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Town of Ludlow, Massachusetts
Capital Improvement Planning Committee

Minutes of November 20, 2023, Capital Improvement Planning Committee.

Meeting began at 5:30 p.m.

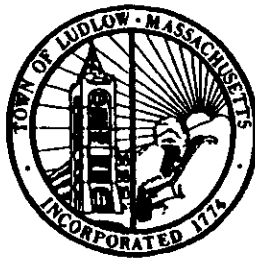
Members present: Marc Strange, James Gennette, Josh Carpenter and Tony Sanches,
Ron Saloio

First Order of Business: Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Gennette: Alright, it is November 20, 2023, we are getting ready for our Capital Requests. They've all come in on the 16th and we got them here together and we are going to step through them one at a time. I would like to announce a new add from the school department, Mr. Ron Saloio is going to be joining us. Kathy Demetrius has stepped off of the board and he's our new member. So, welcome aboard and I guess we'll get right into it. Mr. Strange, what do you got for us?

Mr. Strange: Good evening gentlemen. So, as you will see, on the summary sheets that I prepared for you guys, I just wanted to highlight a couple of things. Everything that's highlighted in green is either already committed to Capital through a lease, year to year lease program or projects that are already ongoing they just need additional funding. So, with that I will just go line by line and please interrupt, jump in, ask any questions that you may have and again for the committee and the public this is just raw data. These are all the Capital project requests that we receive from all the departments. According to our bylaws, requests had to be in by November 15th and these are all the requests that came in by November 15th. Save for the second, third or subsequent years of leasing, which are already in the capital. So, Westover Golf will be in the second year of a three-year golf cart lease for this year. Estimated cost is \$88,690 and that will be funded out of their operating budget. They also have a lease for Ventrac, which is also in the second year of a three-year lease. This year's cost is \$16,127, that will be coming out of retained earnings. Last year the Capital Committee also approved the SandPro 3040. So, this will be the second year of a three-year lease for that piece of equipment. Estimated cost \$9,439, also coming out of retained earnings. Two new requests this year that came from the golf course, one was a greens master 3150-Q, estimated cost is \$63,257, coming out of the golf course retained earnings. Lastly, Westover Golf requested \$60,000 for club house kitchen upgrades also coming out of retained earnings.

Mr. Gennette: Can we hold on that one and talk about it for a little bit?



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Mr. Strange: Sure.

Mr. Gennette: So, Ron just to kind of catch you up as well, the golf cart lease is new last year to the Westover Golf Club. The town used to pay for that, but they are able to take it up under their retained earnings now. So, these are all items that are coming out of what their operating expenses are. They asked for this green master, and I believe another piece of equipment last year. I think we held off on two, but I don't know why they held off, actually I think it's probably because Ryan keeps busting me on it is the wood chipper. So, anyway, we held off on them last year because we didn't know where their retained earnings were going to go. It was good that they had a good year or two, but we didn't know what was going to happen going forward. Do we have any kind of ballpark as to what retained earnings are coming in this year?

Mr. Strange: I'm not sure. I'm not sure where they were.

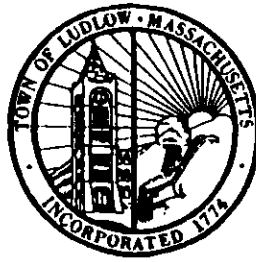
Mr. Gennette: Alright, so I think we need to know kind of what shape they are in for their retained earnings before we approve the greensmaster and the kitchen upgrades because we have to be sure we can afford them, right?

Mr. Strange: Correct, Mr. Chairman, so we are also still waiting for our free cash amount. So, between free cash, we will know free cash when we know the golf retained earnings. So, we'll have a better idea of what we might be able to afford.

Mr. Gennette: I like that the municipal enterprises are working under its own steam. Anybody else have any questions for Marc before we move on?

Mr. Carpenter: The golf cart lease, we just talked about it, is it three years?

Mr. Strange: So, the golf cart lease was four years, I pulled this out of the capital article from last year, but I forgot that there was also an addition that fourth year. So, I will change this number and get it back to you guys. That will just help matters. Okay if no more questions on golf, we will hop down to Fire. So, Fire has a five-year lease for a fire tower. This will be the third year. This year's allocation is \$335,000 out of free cash. Fire also made a few additional requests this year. They want to upgrade their intercom system. That was \$25,000 from free cash. Chief Pease also requested a new ambulance. That cost is \$345,799. That expense will be coming out of the ambulance subscription fund. Lastly, Chief Pease requested two LUCAS chest compression devices, each valued at \$20,000 for a total of \$40,000 out of free cash.



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Mr. Gennette: On the tower truck, I know he wanted to get the order in right away because it was going to take a while to get it lettered, get it back into service. Do we know if it's been put into service?

Mr. Strange: That was the, so in his cover letter he references I think an ambulance from last year that he ordered and it's still not in yet. I think it's going to be coming in in 2024. I think they already have the tower.

Mr. Gennette: Well, I can read this letter real quick if everybody wants to.

Mr. Gennette read the letter from Chief Pease at the Ludlow Fire Department regarding the ambulances and other requested items.

Mr. Gennette: So, that doesn't say anything about the ladder truck, but it was just an inquiry anyway. Can you ask the Chief where we are as far as the ladder truck goes? I'm just interested to know that when we've funded projects that they're coming online and when they're coming online that kind of thing. Does anyone have any questions about the Chief's requests, his letter or anything?

Mr. Sanches: Mr. Chairman, I do. It says lease to purchase with a four-year term but is the cost \$345,799?

Mr. Strange: Yes.

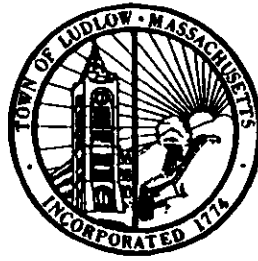
Mr. Sanches: But is it a one-time payment?

Mr. Strange: It's four years. I think the total cost was, oh no I read that wrong. He says it's a four-year term, but I will check on that.

Mr. Gennette: But is it \$345 for four years or,

Mr. Strange: Right. Right.

Mr. Sanches: \$345 over four years?



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Mr. Gennette: And the other thing is, we dip into this ambulance subscription fund, I mean a lot of requests come through and say they are coming out of the ambulance subscription fund. If there any weight on ambulance subscription fund already I'd be interested in knowing that. I mean if we are exhausted on the funds then it's kind of hard to approve it out of there. Of course,

Mr. Strange: This is what he said, during the last fiscal year, the fire department ambulances have responded collectively to 3900 medical calls generating \$1.9 million in revenue.

Mr. Gennette: So, that's what is coming in every year but over the past couple of years he's put in for things to be put on the ambulance subscription fund and I don't know if there are leases outstanding for these funds. We need the balance for the ambulance subscription fund, that's what I'm getting at.

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Vitorino: The \$1.9 million that's generated, that goes to the general fund right?

Mr. Strange: That goes to, there's a specific ambulance subscription fund.

Mr. Vitorino: That amount goes in there?

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Vitorino: In addition to what the town's people pay their \$80 per year?

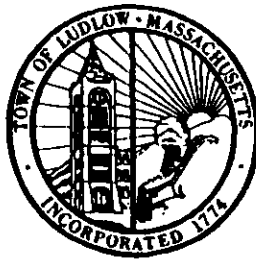
Mr. Carpenter: \$50.

Mr. Gennette: That is the subscription.

Mr. Vitorino: So, the \$1.9 is okay.

Mr. Strange: Yes, so each ambulance generates revenue and then separate from that there is a voluntary subscription that you can buy into and those are the funds,

Mr. Vitorino: Subscription funds really isn't a subscription plus the revenues from the ambulance funds.



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Mr. Strange: They go into two different,

Mr. Vitorino: Oh, it is two different funds?

Mr. Strange: Yes, I think they go into two different funds.

Mr. Vitorino: And this is the subscription?

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Vitorino: So, there's \$1.9 million, I guess I'm belaboring this point but with \$80 per house we can't get to a new ambulance every three years with \$80 per person. There's other monies that goes into that fund that help pay for that ambulance. It's not just the \$80 that people are sending in.

Mr. Strange: Right.

Mr. Gennette: I'd say get a little more knowledge around it and we'll revisit it again.

Mr. Vitorino: I'm just saying because when you see the subscription fund, you're thinking we're paying for an ambulance every three years with \$80 checks from people. No, there's other, some of that,

Mr. Sanches: \$50.

Mr. Vitorino: \$50, I'm sorry.

Mr. Gennette: I think that \$1.9 might be from some...that are not part of the subscription.

Mr. Vitorino: Right.

Mr. Gennette: Because those are expensive. You get picked up from an ambulance and brought to the hospital, they're going to hit you with a lot of money.

Mr. Vitorino: Right but when we are paying for it out of the subscription fund it just seems like it would never be enough. I just want to make sure I'm,



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Mr. Gennette: Exactly why I was asking because it seems like we dip into that a lot you know.

Mr. Vitorino: At \$50 per house, that's a pretty good deal.

Mr. Gennette: And that's provided everybody buys it. So, let's just get a little more knowledge about where they stand as far as the subscription fund goes but you know a lot of that is operating expenses. So, they say \$1.9 million, my assumption is that enters into part of their operating expenses for their budget out of the fire department, right?

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: Alright, does anybody else have anything on the fire department? Alright, the chest compression devices, Luis you were there, do you remember they had new defibrillators, that's not what these are? These are different?

Mr. Vitorino: No, this is different. I know they had maybe their Scott Packs they're breathing, we paid for that. The radios we did.

Mr. Gennette: We had a special meeting where they came in and displayed,

Mr. Vitorino: It was something else. It could have been the AED.

Mr. Gennette: It could have been the AED's. It wasn't for the ambulance.

Mr. Vitorino: I've never heard them ask for this before. This is new.

Mr. Gennette: Well, he's saying they're getting old, and I've never heard of them before that's why I was asking. Alright, that's good. I mean they know what they need right. Alright, I think we're all set with fire, Mr. Strange.

Mr. Strange: Okay, so hopping down to DPW. I was happy to see that the DPW put in quite a few requests. They missed the deadline last year so they're a year behind and I know a lot of their equipment is getting older. So, the first request was for trailer equipment. You know, again this came in at \$15,000, I don't know if that necessarily qualifies as a capital project, but it was submitted nevertheless.



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Mr. Gennette: Can I pause for just a second, Ron just so you know there is a \$20,000 minimum for purchases through capital. That's why he's mentioning the \$15,000 might not be covered under capital.

Mr. Strange: They also submitted a request for an EW65 wheeled excavator and that estimate was \$206,622 and that also would be coming out of free cash. The next item was a bobcat track loader and that was \$76,854, a Volvo EC37F compact excavator that came in at \$66,079. They're also asking for two F350 super duty pickups totaling \$118,763 also to be funded out of free cash.

Mr. Gennette: Is that replacing two trucks?

Mr. Strange: Let's see, yes.

Mr. Gennette: Both trucks are going out at the same time?

Mr. Strange: Yes, you know obviously you all can talk about this, but I thought maybe we could bounce one into 2026.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, this seems a little aggressive, I think.

Mr. Strange: Yes, I agree.

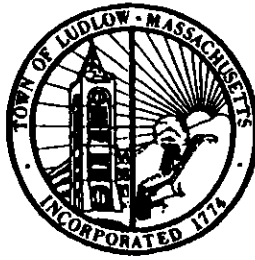
Mr. Gennette: This is one of the plows. These are carrying plows, so they take a beating. Of course, we haven't had a ton of snow in recent years, but do we know what the total requests were? Do you have that totaled up for them or no?

Mr. Strange: Total request for everybody?

Mr. Gennette: No, for the DPW.

Mr. Strange: I did not do them by department.

Mr. Gennette: Okay, I will work on them after. You know, we talked about the ambulance subscription and just wondering what happens with the income from the transfer station and stickers and all that? Does that just go right onto their budget?



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Mr. Strange: I'll have to ask that.

Mr. Gennette: It's just kind of an interesting,

Mr. Carpenter: Are these all one-time payments or are these going to be leased?

Mr. Strange: Those are all one timers.

Mr. Gennette: We don't really know that yet though, we'll have to,

Mr. Strange: I mean if they were going to purchase them outright that would be the, we could look at lease agreements.

Mr. Gennette: Depending on what it is.

Mr. Sanches: Mr. Chairman, is the trailer needed to transport of this equipment? Without the trailer does this equipment not get moved around? I don't know too much about this stuff, but I would think one of these things has to go on that trailer or maybe two things.

Mr. Gennette: They could probably tow that trailer with just about anything they have.

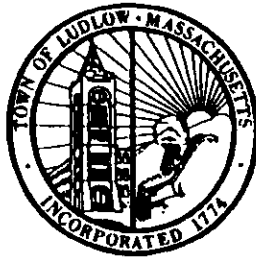
Mr. Sanches: Right. I know the trailer is under, but it might be one here you know maybe that's the only way to get the excavator around or the bobcat.

Mr. Strange: Let's see, did they provide more information on that?

Mr. Sanches: I was trying to look at this thing but,

Mr. Gennette: You know, I'm thinking it might be worth asking Jamie to come in on this one. There's a lot here, we've got a lot of questions. Maybe we get Jamie just to kind of softball our questions. There's a lot here. Yes, we will get Jamie in. Good, good. Does anybody have any other conversation they would like to have about the DPW before we move on? Is everyone in agreement, we'll get Jamie in, yes. Alright, moving on to the Police.

Mr. Strange: Next up is the Police, Chief Valadas submitted a request for a new vehicle for the Animal Control Officer. That was \$97,500 from free cash. Apparently the ACO is using an old police interceptor that is not properly outfitted for animal control. A Ford Transit, that's a little



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bit bigger. They also submitted a request for a Tahoe, a 2024 Chevy Tahoe for the Detective Bureau. That came in at \$63,832 also out of free cash. There was also a request for cruiser cameras that would be a 5-year contract. Payments would be \$24,200 the first year and then \$23,600 in years two through five, also funded out of free cash and there was also a request for two new Ford Interceptor hybrids totaling \$134,324 and that includes the upfit. Any questions about Police?

Mr. Carpenter: \$98,000 for a van is a little steep for me.

Mr. Saloio: For Animal Control. These cruisers, are they to replace cruisers?

Mr. Strange: Yes. They, and I'm sorry to get your packets late but if you look at,

Mr. Gennette: Yes, the Chief put in a supplementive narrative here.

Mr. Strange: yes, so it would be replacing a 2016 Dodge Charger and a 2017 Dodge Charger and the vehicle themselves are about \$70,000 obviously times two.

Mr. Gennette: Josh, you got anything else on your question there?

Mr. Carpenter: My head is kind of spinning because quotes are just that and they are usually only good for a certain amount of time. So, when we go to Town Meeting with these are they going to be the same amount?

Mr. Gennette: We always run into that problem; you know what I mean no matter what we do.

Mr. Carpenter: I'm shell shocked at that \$98,000.

Mr. Vitorino: Yes, I don't know what that, the Ford Transit is a big van, but they don't cost \$100,000. We are missing something.

Mr. Carpenter: I mean I know they have to do special things to it but,

Mr. Gennette: Well, they have to put a cage into it, and it is a Police vehicle.

Mr. Vitorino: No, it's for Animal Control.



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Mr. Gennette: So, I guess that's the question are they going to outfit this things like a police cruiser and then add the cage to it?

Mr. Vitorino: I don't think that's the animal, that's the animal control officer's vehicle. Oh, I was thinking it was the, I call her the dog catcher, this is the dog catcher's vehicle. This can't be \$100,000 to pick up stray dogs for a van. I don't understand what that,

Mr. Strange: Would you guys like the Chief to come in?

Mr. Gennette: Well, what other questions do we have here?

Mr. Vitorino: Clarification on what that vehicle is.

Mr. Gennette: This doesn't really explain anything.

Mr. Vitorino: I know they always had hand me down. I remember the pickup truck that they used to use with Wilbraham. So, it went from a pickup truck to a \$100,000 van. I don't know where,

Mr. Gennette: Yes, it's a jump.

Mr. Vitorino: It shouldn't be a pickup truck, but I'd just be curious as to what that van is equipped with.

Mr. Strange: Right, right.

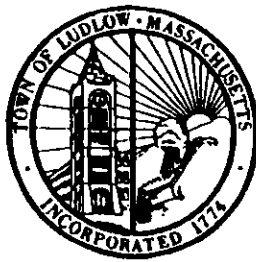
Mr. Carpenter: And there are some options with the vehicles that the DPW is looking to replace. There's a Trailblazer or something that I saw. It's 20 years old but,

Mr. Gennette: And you're moving dogs you know or cats or whatever. You know what I mean.

Mr. Sanches: Well, currently they are using a Ford Explorer, it is 10 years old.

Mr. Gennette: Right. I don't think the dogs need to be in a lap of luxury on their way to the pen you know.

Mr. Strange: I'm happy to reach out to the Chief and get some more clarification and share it.



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Mr. Gennette: Yes, that would be good. As far as the Police vehicles go, normally they replace three cruisers a year and I think this came into question last year, why are we replacing three cruisers every year when there are so many of them sitting in the parking lot over there. We asked this question and it into idle time. Like you ever see the cruiser sitting out in front and it's always running, it's an emergency cruiser and it never gets shut off. I'm sure they rotate that cruiser but there's always one ready to go. I don't know, do you guys have any conversations about it? What do you think of this? The Tahoe is for the Detective Bureau, are we replacing the other SUV?

Mr. Strange: I believe so.

Mr. Carpenter: I mean call me crazy, but could the Animal Control Officer have a Tahoe for \$34,000 cheaper?

Mr. Gennette: Yeah.

Mr. Strange: That's not a bad thought.

Mr. Gennette: How about this, how about she gets the cruiser that the detectives giving up. Then we don't have to spend any.

Mr. Carpenter: Yes, there you go.

Mr. Gennette: So, yes, I agree with you, I think we can probably work some magic there. Anybody else have any other questions as far as the police go. I would say just ask them these questions, I don't know that he necessarily has to come in as long as we can just get some stuff cleared up. Is the cruiser cams, that doesn't affect their contract at all?

Mr. Strange: So, yes, a couple of things. One is, I don't know if you remember last year, you know, Ron is new to the committee, but there's this question about whether cruiser cams or body cameras qualify as capital because if you're buying, if you're aggregating a purchase of multiple items, they have to be for the same project and the same location according to our bylaws. So, the committee determined that the tasers, I don't know if you remember the tasers do not qualify. So, town meeting paid for those tasers just through free cash. Just not as capital items. These might be the same issue because you have 11 different vehicles they are going to be going in. I did talk to the chief a little bit and said that we might be able to put those into the operating budget if it's not capital because what we did last year, and not trying to be too complicated here,



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is in the police line item they had, the cruisers and the upfit in the line item. So, we took the cruisers out because some towns treat cruisers as capital, some fund them through the operating budget. So, we put them in the operating budget, but we left the upfit line item in the budget. So, that was probably an oversight on our part. So, we really should combine the upfit and the money for the purchase into the capital, which is what they did here that's why it's \$134,000 for the two. Then if we took that upfit money and put it into the capital budget we could replace that, whatever the upfit expense was and use it to buy the cameras if it's not a capital item.

Mr. Gennette: So, basically, we want to take the upfit out of their operating expenses, move it into capital with the purchase of the vehicle,

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: and then the money that that saves, we would just take the cameras out of their operating budget.

Mr. Strange: Much more succinct. So, the other thing is, this has to be negotiated with the union. So, that's probably going to be the biggest probably catch to this.

Mr. Gennette: Yes. So, that's probably the best thing to do is keep it in their operating,

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: yes, for sure. Okay. Any other questions for police. No. Alright Marc?

Mr. Strange: So, Board of Selectmen, we really only had one request. So, last year we requested \$50,000 for a town vehicle. We had the truck for the Building Inspector, and we had one Charger that was shared between, you know, a few different people and come to find out people were using their own vehicles for town business and then filing for reimbursements on the mileage. So, to try and hedge against that expense, we wanted to increase our town vehicle lot, so that people can be using town vehicles and submitting for reimbursement. So, last year with the \$50,000, we got quotes, we wanted to get like an Explorer type size vehicle, but they came in between \$55,000 and \$60,000 and it was over the budget. So, the low bid was a RAV 4. So, we got a RAV 4 and people seem very happy with it, but I would like to get something a little bit bigger because now we have in addition to the health department, the health inspector goes out, we have two inspectors from our building department, our assessor goes out and uses them, Eric Segundo at the Veterans Center uses a town vehicle. So, there's a lot of people using town



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vehicles. So, anyway that is why we put \$65,000 this year instead of \$50,000 so that we have the option of buying something a little bit bigger.

Mr. Gennette: Okay. Any questions? Alright.

Mr. Strange: Okay, now these next four, it's a little bit complicated. I don't know if you all can pull out this sheet, the email that kind of explains the background and follow along.

Mr. Gennette: So, this was a correspondence that Marc and I had about a situation going on with the track and field. So, Marc, if you want to take it from there or do you want to give everyone a chance to read it or what do you want to do?

Mr. Strange: You guys want to just read it, try to digest a little bit of it quickly. It's just a couple minute read.

Mr. Gennette: We're in recording anyway, why don't we take a break and we'll come back to it. So, we just reviewed some of the LHS Sports Complex, just to get us caught up to speed. Marc, if you would mind diving in.

Mr. Strange: Sure. I'm going to do my best to try and clarify these requests. So, starting at the top we are requesting additional funding for the LHS Sports Complex in the amount of \$560,812, \$100,000 in additional funding for West Street and Cottage Ave bridges, \$50,000 in funding for the Piney Lane bridge project and then \$250,000 for the repairs to the Ludlow High School exterior façade.

Mr. Carpenter: Mr. Chairman, through you to Mr. Strange. The bridge projects, is that our share of those two or is that,

Mr. Strange: Yes, so that's our share. So, the town meeting approved, I'm forgetting the number but whatever the number was. One project came in \$145,000 over the estimate. The other project came in \$75,000 below. So, I put in \$100,000 as a buffer. We could certainly reduce that based on the estimates, we're probably \$70,000 short. So, that's that one.

Mr. Gennette: Roughly, what did both bridges come in total to, do we have a ballpark?

Mr. Strange: I think it was \$550 or 650.



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Mr. Gennette: Sounds familiar. So, for \$550,000 a \$100,000 would be a 25% contingency.

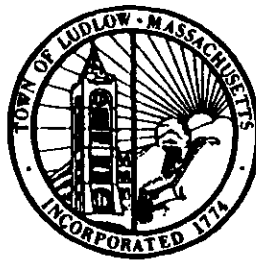
Mr. Strange: Yes. So, let's start with the sports complex. Our architect and engineering firm estimated that the project was going to come in around \$3.6 million. Unfortunately, the low bid came in at \$4.6 million and change. We only had at that point \$4.8 million left. So, what the Board did was the Board of Selectmen authorized \$4.8 million in ARPA funding to pay for the LHS sports complex. So, that's \$4.66 million and then the difference between the \$4.8 and the \$4.6 million we are going to use towards the contingency. So, the contingency amount for, we're planning on a 15% contingency on \$4.66 million is about \$700,000. So, we took that number from the number we actually have in ARPA, and we came up with \$560,812 that we need for contingency on the sports complex.

Mr. Carpenter: Now whose purview is that going to fall under for maintenance and all that? Is that the DPW or is that going to be the schools?

Mr. Strange: Once it's built?

Mr. Gennette: We met with the school, we met with the DPW. Actually, we met with the DPW recently and they met with the school, and they're fully prepared between the school and DPW to take care of the fields and everything when it's done. We made sure of that.

Mr. Strange: Yes. So, you know an important distinction here and this really is where the rubber meets the road on all these projects. So, these projects are scheduled to be completed in this fiscal year. So, for any capital funds that would be approved by town meeting, those funds would not be available until July 1st or after. So, you know that's kind of potentially an issue. I feel like we have to go back and talk to the lead on certainly the Piney Lane project and the bridges and see what kind of flexibility we might have to fund those projects in July and August and those projects may well go past the end of fiscal 24. The LHS sports complex is on a tight deadline. They want that project done by July or August, so that those fields are ready to go for the fall. Everybody has been doing a very good job by staying on task. However, if you assume that the project is mostly going to be done by that timeframe, we probably should reservice ARPA funds to pay for that contingency, right? It kind of gets mushy that if we get a hard winter or if we get a lot of rain in the spring, it could push back the timeline. But you really don't know how much work is going to be done in fiscal 24 and how much is going to be done in fiscal 25. The ARPA funds are flexible. The Board has control over the spending, they can vote to allocate those funds at any time. There's no sort of fiscal year restrictions.



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Mr. Gennette: Just to clarify that, we do not decide on ARPA funds. ARPA funds are not this Board's responsibility, just so we know. We can make a statement or a recommendation, but we really have no,

Mr. Strange: Right.

Mr. Gennette: We're not supposed to.

Mr. Strange: Right.

Mr. Carpenter: Are the High School wall repairs under Board of Selectmen only because it's ARPA?

Mr. Strange: No, so the reason that we put those in there was we got the school's capital requests and it did not include the façade, the problem is with this form of government. So, we have this wall and there's been kind of progress. They've hired an engineer and an architect to evaluate and come up with a plan for repair. But we're not going to know what the cost estimate is until after all the capital plan is presented. So, we put in a \$250,000 placeholder essentially from the Board of Selectmen to cover this building. Technically these are town buildings even though they're the schools, the town, if you look on the GIS, these are Town of Ludlow properties. That repair could be \$100,000, it could be \$1 million. We don't know yet. We just wanted to put in a placeholder in the event that umm, and another option is there might be a smaller fix. Instead of replacing the whole façade, there might be a way to kind of keep it in place. So, backing up just for those who don't know, part of the, one of the walls, the exterior walls in the back of LHS the exterior façade is pulling away from the membrane causing a hazard. You get snow, ice or water back there, there's no telling when those bricks might release from the wall and it causes a hazard to anybody walking underneath.

Mr. Gennette: Or destruction to the building, further damage to the building.

Mr. Strange: Correct. So, when James and I, as you can see, we kind of had a back forth via email. These are tough projects and again the timing is everything and we're really hampered and limited when we can access free cash. So, I guess for this Board maybe the discussion is what do you think about what funds should we use? What ARPA funds should be used for this project and what ones should be sort of put into the free cash bucket. I know that's a lot. I probably missed a lot but if you guys have any questions, I'm happy to answer them.



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Mr. Gennette: Any questions yet?

Mr. Sanches: Mr. Chairman. Do we know the balance of on the ARPA funds? I know we don't have any say on this.

Mr. Strange: So, the ARPA balance right now is about \$590,000. So, the reason that it is \$590,000 right now is that the Board originally allocated \$525,000 for the public safety HVAC, but since then the town meeting has approved the bond authorization. So, those funds are now free, essentially. So, the Board would have to reallocate those for something else.

Mr. Gennette: The Ludlow safety complex HVAC came in at close to \$1.5 million. \$590,000 wasn't going to cover it so it had to go to bond.

Mr. Sanches: Okay, so the Selectmen have \$590,000 they can allocate. So, we're just voting on or discussing the \$560,000 increase. That's it.

Mr. Gennette: We're basically recommending whether or not this can be taken out of capital, out of free cash to cover the contingency.

Mr. Sanches: Not ARPA, just free cash?

Mr. Strange: Right.

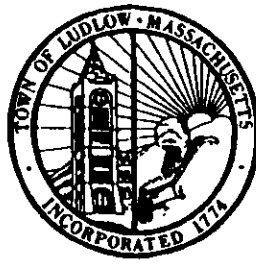
Mr. Gennette: So, the project is already paid for out of ARPA, but if change orders come through, if any of this happens while they're in the middle of the project we have no extra money. So, we need capital to be available so that they can keep that project going because we can't wait for May town meeting to get approved. We wouldn't get money until the middle of July. We would be a mud pile over there until we got other funding.

Mr. Sanches: So, the \$560,000 would be in addition to the \$590,000?

Mr. Strange: So, that \$560,000 would be taken out of that \$590,000.

Mr. Sanches: It would be?

Mr. Strange: So, right now there is \$4.8 million allocated for the high school. This would be the additional \$560,000 to account for that contingency. So, like at this point, if they find something



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or if we get change orders, we really don't have a source of revenue, a source of funding to pay for that overage.

Mr. Gennette: Basically, we'd get stuck behind the barrel.

Mr. Sanches: Right. Okay.

Mr. Gennette: So, the problem in the middle of all this was that the high school came up and it needs repair and I think we've talked about it in the past the difference of what is the responsibility of the school and what is the responsibility of the town when it comes to their requests and we've always said that facilities, these building owned by the town they come back to us. Whether we fixed it now or we didn't fix or nobody fixed it and it came back to us, we'd still have to pay for it. So, it really doesn't make that big of a difference on whether or not, it doesn't matter who's paying for it at this point, it's a facility issue. This is something that I think we should definitely cover because I really kind of want to keep defining that line between what is the responsibility of the school, what is the responsibility of facilities and the town and I think this definitely falls under that facilities for the town but that's just my... We're not making a vote today, that's just my feeling on it. Any other thoughts? Even if this wall repair was under the Ludlow, well they didn't make the official request for it, right? So, that's why, okay. I got you.

Mr. Strange: Yes. So, I guess just talking out loud here. I guess my inclination is to, when we list the funding sources is to list ARPA funding for the LHS sports complex and do free cash of the other three and then go back to the project managers and find out for timing on those and what the town's flexibility would be in terms of being able to allocate those funds for July 1st or afterwards. Does the committee have any feelings on that?

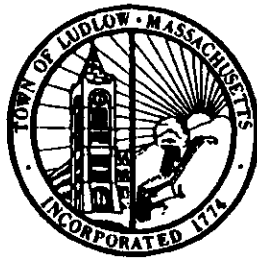
Mr. Sanches: That clarifies it for me so thank you. That's what I was wondering when this because either or is written there so that's why I was like, which way,

Mr. Strange: Right. Well, again the complicating factor is all these projects are subject to be done in this fiscal year and we can't touch free cash until after this fiscal year.

Mr. Sanches: But ARPA can,

Mr. Strange: ARPA is available.

Mr. Sanches: okay, I just wanted to clarify. Thank you.



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Mr. Strange: And you don't have to decide tonight. I just wanted to put this out there.

Mr. Gennette: Well, for me, is everybody all set? Anybody got anything? I think this needs to be kind of movable at the moment. We really don't know exactly how a lot of this is going to shake out and I think if we say this is exactly the way it should be, I think it would be a mistake. So, I think we need to let some of this find its way through the woods a little bit before we make a final decision. We have a little bit of time with capital expenses anyway. We'll just keep an eye on it and just keep updating until we make a final recommendation to the Board of Selectmen and FinCom. Sound good?

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: As it sits right now, I think we have no choice. We have to move forward on these projects.

Mr. Strange: Yes, these are ones that are already in play. So, let me check, I'll check back with Mike Bertini and Frank from the schools to see how, where we are with the wall. I will check with Jamie and Jim about Piney Lane and then the West Street and Cottage Ave bridges are shared projects between us and Springfield and us and Wilbraham. So, I can reach out to those two municipalities and see where we are in terms of timeline and flexibility for funding because we do have intermunicipal agreements with those two towns. So, we are on the hook to pay them our fair share regardless.

Mr. Saloio: Is the only one that is already started the complex? The bridges, did they start those projects?

Mr. Gennette: They were down there today.

Mr. Vitorino: The bridges started. Wilbraham started,

Mr. Gennette: Yes, well West Street started too because they were down there today. I don't know what they were doing but they were working. So, they're looking to move. I think they might want to have those fixed before winter. I don't think they want to carry those over the winter. I went down to the Piney Lane bridge and all this Piney Lane is, it's not even a bridge. It's three water culverts there. They look about maybe a 10 foot culvert pipe and there's three of them next to each other and then it's just paved over the top of it. So, there's not, it's not like it's



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a bridge. So, it really concerns me that we're going to go from this to like a bridge, like some suspension thing and its' going to be millions of dollars. It worries me, you know, but the water that comes through there is pretty important. That's the runoff I believe from the reservoir. Right? So, yeah, that's a big deal.

Mr. Strange: And Mr. Chairman, by the way that project is being funded by the federal government. That \$50,000 is just for like right of way takings and easements and legal work and things of that nature.

Mr. Gennette: Perfect. They can put the biggest bridge they want down there.

Mr. Saloio: Drawbridge.

Talking over each other.

Mr. Strange: I know that stuff is kind of complicated, but any other questions you guys have about those projects? I can circle back and get you some more information.

Mr. Gennette: Well, we are going to have a couple of more meetings before we have to really narrow it down. So, lets see how some of this other stuff comes to fruition and we'll kind of go from there. Alright, so COA.

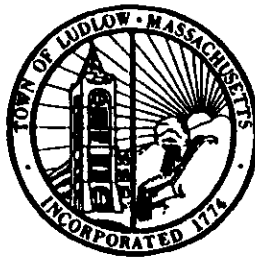
Mr. Strange: So, Jodi has a, they need a new van with a lift on it and the cost of the van is \$125,000 but they have sources elsewhere. They had an earmark from the state for \$50,000. The friends of Ludlow is donating \$25,000. They have another \$20,000 in surplus grants and they applied for another grant from the state for \$25,000. So, even though it's \$125,000 vehicle, they are only asking for up to \$35,000.

Mr. Gennette: Wow. I mean if they're going to do a match. If people want to find their own money, I'm in.

Mr. Strange: Yes, I thought that was an easy one.

Talking over each other.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, because I thought it was pretty impressive when we are looking at a dog vehicle for \$97,000 but for our seniors it was only \$35,000.



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Mr. Carpenter: They know what they're doing over there down at the Senior Center.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, they do. Alright.

Mr. Strange: Okay, so the Hubbard Memorial Library window restoration project. I think this is going to be the third fiscal year this it's been hanging around capital. I think the first year was an allocation of something like \$16,000 and then the former director came back, Pat and he requested another 46,000 or so. So, they currently have 60 something thousand, \$62,000 in capital funds for the project but as it's kind of been in my experience in the past is those estimates were given without a professional actually look at the windows, kind of coming up with a design, taking a look at the materials. So, the windows do have asbestos in them and they are historical, which is going to increase the price. There's some information here that Melissa, the Library Director provided some visuals and more of an in-depth description of the scope. And to make this project happen they need another \$219,540.

Mr. Gennette: So, there was correspondence that went back and forth. It was included in your packet there for this conversation. When I heard this come through, I was not real happy about it because we did have the \$16,000 the first year. They were misquoted, they couldn't get the guy back. You remember this was a whole big deal?

Mr. Vitorino: Talked about that. Something didn't look right.

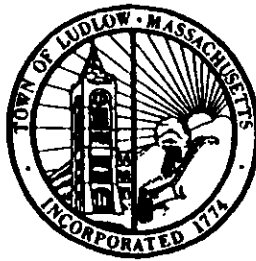
Mr. Gennette: It was a mess. So, we knew that because they're historical windows and it was going to take some time and then they came back and like Marc had said, they requested \$45,000 and now they're coming back and they're asking for even more. They're asking for \$219,000. We went from \$16,000 to \$45,000 to \$219,000 and it was kind of hard to have the conversation. So, I asked a little more about it and I'm going to read the letter from Linda Collette, the Chairman of the Board over there at the Hubbard Memorial Library.

Mr. Gennette read the letter.

Mr. Gennette: Any questions? Conversations?

Mr. Carpenter: When did we approve the \$62,000?

Mr. Strange: That was last year.



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Mr. Gennette: That was last year, yes.

Mr. Carpenter: So, obviously it was never spent.

Mr. Gennette: No, never got off the ground with it and now they're faced with more than just historical windows. They're faced with leaky roofs and gutters and plater and water damage.
Mr. Vitorino?

Mr. Vitorino: I have a question? So, she refers to the town as advertising for an on-call architect, is that just for the library?

Mr. Strange: It's for the whole town.

Mr. Vitorino: I'm just trying to go back in time when they got that original, when they got the original quote for the windows, I know we questioned a lot of what they were getting for responses. Some were real low, some were real high and then even these. What are the spec that they are using? Are they just walking three contractors through and saying we need the windows work done? Is there an actual spec?

Mr. Strange: Yes, that was part of the increased expense is that they actually had, I don't know if it was Deitz, Deitz is our on-call architect. I don't know if it was Dietz or somebody else went through, took a look at the windows and came up with a plan and a cost estimate.

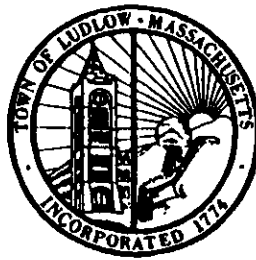
Mr. Vitorino: Okay. So, somebody did do that. Okay.

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: So, you know as much as I was very upset to see the increase in this cost, I have to think that this 216 is closer to the actual price we should have had in the first place.

Mr. Vitorino: Probably.

Mr. Gennette: We can keep picking and poking and never get anything done but at the same time the longer you wait the more expensive everything gets. So, maybe \$60,000 two years ago was great but who knows. So, it's kind of hard to say go ahead and pull the trigger when they've had this kind of difficulty. I will say that the Hubbard Memorial Library is very active in town.



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They do a lot of stuff down there. I don't think it's something that we are trying to keep a building that's unused or not participated with, you know going for no apparent reason. This is an actual function, functional building in town that we use quite heavily.

Mr. Saloio: They already had an inspector come in and check the roof and all, did they prioritize what, like me, I would think that the roof is the most important thing at this point.

Mr. Strange: Yes. They did have a leak issue, but it was coming from the downspouts. It wasn't coming from the roof. So, the downspouts were leaking into the walls, and it was leaking down into the basement. So, I think that problem has been remediated. I don't know that they, there were a couple of tiles that needed to be replaced on the roof. I think they took care of that. My understanding is that the roof right now isn't a big issue.

Mr. Saloio: Is that a slate roof?

Mr. Strange: I think it's slate, yes.

Mr. Gennette: I think it's a slate roof too.

Mr. Strange: I think it's slate.

Mr. Sanches: Mr. Chairman, so Lori Belanger has this letter in here or email but even she's acknowledging that maybe wait for their town architect or give the technical nature of this project suggest the library wait until architect is under contract. She does have that in here.

Mr. Vitorino: I guess I have a question, we have a facilities manager, right? Is this under their purview?

Mr. Strange: They've been working with the library, yes.

Mr. Vitorino: But is it an actual town building that is under the direction of the,

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Vitorino: because I know they don't do the schools or they do the schools?



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Mr. Strange: It's like you, it's a little gray, the schools are and I think certainly this is for Ron too. I think a bigger discussion should be had with the school and the town because right now, the town owns the schools buildings but we really don't maintain them and the schools don't really have a staff. They certainly don't have a facilities director full time right now. So, I think that's a way to achieve maybe an economy of scale. With respect to the library, you know it's kind of the library trustees are elected and they for the most part watch over their own building and then when stuff happens, they give us a call like this and the DPW go over and fix the downspouts and things like that.

Mr. Sanches: Does this library fall under that new district with the mills?

Mr. Gennette: The diff district?

Mr. Sanches: The diff district, yes.

Mr. Strange: Yes, yes.

Mr. Sanches: So, would that be able to finance such, could the diff monies go towards this instead of free cash?

Mr. Strange: That's a good question. I would say without, I would say yes. The question is when the money is going to be available.

Mr. Gennette: If there's going to be enough.

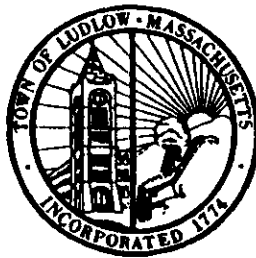
Mr. Sanches: Well, I mean the project could be a while out anyway. It doesn't look like, I mean the three bids that were submitted, one was disqualified and we're waiting on a town architect so. We might have enough time.

Mr. Strange: I can certainly look into that.

Mr. Gennette: Well, it would be interesting to know one way or the other as an alternative if we run into a problem. If we have to try and figure out where we can get some revenue from.

Mr. Strange: Yes, sure.

Mr. Sanches: Thank you.



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Mr. Strange: Yes, and so at town meeting we'll be submitting a warrant article that lists kind of all the projects that we are anticipating could be funded through the mill eight. The mill eight being completed and that revenue being available through the diff. So, we're certainly looking at what's the park over there on Chestnut? Is it Memorial Park?

Mr. Gennette: Memorial Park.

Mr. Vitorino: Oh yes, the playground.

Mr. Gennette: We call it the wooden park. It's now plastic.

Mr. Strange: Yes, so the wooden park is one of the projects were looking at doing and the library is right there. So, I can certainly ask about that.

Mr. Sanches: Yes, okay.

Mr. Gennette: Well, yes because that goes from, does that go down Hubbard? No, it goes down Windsor, right?
I think it goes down Windsor.

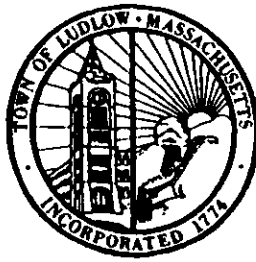
Mr. Sanches: Well, I mean moneywise, I mean or priority wise, which one?

Mr. Gennette: The diff district is great but it's not, there's a cap. There's only so much money that it brings in.

Mr. Sanches: Right, right.

Mr. Gennette: And if we can't, I mean that's meant to improve roads and stuff to try to get traffic and things and ease the burden of all the flows that's happening through those neighborhoods. So, that's its intended purpose to why you use money back into your district. Alright.

Mr. Strange: Any other questions about the library? So, after we get this information, the way the process works is we will huddle and present you guys with suggested fiscal 25 capital. You guys can take stuff out, put stuff in. This is our presentation to you. I would put the library in just because this is the third year it's been in there and it's not going to go away and the library is really a treasure. A lot of people use it and it's kind of the building that get forgotten about



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because we have so many heavily trafficked buildings, town hall, the schools and whatnot. I just think just because nothing more than seniority, I think that should be for what that's worth. Ultimately, it's your call.

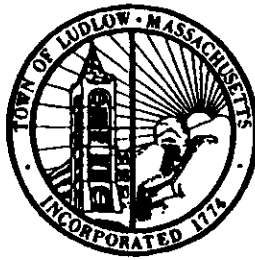
Mr. Gennette: Perfect. Alright, might as well move into the big one, which actually isn't as big this year as last year.

Mr. Strange: Yes, so the last one is the public schools. Dr. Tiano submitted five projects. The first project is replacing two HVAC units at LHS, each valued at \$85,000 for a total of \$170,000. Again, coming out of free cash. Also, the East Street school needs a fire, it's fire panel replaced. That's \$115,000. East Street School parking lot and sidewalks also need to be replaced. I would say that's common for many buildings in town. So, I was kind of happy to see that. \$53,185. They also submitted a request for classroom upgrade, including displays and sound systems for East Street, Baird Middle School and the high school. That came in at \$72,000 for all three. I think that was \$24,000 at each school and last but not least, they requested a new pickup truck for the maintenance department at \$48,000. Questions or comments about the schools?

Mr. Gennette: Display and sound systems, so for me again, the difference between replacing sidewalks, replacing a fire panel, replacing HVAC units are facilities and something like the East Street School classroom upgrades are more of an operational expense that I think the school should incur if that's something that they want to do to improve their operations. That's kind of on their budget. I'm all in on the fire panel. I'm all in on the sidewalks, the replacements and everything and even the maintenance department pickup truck. I would probably even call that a capital item as well. But for me the displays and sound systems are operational. Just my early, early intention and as far as the HVAC's go, we've talked about them before and Ron I don't know if you know but I think the school themselves have, how many do they have on the high school? Do you remember?

Mr. Strange: It was like twelve or so. It was a bunch, yes.

Mr. Gennette: Twelve on just the high school. There's like thirty on all the school buildings. So, those are always getting replaced. Those are always going to be here. So, that's not uncommon to see those. I don't know if \$170,000 is a bit rich for a couple of HVAC units, but they're not getting any cheaper as the years go on. If we had to replace any of them in an emergency, it would be far more. If we had a professional that knew anything about HVAC's, they could at least say if that was even remotely close to a good price or a bad price.



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Mr. Vitorino: That is a good price.

Mr. Gennette: That's a good price? Alright, sign it.

Mr. Vitorino: They are not inexpensive. Yes, they are not inexpensive.

Mr. Gennette: So, any other thoughts?

Mr. Carpenter: I'm just reading through Dr. Tiano's summary, fire panel system, the way he worded it should have been done years ago.

Mr. Gennette: I have no doubt.

Mr. Saloio: It is 25 years old.

Mr. Carpenter: Building doesn't have a fire sprinkler suppression system.

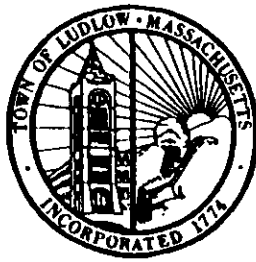
Mr. Gennette: We have been doing a lot of upgrades through the schools recently. The phone systems were upgraded. I think they're in the middle of emergency doors and there's a bunch of different things that have been happening. We've been hitting the HVAC units. Of course, now we've got the wall we have to worry about. So, we're trying to get caught up on the facility repairs because we've been doing everything reactively as problems have come up and it just has cost us so much money. We've wasted so much money. Any other questions or do you have anything else you would to talk about Josh?

Mr. Carpenter: The parking lot rehabilitation on Laconia Street. He's only doing that side, he's not doing the other side where the bus drop off is? Or is that like a future plan? To me it would make more sense to do it all at once then,

Mr. Sanches: Is this the bus drop? On the other side, that's right.

Mr. Gennette: Well, Laconia Street isn't that ours? Oh, it's the parking lot though.

Mr. Carpenter: That's like a staff parking lot I think, that is not a visitor's parking lot. All the visitors and everything, because he's saying that it's all about the visitors. That's all done on the other side of the building.



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Mr. Gennette: We can ask him.

Mr. Carpenter: I forget what street that is that you have to loop around a couple of houses and then you're there.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, let's ask him. If it's for the visitors then why is it you know, why is staff parking?

Mr. Carpenter: Is it the parking lot right along the building or is it the back parking lot where the field is? There's a couple of parking lots over there.

Mr. Gennette: I'm guessing the back field. That was my impression.

Mr. Vitorino: Yes, it's Laconia Street, it's one way.

Mr. Saloio: And then the sidewalk is East Street, it looks like.

Mr. Sanches: So, it sounds like that side parking lot, right?

Mr. Carpenter: There's that parking lot that runs along the building, about three windows down to the end of the building. Then there's the fenced in lot too. So, which one is it?

Mr. Sanches: Well, it sounds like it's the one that runs along the side of the building because he's touching East Street.

Mr. Carpenter: Well, he said on the Laconia side of the school,

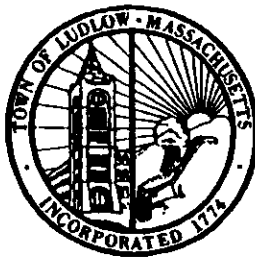
Talking over each other.

Mr. Gennette: That's what he's asking.

Mr. Vitorino: Do you know?

Mr. Saloio: No, I don't.

Mr. Gennette: Are you all set with that?



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Mr. Carpenter: I'm all set.

Mr. Gennette: I just want to go back to the pickup truck real quick just to emphasize that they use four trucks now to do what they need to do. They're only asking for a replacement of one. What else was there. What do you guys think about the displays and sounds systems? Am I off based on that or you thing that, what's your thoughts?

Mr. Saloio: I've always complained about the sound system at the high school. Are we talking about in the auditorium or is this classroom?

Mr. Gennette: This looks like it's classroom.

Mr. Carpenter: Last year was SMART boards. He's not looking to replace that Ford Transit, is he?

Mr. Gennette: That dog officer is going to get something.

Mr. Carpenter: Just saying, we have to give up something, right? If she can hold off a couple of years.

Mr. Gennette: Alright, so nobody's got any thoughts on that.

Mr. Saloio: So, the sound system is only for Baird and East Street?

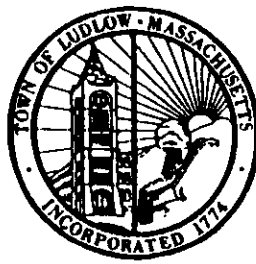
Mr. Carpenter: No, I think it's three classrooms at each school. Ludlow High School also.

Mr. Gennette: It says East, Baird, and the high school.

Mr. Carpenter: Yes, because they didn't have to do Harris Brook because they were already done.

Mr. Sanches: I'm looking at this, maybe I'm missing it on,

Mr. Carpenter: It's on the summary sheet. Look it's all three.



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Mr. Sanches: So, I'm at the high school facilities. LHS one, main office AC and heat, library, band room, main gym. I don't see anything about, I don't see it there at all but as soon as you get to East Street.

Mr. Carpenter: You see it at Baird, yes you're right.

Mr. Sanches: I mean I see the figures on Baird and East Street but I don't see anything about Ludlow High School.

Mr. Carpenter: He's right, I mean the summary,

Mr. Strange: It's right here. It's at the bottom of this sheet. That says three LPS technology security.

Mr. Gennette: There's a card access and ADA handicap doors for \$36,977 that I don't see on the list.

Mr. Sanches: Maybe we don't have this page then. That would help if we had that.

Mr. Carpenter: We don't have that in our packet.

Mr. Strange: I thought he copied it on both sides.

Mr. Sanches: We go from page one to page three. I was going to say he's usually pretty good, he must have missed it.

Mr. Gennette: We just found that that \$72,000 is for three schools.

Mr. Strange: Correct.

Mr. Gennette: He's breaking it down per year though, so it's \$24,000 in that first year. So, this is 2024, 2025, 2026,

Mr. Vitorino: Oh, I see.

Mr. Carpenter: Yes, it's \$8,000 a year per classroom and he does three classrooms at each school.



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Mr. Gennette: Yes, so I'm also looking at these card access doors that's not on this list.

Mr. Carpenter: We did that last year.

Mr. Strange: They did those last year.

Mr. Gennette: Okay, so we already approved those? They're already done?

Mr. Carpenter: I was more shocked. I thought we turned down one of their HVAC units last year?

Mr. Gennette: I think we did. Only because they had ordered like five of them and we just didn't have the money for five. But here's the other two. I think we paid for three and here's the other two.

Mr. Sanches: How much free cash did we get last year? Do you remember? I can't remember.

Mr. Gennette: Free cash was four mil?

Mr. Strange: Four and change, yes. Four point one I think. We don't know. So, we tighten up the budget a lot, we cut a lot of fat. When you do that, you also cut free cash. But local receipts were also increased quite a bit and our new growth was higher. So, I'm hoping it comes out close to that.

Mr. Sanches: Okay.

Mr. Strange: But we'll figure it out once we know what the free cash is.

Mr. Sanches: Right now, with the level one budget we don't know anything yet?

Mr. Strange: Say that again?

Mr. Sanches: The level one budget doesn't show anything yet?

Mr. Strange: Two different calculations. So, the level one we are calculating that will show what all the requests were and then you have to go through a process with the state where you send in



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all your receipts and verify all your income. Then the state certifies your free cash. I think we're probably close. I'm hoping to get it in the next couple of weeks. I asked to have it for tonight, but they just couldn't get it done.

Mr. Sanches: Alright.

Mr. Strange: And we really can't put together a plan until we know how much money we have at our disposal.

Mr. Sanches: Okay.

Mr. Gennette: The other advantage is that we've built our stabilization up pretty good over the past couple of years. So, we're not in a position where we're trying to recover anymore. We're kind of trying to sustain, which is a lot different position than trying to build it back up from nothing, which is very beneficial when you start talking about your bond rating and stuff.

Mr. Strange: And that's a really important point because in recent years we'd allocate a million dollars from free cash to stabilization to get us where we need to be. Right now as James said, as Mr. Chairman said, we're within the range that we targeted. So, now instead of putting a million dollars in stabilization, which we certainly can do if that's what the Board wants to do but the minimum allocation is \$300,000. So, I think it's,

Mr. Gennette: I think it's four.

Mr. Strange: yes, it's three. I just looked at it.

Mr. Gennette: Oh, it's three. Oh, that's less then,

Mr. Strange: So, we'll have to put at least \$300,000 in stabilization but not a million. So, that's a little bit of a bright side.

Mr. Gennette: I'd love to get stabilization to 10% of the budget recurring eventually, which I think we're at 7% now, right? I think we're about seven and that's where we wanted to be was between seven and eight.

Mr. Sanches: Is there a requirement?



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Mr. Strange: The policy is between seven and nine percent.

Mr. Sanches: Okay, thank you.

Mr. Carpenter: I do have one more for the schools that's going to really throw everybody off.

Mr. Gennette: Hit us with it now.

Mr. Carpenter: If you look at their total LPS requests on the last page, there's \$700,000 of unknown money coming. If you look at their fiscal year 28 rundown. Unless it's, where's that page you had?

Mr. Gennette: Oh, I see what you're,

Mr. Strange: I don't think you guys had this one.

Mr. Carpenter: Oh, there it is, there is it, tennis courts. Okay, never mind.

Mr. Gennette: Is it \$700,000 because that,

Mr. Strange: Tennis courts, yes.

Mr. Gennette: that's a Brillo all the way. He came in here before and proposed a \$700,000 tennis court and I,

Mr. Carpenter: I'm looking a \$1 million in capital request in one year and I'm like ummm.

Mr. Gennette: I laughed when he asked for it. I said what? \$700,000 for a tennis court?

Mr. Strange: That's a tough sell.

Mr. Carpenter: Who plays tennis anymore?

Mr. Sanches: Well, who is even maintaining those right now you know?

Mr. Gennette: I said the DPW came in here and said that they were going to redo their tennis courts for 70. How is yours 700?



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Mr. Carpenter: All you had to do is make it into pickleball. We could have called it even.

Mr. Gennette: Alright, so I think that concludes it, right? I think we got them all here.

Mr. Strange: Mr. Chairman as I'm looking towards putting together the plan, I wanted to bounce some things off the committee and see what you're thinking. So, in terms of looking at the DPW requests, I have no doubt they need all of these things. I think what I would do is I would bump one of the bigger, either the wheeled excavator for 206 or the wheel loader for 191 into the next fiscal year. So, do one in fiscal 25 and one in fiscal 26. I can certainly talk to Jamie about what one they need more. As we discussed, kind of the same thing with the F350. Buy one is fiscal 25, one in fiscal 26. And then as I said including the windows. Other than that nothing really jumped out at me but I wanted to get the committee's take on that and if you all see anything that we should absolutely include, anything that we can bounce you think.

Mr. Carpenter: I think you all my opinion on what we should bounce but, that vans got to go.

Mr. Vitorino: That needs clarification. I can't imagine they're asking for a \$100,000 van. I'm going to say that's probably a typo or somebody missed something.

Mr. Carpenter: I really hope so.

Mr. Gennette: Well, if they're going to replace a detective Tahoe,

Mr. Carpenter: There you go.

Mr. Gennette: there you go. I mean they can just bump that one down and let it go. I mean you are going to be putting animals in it. It's not a,

Mr. Vitorino: Yes, we're missing something there.

Mr. Saloio: That can't be.

Mr. Sanches: It depends on what you have to retro fit it with right? If you the animals have to go in a cage and the cage has got to get bolted down, I don't know. I'm not sure.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, but I'd rather spend \$15,000 retrofitting it than spending 93.



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Mr. Carpenter: What if it's a good dog who's just loose, you'll have him in the front seat. I mean, come on.

Mr. Sanches: I'm just saying, there might be more to it? I think clarification will definitely be needed.

Mr. Gennette: We've done a lot for the ACO position over the past couple of years. That was a position we didn't have. She has an office now. She's full time now. We've done a few things to improve the ACO's position. I think this request for me is a little over the top too and I think we can make do with some of the equipment that's coming offline to be able to take care of the officer at this point. I mean if it's a thing into the future or something then maybe we talk about it again but I think this needs to take a walk. And I really don't understand why the detective's Tahoe is cheaper. I can't even imagine how that's a thing, you know?

Mr. Carpenter: It would actually make more sense if the detective's Tahoe was \$98,000 because of what they have to put into it.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, well that's what I'm saying. Absolutely.

Mr. Sanches: You got two cruisers with equipment that are cheaper too.

Mr. Carpenter: Yes, I know.

Mr. Vitorino: It used to be a little Chevy pick-up truck. It was a husband and wife that did it for years.

Talking over each other.

Mr. Sanches: But Mr. Tomas is still going to explain on these excavators and stuff?

Mr. Saloio: I'm hoping that that was a swap and the \$37,000, because I can't even see them buying a Tahoe for \$37,000 with the equipment.

Mr. Vitorino: Yes, that doesn't seem right.

Mr. Saloio: You can't even buy a Tahoe for \$37,000.



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Mr. Carpenter: But also if you're getting \$50,000 for an F150 brand new, I think I'm going to be selling my vehicle pretty soon. I got one that's ten years old,

Mr. Gennette: The town doesn't want your vehicle Josh.

Mr. Carpenter: I don't want the town to have it but if I get 10% of that, I'm already making money.

Mr. Gennette: So, as far as the DPW goes, yes, I'd say let's get Jamie in here to kind of talk about it and like you're saying see which one we can bump off and maybe we can work with them a little bit and figure it out going forward.

Mr. Carpenter: I would like to bring in the DPW, at least get some clarification at minimum from Police, the ambulance subscription from Fire and do I want to bring in the library to talk about that?

Mr. Gennette: I don't know how much there is to talk about with the library. I think we are kind of where we are,

Mr. Saloio: That's an old building and it's probably been in need of maintenance for a long time and you hate to see a building fall apart.

Mr. Sanches: There's no grants out there?

Mr. Saloio: Yes, there should be some kind of grant, that's a historical building.

Mr. Vitorino: Could we ask the facilities manager to maybe write something to us about what they saw. Just because it sounds like they're sort of out there floating in the,

Mr. Gennette: Well, there's an architectural plan, right? It was already, whatever they're putting out for the estimate is what your saying that you're looking for?

Mr. Vitorino: Yes, well I know when he originally came here, he brought us a plan and it just seems like it was a plan that somebody sort of put together and said, we have to replace these windows and this contractor said this is what we should do. And the price didn't seem right and then they went out to bid and it was all over the board. But I don't know if I seen someone's



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report, even if it's just our facilities manager saying I looked at the windows, here's what I see and here's some documentation from somebody. Maybe look at the bids. It sounds like she's an interim, right?

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Vitorino: So, it sounds like she's struggling with this because the previous library director said right away, he said I'm not a facilities guy, I just know these windows need to be replaced. I'd just like to see something from someone who's the expert and it can be the facilities director who sort of looked at it and said this is what I think.

Mr. Gennette: Is Lori involved in this?

Mr. Strange: Yes, with the Procurement piece of it. I can touch base with Lori. I think we have more information than what's in this packet.

Mr. Vitorino: Because you can hear from the library, the two library directors, the previous one and this one that they're struggling. They don't know what to do and they're asking for maybe...and I just don't want to allocate that money and find out,

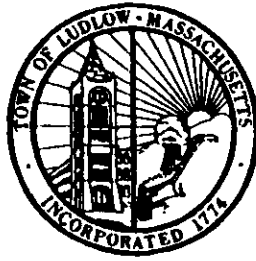
Mr. Gennette: They didn't know what to do with it when they had it.

Mr. Vitorino: Yes, I mean it's probably money well spent but it doesn't sound like, does the money match what needs to be done? I don't know.

Mr. Gennette: Well, Lori is the Procurement Officer, she's been doing some amazing stuff and actually she was in here one time that we had talked before. She's really good and I'm sure she's going to stay on top of that as well. But the building inspector has been involved, she was mentioned in here too and actually the facilities was down there too because they helped with their gutters and everything like that. So, they've had their hands all over it. So, it's good to see them, you know everybody in to help.

Mr. Carpenter: So, I'd like clarification on retained earnings and operating budget on the golf course.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, I have to have that too because they have been doing good and things have been going well. I really want to make sure that they stay inside their retained earnings.



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Mr. Carpenter: And then what the amount in the ambulance subscription fund too.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, some clarity about what weight is on the subscription.

Mr. Carpenter: And then obviously the two vehicles from the police department.

Mr. Gennette: You mean the interceptors or just the ACO and the detectives?

Mr. Carpenter: No, the ACO and the Tahoe.

Mr. Gennette: I don't have a problem with the Tahoe but if we are going to replace their, whatever their current SUV is, couldn't that go to the ACO?

Mr. Sanches: It's not an SUV, it's a car.

Mr. Gennette: Oh, is it?

Mr. Strange: Yes, they're replacing a Charger, no their replacing a Taurus. Yes.

Mr. Gennette: You know it's all too expensive. None of it. Let's not do anything. Just everybody hold your breath for a year.

Mr. Carpenter: Yes, while the town operates, we don't give them a dime.

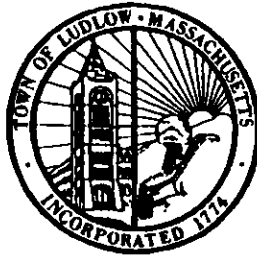
Mr. Gennette: Alright, so any new business anyone wants to discuss? Anybody have anything interesting that they want to put out there?

Mr. Carpenter: Mr. Chairman before we go to that I'd like to make motions to,

Mr. Gennette: Oh, yes please.

Moved by Mr. Carpenter to accept the minutes of the April 10th meeting with all members present, seconded by Mr. Sanches. Vote 4-0-1. One abstention.

Moved by Mr. Carpenter to accept the minutes of the May 15th meeting with all members present, seconded by Mr. Sanches. Vote 4-0-1. One abstention.



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Mr. Gennette: Thank you Mr. Carpenter. Any new business? I had new business but I'm going to take it off the table. So, there's no new business for me.

Mr. Saloio: I have a questions, what is going on with Vets? Do we, is there a,

Mr. Gennette: Vets is down.

Mr. Saloio: Yes, is there a plan for what it is going to become?

Mr. Gennette: So, I don't know if that's, we can certainly ask in an open discussion Marc. Just remember this is capital though, right?

Mr. Saloio: Right, so that doesn't, I was just curious.

Mr. Strange: So, the plan we'll probably have to do a feasibility study. We want public input as to what people want to go over there. I certainly have my ideas. The Board has their ideas. We've heard from other people so I think some public engagement and see what the preference is. Pickleball courts seem to be one of the prevailing projects and pickleball courts aren't that big. They don't take up that much space. But I think that's probably where we are headed. We haven't spoken to the Board about it at all yet.

Mr. Carpenter: Just to piggyback on that, the wetlands aren't going to hinder anything?

Mr. Strange: We have to go to ConCom. Yes. I mean fields and pickleball courts don't have too much of an impact. A little bit of runoff but not too bad.

Mr. Gennette: So, my thoughts on that were to take that tennis court that's up front and move it to the back and incorporate pickleball and do it all in the back there and then make that tennis court up front a parking lot.

Mr. Saloio: I like that idea.

Mr. Strange: The \$700,000 tennis court.

Talking over each other.



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Mr. Gennette: Alright, any other new business? No, any old business? Alright, so bylaws, we had a change in our bylaws last year because we were going to expand our Board to include the Board of Public Works, which obviously never came to fruition. But at some point, we are going to have to review our bylaws again and let's see what happens with the charter change first or would you say wait for the charter change?

Mr. Strange: We're all hopeful that something is going to happen there but it's entirely possible we could go through the process and the town could vote it down. So, I think you have to move forward such that we're going to be in this form of government for the time being.

Mr. Gennette: Yes, let's put that on for the next agenda, the bylaws to review. And I think we probably, Josh, you think we should probably get back into our regular rotation for meetings?

Mr. Carpenter: Yes, that's fine. Is that the second Monday?

Mr. Gennette: It's the second Monday, is that okay with you the second Monday?

Mr. Strange: I think it's December 11th, is that right?

Mr. Sanches: Yes.

Mr. Carpenter: Oh, that quick? That's two weeks away.

Mr. Sanches: You wanted to go back to the rotation.

Mr. Gennette: And Ron, I think I already have your contact. Alright, any old business? Okay, other than that I think we are good. We are kind of in a waiting game until we get the other information. Alright, with that being said, thanks everybody for coming.

Moved by Mr. Carpenter to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Sanches. Vote 5-0. All in favor.



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