan-Zeller (CNZ) – Assistant Town Administrator, Sam Urkiel (SU) – Public Works Superintendent

Meeting called to order 3:37PM, GG Presiding

1. Call to Order and Approve any outstanding meeting minutes: 1/29/25

CNZ explained that minutes from the previous meeting had not been finalized yet, and requested their approval be tabled to the next meeting.

2. Discussion with DPW Superintendent Sam Urkiel; review of vehicle replacement requests
 - a. Replace 2003 International 7400 10 wheel dump truck (\$365,000)
 - b. Replace 2002 International 4900 dump truck (\$325,000)
 - c. Replace 2001 Ford E450 camera van (\$70,000)
 - d. Replace 2007 Ford F-150 pickup (\$65,000)

GG asked how urgent the two dump truck replacements were, and how often they were utilized.

SU responded that these trucks were used for winter treatment on major roads. With changing regulations for the purchase of diesel trucks, towns are being encouraged to purchase these vehicles now, due to the necessity of having functional equipment, and the impracticality of fully-electric plow trucks.

AE asked for clarification on whether both trucks were on the capital plan for replacement this year. SU responded that they were.

GG thanked SU for explaining the regulatory situation, noting that the Finance Committee would further review this request. SU reiterated that with the state considering adoption of the Advanced Clean Truck rule, purchasing heavy-duty vehicles could soon become more complicated and expensive.

AE asked about diesel emissions. SU responded that these vehicles require Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF), which is nitrogenous and traps some emissions from being released. He added that the state would likely exempt plow vehicles if the Advanced Clean Truck rule is adopted, but this is uncertain.

AE asked about the difference between the two trucks requested for replacement. SU responded that both have similar uses, including plowing, spreading, asphalt and gravel hauling, and the moving of trailers and equipment.

AE asked if both trucks are used concurrently for snow removal. SU responded that they were, and the installation of a wingplow extended the plowable area so fewer passes were necessary.

CM asked if other vehicles could have a wingplow attachment. SU responded that only the 10-wheelers can handle this, and the department is still waiting for the new 10-wheel truck that was ordered last year.

LR asked whether recent federal activities were affecting any of the department's operations. SU answered that he expected his department to be relatively unaffected.

AE asked when the new 10-wheel was expected to arrive. SU responded that the cab and chase have been built, and we are waiting on the body, then paint, with a hopeful arrival date of May-June.

CM asked for an update on the prospect of seeking grant funding to replace the F-150 currently used for errands with an electric vehicle. SU responded that this vehicle has 175,000 miles on it, but runs well, and expressed that it could be an excellent fit for an electric replacement. GG noted that the Ford Lightning could be purchased for \$67,200. SU noted that this amount could be reduced by taking advantage of incentives.

3. Review and vote all Capital Article Requests to Annual Town Meeting

MOTION to recommend the Clean Water Facility (CWF) request to purchase a used mini-excavator for \$60,000 by AE, CM Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-ABSENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION to recommend the CWF request for a portable emergency generator for \$30,000 by AE, CM Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-ABSENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION to recommend the CWF request for the Lake Pleasant station generator for \$37,800 by AE, CM Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-ABSENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION to recommend the CWF request for two (2) thickened sludge pump replacements for \$104,000 by AE, CM Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-ABSENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION to recommend the Department of Public Works (DPW) request for Phase 2 of the sewer collection system rehabilitation project for \$3,000,000 by AE, LR Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-ABSENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION to recommend the DPW request for replacement of the 2003 International 7400 10-wheel dump truck with wingplow and spreader for \$365,000 by AE, GG Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-ABSENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION to recommend the DPW request for replacement of the 2002 International 4900 dump truck for \$325,000 by AE, LR Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-ABSENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION to recommend the DPW request for replacement of the 2001 Ford E450 camera van for \$70,000 by AE, GG Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-ABSENT. MOTION PASSED

GG requested that voting on the replacement of the 2007 F-150 pickup be delayed until CNZ had worked with SU to evaluate grant opportunities.

MOTION to recommend the DPW request for Oakman Street slope stabilization for \$60,000 by AE, LR Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

GG recommended that the \$200,000 requested for Meadow Road guardrail replacement be included in bonding.

MOTION to recommend the DPW request for Meadow Road guardrail work for \$200,000 by AE, CM Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

No vote was taken on the DPW Discretionary fund request, as a final number would be based on the balance of this fund as of March 1, 2025.

MOTION to recommend the DPW request for alley and non-Chapter 90 road paving for \$30,000 by AE, CM Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION to recommend the Libraries' request for Millers Falls Library storefront renovation for \$39,000 by AE, LR Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION to recommend Parks & Recreation's request for Unity Park playground improvements for \$125,000 by AE, LR Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION to recommend the Selectboard's request for FRTA bus stop improvements at Industrial Blvd and Millers Falls Rd for \$60,000 by LR, AE Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION to recommend the Selectboard's request for Montague Center Complete Streets Design for \$91,200 by CM, LR Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Next steps in the FY26 Capital Planning Cycle

CNZ and GG would work on drafting the CIC's report to Annual Town Meeting. The committee would reconvene in March to discuss an update to the 5-year capital plan.

5. Topics not anticipated in the 48 hour posting requirements

None.

6. Establish next meeting date(s)

The next meeting would be remote and held jointly with the Finance Committee at 5:30PM on 2/26.

7. Adjournment

MOTION to close the meeting at 4:35PM by GG, LR Seconded. CM-AYE, GG-AYE, LR-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Nolan-Zeller