

**Capital Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Montague Town Hall, Conference Room**  
**One Avenue A, Turners Falls**  
**January 23rd, 2019**

Attendees: Capital Improvements Committee members Josh Lively, Steve Ellis, Fred Bowman, Bob Obear. GMRSD representatives Joanne Blier, Heath Cummings, Mike Langknecht. Ariel Elan

Mr. Lively calls meeting to order at 3:07

**I. Approve minutes of Jan, 9th meeting**

Mr. Obear moves to approve minutes of January 9th. Mr. Bowman seconds. Passes 4-0

**II. Discussion of Special Articles with GMRSD**

Joanne and Heath provided CIC with updated priority list from school committee and outlined the rationale for each item.

1. Sidewalk replacement: complete replacement of sidewalks from 2002 renovation. 15-17 years old at present time. Heath explains that proper salt guarding wasn't done year to year, and steel plows were used on sidewalk. New sidewalks would be salt guarded and steel truck plows would no longer be used to clear sidewalks of snow. Alternatives for funding were discussed.
2. Truck replacement. 2002 1/2 ton chevy no longer serviceable to district. Gas tank straps and fuel lines are rotting. Just lost reverse last week while plowing out last storm. Truck will not pass inspection. New truck proposed is 2019 Ford 250 with 8 foot bed which can take the sander already owned by the district. Tom B of the highway department approves of the new truck choice. District already possesses plow that will be installed.
3. Sheffield columns. Received quotes for \$21,000 from Renaissance Builders. \$13,000 to install columns and \$8,000 to repair brick masonry. Discussion as to cost accuracy of estimate, seems low to some members. Mr. Ellis suggests we could potentially add a contingency value to the cost. CIC agrees this seems prudent.
4. Brick/Facade repair and window frame repair at Hillcrest. No written quotes have been submitted yet and the scope of work isn't clearly identified. Based on quote for masonry repair at Admin building this seems like a low quote based on photos provided. District to provide written quotes with more specific work scope as soon as possible.
5. Hillcrest electrical Upgrade to add AC. Not enough amperage in panel to supply each classroom with AC - panel says 200 amps but in actuality it is 100 amp service. Panel was large enough for the breakers but the service is only 100 amps, which is insufficient. Most classrooms have only 2-3 plugs so some new outlets would be added to each room. Noted that quote was offered by onsite contractor who stated that were they to come back on a second call the cost would be about double, which is reflected in the request.

Strength of the rationale as presented by the district is limited or flawed. Other alternatives for heating and cooling the primary school buildings are currently being explored by MEC. Some sense that it seems premature to act on this request before these avenues are explored.

CIC let GMRSD know that we would consider new or updated quotes and submissions up to week of Feb 20th when we vote on priorities.

### **III. Receive guidance from Finance Committee.**

Mr. Ellis relays message from FINCOM to not think of the CIC budget as set in stone and to give full consideration of all eligible capital requests and to offer guidance relative to less expensive building repair Special Article Requests. Also FINCOM wants CIC to consider Ballot Tabulators request as well. Though this is not a typical capital request, it does meet the standard for inclusion.

### **IV. Adjournment.**

CIC decided to meet on January 30th to meet with Town Clerk about the Special Article Request for new Ballot Boxes as well as with Tom Bergeron of the DPW.

Mr. Ellis motions to adjourn, Mr. Bowman seconds. Passes 4-0