



Town of Oak Bluffs Capital Program Committee

T. Ewell Hopkins, Chair, Planning Board appointee
Robert Fehl, Vice Chair, Selectmen appointee
William Vrooman, Moderator appointee
Greg Thornton, Selectmen appointee
John Newsom, Selectmen appointee
Maura McGroarty, Finance Committee appointee
Deborah Potter, Town Accountant, ex officio
Robert Whritenour, Town Administrator, ex officio

Capital Program Committee Meeting - Minutes

November 20, 2020 at 10:30am via zoom

Committee members attending: Ewell Hopkins, Greg Thornton, Maura McGroarty, John Newsom, William Vrooman, Bo Fehl

Others in Attendance: Robert Whritenour, Town Administrator; Richie Combra – Highway Superintendent; Megan Farrell – OB School Principal; Bob Gaffey

Meeting called to order at 10:33am

Review Minutes (11/13/20)

Mr. Vrooman motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Newsom.

Maura suggested adding Moving up jetty construction move from 24 to 23. All in favor with addition.

Review FY22 Capital Requests

- Building Maintenance
The department is requesting Kennebec Bathroom and Library Repairs. Both have been previously approved by the committee but delayed because of Covid. The committee discussed the possibility of including external School and fire building painting under the building maintenance category in the future.
- Highway Department
The department is requesting to replace two pick-up trucks, a full size dump truck (recommended as a #1 priority last year – 4 year lease),

replace street sweeper (under current lease – exists in the budget for Highway department), replace wood chipper for tree maintenance, new loader tires, replace rubbish truck (under current lease – exists in the budget for Highway department), and a new mower.

- Parks Department

The department is modifying their requests as follows:

- Remove jet skis request
- Band stand repaint/repairs – ranked high priority and recommended but delayed due to Covid.
- Repaint statue - necessary
- Niantic park repairs – Mr. Combra will double check with the Parks commission and inform the board at the next meeting.

- School

The department is looking to replace the boiler and hot water heater, but is currently looking into alternative funding options. The cupola also needs to be repainted, and the elevator will need to be replaced soon.

Other Business

The next meeting is scheduled for December 4 to prioritize projects, make recommendations and invite Police and Parks departments for follow up questions.

The committee had a discussion on the sources of funds: there is not a lot available in the Ambulance reserve fund, natural resources is looking primarily for grant funding, we need a financing plan for wastewater improvements. Otherwise most of FY22 items will be funded by excess revenues/free cash. Free cash is not yet certified.

Next meeting: Dec 4 at 10:30am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:29am.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Blair, Office Administrator