

Capital Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes
Montague Town Hall, Downstairs Conference Room
One Avenue A, Turners Falls MA
September 2nd, 2020

Attendees: Capital Improvements Members Josh Lively, Steve Ellis, Greg Garrison, Bob Obear(3:30) Fred Bowman. DPW Superintendent Tom Bergeron, Chris Sawyer-Laucanno.

1. Approve minutes of August 19th meeting.

Mr. Garrison moves to approve minutes of August 19th meeting. Mr. Ellis seconds. Passes 4-0.

2. Discuss emergent and non-building capital projects of note

- I. Burn dump capping. Capping being done is consistent with CAD. While digging for retention pond the firm identified another acre of trash on the southern end of the project and outside of the delineated area. The Town has already authorized \$50,000 of CRM but will need to pay for construction oversight at a cost of \$32,000. All involved are confident that this amount won't be exceeded while the construction costs remain unknown at this time.

II. Chestnut Hill Loop Bridge Replacement

Mr Bergeon explains to members the situation with this bridge.

Small bridge or box culvert with a \$450,000 grant from MA DOT Small Bridge Program on Chestnut Hill Road has been closed. The design is complete and the plan is to bid it next summer. Members are told to expect a request for an additional \$50,000-\$100,000 to cover the remaining expected costs as the bridge and design are expected to run well over the \$450,000 mark. After consideration it is decided to try to bid the project in early 2021 to allow for a targeted STM appropriation.

III. Millers Falls Embankment

Mr. Bergeron again described the situation with the eroding embankment which is being caused by a twelve inch storm drain pipe that has rotted away and is breaking closer and closer to Millers Falls Road. The DPW has plugged the drains that lead to it and have pumps at the

ready. Mr. Bergeron is using Ch. 90 funds to repair the issue. Members ask about other possible drains along this corridor and plan to study the question of what structures may exist along the CT river embankment. Hoping to use Spring MVP Grant for an engineering assessment and schedule for maintenance.

3. Discuss recommended slate of articles for October Special Town Meeting.

Members took votes on articles for upcoming STM.

Mr. Garrison recommends the appropriation of \$32,000 for burn dump engineering oversight. Mr. Bowman seconds. Passes 5-0. The consensus on the burn dump is to hold off on a recommendation until we know the cost.

4. Discuss roof specs for COA roof replacement.

Members discuss the project specs as presented. It is noted by Mr Sawyer-Laucanno that the south side clapboards are in poor shape. About ½ of the siding is splintered and cracking as well as the old rosette window, which is falling apart as well. Members inquire about the options for the siding. Could composite be used instead of cedar? Is it more cost effective to just strip and re side it with wood? That cost could be around \$20,000 for the one side. Also a large gable vent is needed to vent the roof. Vigorous discussion is held about the merits of patching vs. re siding that area. Consensus is to wait on a major decision on the siding.

5. Set Next Meeting.

Next meeting set for September 16th at 3 pm.

6. Adjournment.

Mr. Garrison moves to adjourn. Mr. Obear seconds. Passes 5-0.