

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON
New Boston Capital Improvements Committee

October 12, 2022

1 In attendance at New Boston Town Hall: Fred Hayes - Chair, Matt Beaulieu, Jennifer Allocca,
2 Donna Mombourquette – Board of Selectmen Rep [6:20pm], Ed Carroll – Planning Board
3 Committee Rep, Ken Lombard – Finance Committee Rep
4 Staff present: Shannon Silver – Planning Coordinator and Sonya Fournier – Planning Assistant
5

6 Fred Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. He stated that the Committee would be
7 hearing from the School Board, Fire Department and Highway Department.
8

9 Scott Gross, SAU19 Business Administrator, stated that the schools are recommending a
10 classroom addition for the New Boston Central School. Enrollment is currently around 515 and
11 there are ramifications if the school enrollment moves over 600. The trajectory for enrollment
12 has somewhat changed from what it was five years ago. He asked if the Committee would like to
13 see certain school facilities items placed on the CIP schedule. Fred Hayes stated that there is
14 already a Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) for that, and the funding amount may need to be
15 increased. Scott Gross noted that there is some funding available from the State for school
16 building items. For example, there is \$20M per year available for all schools in NH, and two
17 schools received the last entire biennial allocation. New Boston’s socioeconomic status would
18 rank it very low for receiving building aid from the State.
19

20 Kathie Vieira, Highway Department, reviewed the Department’s heavy equipment CIP requests.
21 The Committee discussed the Bridge Repair/Replacement CRF. Jennifer Allocca noted that the
22 Tucker Mill Road bridge numbers were based on engineering work done by Hoyle Tanner.
23

24 Jennifer Allocca noted that the 2019 warrant article regarding the Dougherty Lane Bridge
25 allocated \$120,000 to come from the Highway Block Grant and \$130,000 to come from the
26 unassigned fund balance. At the end of this year the State will be granting New Boston an
27 additional \$176,000 for bridge aid. She believes that this should be earmarked for the Dougherty
28 Lane Bridge project. This project is slated for 2023.
29

30 *Donna Mombourquette entered the meeting at 6:20pm.*
31

32 The Committee discussed the 2015 Chevy Silverado item. Shannon Silver explained that this
33 was purchased with Highway Block Grant money, which it should not have been purchased with.
34 Jennifer Allocca stated that she believed this grant funding can be used for building, repairing, or
35 maintenance of the roads. Shannon Silver noted that this was a second pickup truck for the
36 Department. The Planning Board removed this item from the CIP schedule. Fred Hayes stated
37 that the Department never had more than one pickup truck in the past. Shannon Silver stated that
38 it is not clear on how the decision was made for this truck or how it was placed on the CIP.
39 Donna Mombourquette stated that the Committee needs to discuss the need for this truck and
40 potentially putting it back on the schedule if there is a need. Kathie Vieira stated that she believes
41 an employee takes the second truck home in case they need to be called back to work afterhours.
42 Fred Hayes stated that the Road Agent can drive one of the trucks, but a second employee does
43 not need to take other one home. This will not be placed back on the CIP schedule at this time.
44

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45 It was noted that the item for the Ford F-550 with a plow will be updated to \$85,000.

46

47 Cliff Plourde, Fire Chief; Brian Dubreuil, Assistant Fire Chief; Brandon Merron, Captain; Joe
48 Segien, Captain; and Derek Danis, Lieutenant, addressed the Committee.

49

50 Fred Hayes explained that the Fire Department CRF does not include the equipment. Warrant
51 articles for this were incorrectly placed on the ballot in 2017 and 2018. He suggested that the
52 Fire Department seek another warrant article to create an equipment CRF. The Department could
53 then work to collect \$25,000-\$30,000/year to fund it.

54

55 It was noted that the 2005 light Rescue truck need to be updated from \$275,000 to \$339,000.
56 Assistant Chief Dubreuil asked if one of the pumpers can be ordered in 2024 for delivery in
57 2026. Fred Hayes stated that this would depend on funding available in 2024. A vote on this
58 would also need to take place in 2024 for this.

59

60 Ed Carroll asked if the Department has all it needs for equipment on the list or if it anticipates
61 needing more. Chief Plourde stated that additional vehicles for employees may be needed in the
62 future.

63

64 Assistant Chief Dubreuil explained that there was originally a Fire Station project planned in
65 2020 for 2021. This was then not submitted in 2021 for 2022, due to the fact that a Safety
66 Complex was being pursued instead. The Fire Department still has significant needs for a Fire
67 Station, either alone or with a Safety Complex. Thus, a placeholder for this has been put on list
68 to cover the Department's needs. A Safety Complex will likely cost upwards of \$8M. A Fire
69 Station alone would cost approximately \$6.9M.

70

71 In response to a question from Ed Carroll, Chief Plourde stated that the Department does not
72 own the Hilltop Building. The Department has a cooperative agreement to provide fire services
73 with the allowance that it can then house trucks there. Necessary tests for radon levels in the
74 building have been delayed for a number of years. The Department can only occupy the building
75 for a capped limit of hours each week until these numbers are known.

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77 **Ed Carroll moved to adjourn at 7:17pm. Seconded by Jennifer Allocca.**

78

Voting: 6-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

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80

81 Respectfully submitted,

Minutes approved:

82 Kristan Patenaude

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