

WASHINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

12 June 2017

In Attendance: Kent Lew, Dick Spencer, Sean Connors, David Weissbrod, and Mike Burke
(Tom Johnson, Supervisor of Highway Dept, joined us.)

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Finance committee meeting minutes from May 15, 2017 were approved as amended.

2. Highway Trucks Capital Needs (continued)

Tom provided us with detailed estimates for two highway trucks.

a. First, for heavy-duty 550 replacement, Tom said he received an estimate for \$107,000 for a Dodge 5500 with modifications and stainless steel sander, providing us with a written of description of the vehicle. Tom also said that Bedard Bros would offer us \$9,000 for our old 550. We still need to send out for bids and will include request offers for our old 550 as part of the bid. We will also add words to the affect that we reserve the right to reject any and all bids. The Dodge body will be modified so that the dump bed will be removed in the winter, and the "slide-in" sander will be outfitted with a supporting plate in order to be installed in place of the dump bed. Some of the advantages of this configuration are extended life for dump bed, lower center of gravity, and enhanced visibility with sander.

We discussed our funding options, mainly Borrowing and/or Stabilization. Chapter 90 funding is not applicable.

Longevity: We might get 7 or 8 years without major problems. Frame and body predictably go first. Could we get 10 years out of it? If we got a 5-year loan, this allows us 2 or 3 years without payments and without any major fixes.

Funding scheme: Take \$53K out of Stabilization for chassis and borrow \$54K for sander.

b. Next, we discussed need for small truck. Tom provided us with a copy of a written estimate for a 2017 Tundra 4X4, received from Haddad Toyota, for \$33,269. Estimate includes 3 years of standard maintenance. With a smaller truck, we can get state bids, although it would be for a Ford, which we have a problem getting repaired locally. Plus you could be dealing with the eastern end of the state, travelling back and forth to Marlborough for repairs. Because the total price is under \$50K we don't have to send out for bids. We revisited the need for a small truck. We noted that it would be desirable to buy a fairly recent,

WASHINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

12 June 2017

used model. Tom noted that he did look for a used Tundra 4X4 and it cost more than a new model! Funding scenario: We could take the \$34K from Stabilization, bringing the total to \$88K for the two vehicles, plus borrowing for the remainder.

Mike noted that Housatonic Plow would be a good source for a plow in the future (like HP Fairfield).

3. End-of-Year Transfers

Kent distributed copies of the year-ends through 6/05/17. Overall, the town's expenditures should come just under budget. We looked at a few areas of concern.

Winter Roads account is at over-run projection for this FY. Tom will plan to be able to transfer funds within the Highway Department.

Other accounts discussed were at a lower over-run threshold and with no great threats to our overall budget.

4. No New Business.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

Respectfully,

David Weissbrod, Clerk