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2018 APR 27 A 11:01

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Town of Ludlow, Massachusetts *Capital Improvement Planning Committee*

Minutes of the March 29, 2018 Capital Improvement Planning Committee. Meeting began at 6:00 p.m. and adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Members present Luis Vitorino, Ellie Villano, ~~Eric~~ , ~~Gregoire~~, Ray Phoenix, Derek DeBarge and Dolly Cincone. Kim Collins was absent.

Committee met with Chris Davis, Chairman Board of Trustees for the Hubbard Memorial Library, Patrick McGowan, Director of Hubbard Memorial Library, Bob Mishol, Board of Trustees

They are requesting \$42,500 for the replacement of the HVAC unit on the roof. It is in need of repairs and each repair could be about \$5,000. The unit is 30 years old. They stated that a new scope of work could place it in the low \$30,000. There are not major components that need replacement but repairs... The Committee requested that the Library go back and get an estimate from a different company ASAP and bring the estimates back to the Committee as the quote received was too old and several items were excluded for the quote.

Chief Ryan Pease met with the Committee to discuss his request of \$40,000 for a Deputy Chief vehicle. He would like to purchase the vehicle in this fiscal year using half the funds from his current budget and half the funds from the ambulance subscription account. The Deputy Chief is the Director of EMS.

Moved by R. Phoenix, second by D. Cincone to recommend approval of an amount not to exceed \$40,000 to purchase a vehicle for the Deputy Fire Chief with the understanding that the money would come from \$20,000 from ambulance subscription and another \$20,000 from the remaining 2018 Fiscal Budget subject to a review of its use of the ambulance subscription and that they have money in the budget and approval from the Finance committee.

Vote: 5 – 0 favor

Committee meet with members of the Radio Communications Advisory Committee. Members present were Police Chief Paul Madera, Fire Chief Ryan Pease, School Superintendent Dr. Todd Gazda and Director of Public Works Steve Frederick. This committee is presenting the need for a town wide communications infrastructure system replacement. Chief Madera did most of the

presentation. The current system was replaced and upgraded in 1995. Past town meetings allowed for the hiring of a consultant to perform a Needs Assessment and provide a report. The committee meet with this company to review and discuss the report. They will hold a presentation on April 10th from 1:00 pm. To 3:00 p.m. at the Ludlow Police Station for all stakeholders. Radios are running a digital system going to analog. This infrastructure will support the Police, Fire, DPW and Schools. Original package was 6.0 million which would include the purchase of the towers which the company recommends that the town own their towers. It is a public safety issue and a police officer safety issue. Currently, there are spots in town where the radio frequency is limited or non-existent. Towers are on a lease basis in several sections and just recently, an added rental on Nash Hill.

Portable radios are being leased on a monthly basis from a company in order to provide the type of communications that are needed.

Chief Pease makes note that there is nothing more critical that communications temp fixes are not a long term solution. Looking at the NIAC reports shows that lack of communication or poor communication is the cause of most officer accidents. Interaction right now between the departments is via dispatch. They cannot communicate with each other. Critical to have interoperability with ourselves and our neighbors.

Steve Frederick speaks that from a DPW view, while they are not as critical as Police and Fire, they need to have the proper communications. Currently it is an archaic approach to communications with departments. Problems at the transfer station/radio comm is important. During storm events, the Police have to provide a portable radio to the DPW in order to speak. Getting information timely is critical.

Dr Gazda points out that while it is not as critical for the school to communication on a daily basis but during an event it is critical to be able to communicate with Police and Fire. They will not need the same type of radios but a water downed version but it it's the interoperability that is important. Right now the schools cannot speak to each other via radios.

The software components of the radios and levels is what makes the cost of the radios. All radios will need to P25 compliant which is mandated on both a Federal and State level.

Current radios are no longer repairable.

The new system has a life expectancy of 10 to 15 years. They would be looking to borrow the money for 10years.

When they met with the Board of Selectmen, they were asking for 4.0 million to replace the equipment without the towers. But in the original figures they made mention that there was approximately a 25 % increase that could be removed which would bring down the cost inclusive of towers to \$4.8 million which is what the Board voted on.

Moved by D. Cincone, second by R. Phoenix that we recommend approval of the communications system at the amount not to exceed \$4.8 million through borrowing.

Vote: 5 – 0 favor

Moved by D. Cincone, second by R. Phoenix to approve the minutes of March 19..

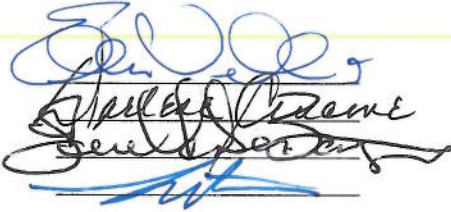
Vote: 5 – 0 favor

Moved by D. Cincone, second by R. Phoenix to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.
Vote: 5 – 0 favor.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Cincone", is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature are two additional horizontal lines.