

Minutes
Capital Improvement Committee
January 9, 2023

Attending: Kathy Logue, Bruce Stone, Matt Merry, Clark Rattet, Richard Knabel and Joe Tierney

Absent: Cindy Mitchell, Larry Schubert

The meeting opened at 4:37 pm.

The minutes of December 12, 2022 meeting were approved by roll call vote, with Richard Knabel abstaining.

The Committee reviewed the draft chart and made the following revisions:

- Removed the lines for Mill Brook Watershed and Sheriff's Department as no longer applicable
- Corrected the amount actually appropriated for Highway equipment voted for FY2023 (revised on town meeting floor)
- Reduced the amount for the TriTown Ambulance building in FY2025 to zero
- Kathy noted that there were big school projects in the future for both the high school and the WT school, but no hard numbers or refined schedule yet; similarly, the figures for Howes House are only estimated at this time.
- Kathy also noted that she is seeking permission from both the CPA committee and Select Board to pay off the Scott's Grove and Highway Building S/T debt remaining during FY2024, and the chart would be updated to reflect this if approved.

There was a brief discussion of the likely addition of an article for the repair/upgrade of the HVAC system at the library, which has been fraught with problems since the beginning, but Jen Rand is still waiting for actual numbers. In addition, there was a general discussion about the cost of the Howes House renovation/expansion. Matt thought the cost seemed high; Richard thought it would probably cost more, and Joe noted that costs are escalating at a rate of at least 5%/year, and that he is seeing costs/square foot that are alarmingly high, even in residential construction.

The Committee then moved on to reviewing the draft text of the annual report, and made the following revisions:

- Dollars in summary section to be slotted in on final draft
- Keep the paragraph under Recommendations, modifying it slightly to update
- Agreed to proposed changes on Energy, Fire, Highways. And Town buildings, including removing the paragraphs on Mill Brook and Sheriff's Communication.

[Joe and Matt left the meeting]

- Jane Rossi had sent updated language regarding Complete Streets that will be incorporated.

- Kathy was asked to add more details and updates regarding the status of both high and WT schools.
- For the Howes House, match figure in chart and text (currently slightly different) and mention the use of federal ARPA money to help fund completion of the design.

The next meeting was confirmed for Monday January 30th, at 4:30 PM via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Logue

Approved January 30, 2023