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## TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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### *Capital Improvements Committee Minutes September 30, 2020*

Members in attendance: Alan Rosenberg, Jay Kramarczyk, Dennis Comeau, and Tad Putney. Also in attendance: DPW Director Mike Wenrich.

**Alan** opened the meeting at 7:10pm.

#### **Minutes**

**Jay moved, seconded by Dennis, to approve the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting minutes as written, voted Yes 4-0.**

#### **DPW Submission**

**Mike Wenrich** said he would add \$60,000 in 2022 for the last phase of the three-phase radio upgrade project.

**Jay** asked for background on the loader's need and urgency. **Mike** said a loader provides much greater efficiency and logistics. He said as a three-yard loader, it handles material much more efficiently than the backhoe. **Mike** said it would not replace the backhoe, but it would compliment it. He noted the long-term plan is for the backhoe to largely remain at the Transfer Station to aid in its operations. **Mike** added that the loader is also key for snow removal and important for equipment redundancy. He said that he would have a plow for it.

On the wheeled excavator, **Mike** said it is productivity at its best. He said Europe is using these in a better way than we are in the US. He said it would enable us to get things done very efficiently and safely. He said it would be so much more efficient than the backhoe. **Mike** noted that **Jerry Farwell** had a wheeled excavator and it was largely purchased for his town drainage work. **Jay** noted that the wheeled excavator is the only "urgent" item and is out in 2022. **Mike** said he has put the mini-loader in the schedule for 2021 in the event **Jerry** stops winter clearing of the sidewalks. **Mike** said he has that in his plan only in the event that **Jerry** says he is done after this year as then we would need something to take care of them. **Mike** said that the wheeled excavator will be "new" equipment – as opposed to used – and he wants to wait until the garage is built so it can be stored inside.

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**Mike** said that the \$200,000 cost figure for the two six-wheelers is expected to be high. He said he will continue to look at purchasing used trucks as has been done with the last two trucks. **Jay** suggested beefing up the text for some of the equipment descriptions, such as adding basic explanations to the text that is already there. **Alan** asked **Mike** to have an equipment replacement schedule and **Mike** said he has one in the works.

**Fire Department**

**Tad** said he had talked to **Chief Corey** about the committee's comments and questions. **Charlie** had a meeting conflict and was unable to attend tonight's meeting. **Tad** said the pick-up cost has decreased to \$60,600. He said it is not just a pick-up, but will have compartments for storage on both sides of the pick-up bed. He said that it will also have a plow for two purposes. One, to provide a back-up plow for the DPW in the event one breaks down. Two, it will allow the fire department to quickly plow a driveway for a fire/ambulance call, which would be easier than using one of the 6-wheelers (with a wing) for plowing a standard driveway. It was noted that 5R2 is scheduled to be purchased in 2027, which is outside of the timeframe of this plan. However, it was recognized that the Fire Department is recommending annual capital reserve fund deposits of \$75,000 starting in 2023 to accumulate funds for the truck. **Alan** said he would modify the schedule to reflect this information.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting, via Zoom, was scheduled for Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, if needed. **Alan** will circulate an updated version of the report in advance of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Minutes submitted by Tad Putney.