

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee Meeting (via Zoom)
Town of Temple
Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2020

Attendees: Gail Cromwell (Chair), Gary Scholl, Ivy Bibler, Andy Paul, Tim Fiske, Ken Caisse

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Cromwell reminded participants that the meeting was being held electronically pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, Section 8, Emergency Order #12, Section 3.

Highway truck replacements

The Committee revisited the plan for Highway Department truck replacements. Fiske reported that he spoke to Road Agent Kent Perry, who reported frequent problems with the 2011 Ford F550 6-wheel dump truck, indicating that replacement in 2021, as originally proposed, was a priority over replacing the 2006 International dump truck, which is operating reliably.

The Committee reviewed two alternative plans prepared by Scholl: the first calling for the repurposing in 2021 of the former Temple fire truck to serve as a dump truck (estimated cost: 80,000) as previously proposed by Perry, pushing the F550 replacement to 2022 (estimated cost: \$84,864); the second option reverts to the original plan of replacing the F550 in 2021 and purchasing a new truck to replace the International (estimated cost: \$192,800 spread over three years, beginning in 2022). Members discussed the pros and cons of each plan, as well as some variations.

With the Committee leaning toward purchasing a new truck to replace the International, Fiske suggested the replacement could be put off beyond 2022 as long as the 2006 truck continues to operate reliably. Paul recommended keeping the three-year funding proposal for the International replacement in the years 2022-2024 to avoid disrupting the CIP schedule in the subsequent years, where other significant expenditures are planned. He suggested that, if approved at Town Meeting, any or all of the three payments could be placed in the Highway Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for future purchase of the replacement vehicle.

Ultimately, the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the second alternative, replacing the F550 in 2021 and keeping the funding for the International truck replacement in the CIP plan for 2022-2024. Fiske said he would contact Perry and get an updated cost estimate on the F550 replacement. [Pursuant to the meeting, Fiske reported an estimated cost of \$93,000. The Highway Department has withdrawn its plan for repurposing the 1994 fire truck. Fiske said he would look into a possible market value for it.]

Chipper replacement

Still on Highway Dept. requests, Paul raised the issue of a replacement for the department's wood chipper, which was removed from the CIP schedule to allow the mower replacement in 2019. Fiske said a new chipper will likely be needed within the next 5 years at an estimated cost

of \$50,000. Cromwell questioned whether a chipper could be rented when needed. Fiske noted that there is often a rush for this equipment after storms or events that bring down trees and branches, noting that the town should have one on hand for when it is needed. The Committee discussed how and where to fit this expenditure into the CIP plan. Paul suggested adding money to the Highway Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund incrementally over the next five years or so to spread the impact out and to make most or all of the replacement cost available when needed. Scholl asked if the Committee was requesting to raise the target tax impact number from the present \$265,000 target to \$270,000 or some other number.

Following discussion, Scholl moved to raise the tax impact “smoothing” number by \$7,000, Cromwell seconded. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

Library furnace

Cromwell raised the question of the Library furnace, which is in the CIP plan for replacement in 2021 (estimated cost: \$12,000). She noted that Library Trustees reported they would not be able to get an HVAC professional in to assess the furnace until mid-December. Cromwell suggested removing the furnace replacement from 2021, pending the HVAC assessment.

Scholl asked Fiske whether there was an update on the Highway Paving project cost estimate for 2021. Fiske indicated he had no update. [Pursuant to the meeting, Fiske reported no change in the \$248,000 estimated cost].

Warrant articles

Cromwell noted that the Committee needed to draft warrant articles for the CIP-recommended capital expenditures. Cromwell moved, Fiske seconded, that the Committee adopt the revised CIP plan as discussed in the meeting and submit the following articles to the Select Board:

- Final payment on backhoe lease-purchase (\$34,048)
- Highway Department 2021 paving projects (\$248,000, with \$110,000 to come from Asphalt and Paving Expendable Trust)
- Purchase of F550 replacement truck (\$84,864, later revised to \$93,000)
- Contribution to Highway Vehicle/Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for future purchase of equipment (i.e. chipper) (\$7,000)

By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously. Cromwell appointed Paul to draft articles for review by the CIP Committee.

Minutes

The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes of the November 9, 2020 meeting as read.

New highway garage

Under New Business, Fiske provided the Committee with an update on the proposal under consideration to construct a new Highway Department facility in a different location in town. Speaking as Chair of the Land Use Committee, which has spent the past year studying possible locations for the new facility, Fiske reported that the Land Use Committee plans to submit a

warrant article to fund an engineering study, at an estimated cost of \$20,000 to \$25,000. Caisse suggested that a meeting with the Land Use, CIP and Budget Advisory Committees would be a good idea to begin the thinking about how to fund such an important and costly project.

Final meeting

Cromwell noted that a final meeting of the Committee is needed to finalize the CIP plan with updated numbers, review the proposed warrant articles, and wrap up the Committee's work. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 6 at 5 p.m. and will be virtual (changed subsequent to the meeting to January 8).

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.