

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY21

This was not a typical year for the Capital Improvements Planning Committee. While CIPC meetings were regularly held, they were generally done so in a virtual format by way of the popular ZOOM meeting venue. All such meetings held though were in full observance of and in complete compliance with state mandated COVID protocol guidelines and open meeting stipulations. While that meeting venue was atypical, what separated this CIPC Year from that of other years was the limited number of capital needs requests that were placed before the CIPC. In a typical year that number of requests could safely reach 20 or more with a total dollarized amount attributed to such a level of requests to reach into the range of millions, even multi-millions of dollars. This year, such was not the case.

In large part, recognition for that not being the case needs to be attributed to....and is in the form of thanks, respect, and appreciation....to all town department heads....but in particular the heads of Police, Fire, and Public Works. To each of their respective credits....Police was very successful in securing certain grant funds to subsidize its current capital needs....Fire opted to take a year to review and reassess its full scope of capital needs with an eye directed towards some possible capital needs consolidation....and DPW opted to advance a list of just its essential 'must have' capital requirements.

Whereupon, in a typical CIPC Year, after a full and careful analysis, and a carefully administered independent ranking system.....five, six, or maybe more capital requests would be advanced in the form of Warrant Articles at Town Meeting. This year only two such Warrant Article were so advance. They were:

- Article 2 – Dump Truck for Department of Public Works – for the purchase of a Freightliner 4x4 dump truck for the sum of \$231,710 to replace a 1997 International dump truck
- Article 3 – Pickup Truck for the Water Department – to enter into a 'lease to own' agreement for a 2021 Chevrolet 2500 4x4 pickup truck in the amount of \$51,066 to be raised and appropriated as part of the Water Enterprise Fund.

In many regards, it was a light and easy CIPC Year. But the town's capital needs still remain considerable; and so, the ensuing year is not likely to be a repeat of this past year. Be assured though that your dedicated CIPC Committee, with its exemplary membership, will remain diligent in undertaking its duties and responsibilities and will continue to work cooperatively with all department heads, with administration, with the Finance Committee, and with the Board of Selectmen to be certain that each department has the equipment, tools, and facilities that its needs to carry out its formidable and essential work for our townspeople. All the while with our being fiscally prudent in our CIPC recommendations, as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Love, Chairman