



TOWN OF HARWINTON

HARWINTON, CONNECTICUT 06791

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CAPITAL EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26th, 2015

Chairman, John Fredsall, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Committee members present were, Tom Pollack, Dave Bousquet, and myself. Bob Santamaria and Jim Savenella were absent. The minutes from the previous meeting on August 14th, 2014 were passed out and reviewed. Dave made a motion to accept with Tom's second, and the motion to accept was unanimous.

The agenda for this meeting was to go over the equipment needs for the 2015-2016, budget year. A review of the updated list of the capital equipment, owned and operated, by the Town was reviewed by the committee. It was noted that the depreciation amount has increased to nearly \$230,000 per year, and that the Town appropriated \$220,000 last year for equipment. The members appreciate the tough economic conditions that the Town and the State are experiencing but feel they would be negligent in their duty to not make note to the Selectman and the Board of Finance and recommend that years when actual purchases don't reach the depreciation amount that any shortage should be appropriated to the Capitol Equipment Account to be used in those years when needs may exceed the depreciation total or the amount the Town may wish to appropriate with taxes in any one year. It makes good economics sense to replace equipment on a regular and timely basis in order to maintain reliability and limit costs related to repairs. Even using a sound policy as the Town has done in the past, winter's like this one certainly strain the repair budget and the up-time of the equipment.

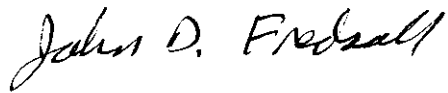
John presented his thoughts for the coming year for the committee to consider and made a note that the next truck up for replacement will be Unit #2, a 4-wheel drive, 2009, 19,500 lb. plowing dump truck, which is the Forman's truck. The present Unit #2 will be moved to #10 for use by the Public Works workers for general use. Unit #10 will be traded in which is at its scheduled replacement date. Another item is to replace Unit #26, the ACO's truck, which is 17 years old and is well past its scheduled replacement date. The third item is a heavy-duty large plow for the Town's loader. This is a multi-purpose type plow that can operate in V, Straight, or scoop modes. It is felt that this plow would give the Town a valuable tool to quickly open roads during very heavy storms when snow could outpace the capacity of a regular plow truck, especially in badly drifted areas and be much faster than scooping out with the bucket. Estimates for the new Unit #2 truck with a plow and related equipment are \$105,000. The ACO's truck, Unit #26 purchase estimate is \$25,000. The committee is thinking a small van type vehicle would be the most particular with a few needed options to fit the ACO's needs. The plow is a specialty item and is built by Holms Manufacturing and sold by a local dealer whom the Town has done business with. Discussion followed. It was decided to recommend \$105,000 for Unit #2, \$25,000 for Unit #26, and \$20,000 for the Loader plow.

The total for this year's equipment purchases would be a not to exceed budget amount of \$150,000. The member's then noted that the Town should continue to expend the depreciation value that is on the Capitol Equipment List in order to not fall behind in the maintenance of the Town's equipment. This year that number is \$229,012.00. The committee believes that it should recommend to the Board

Finance that they appropriate \$225,000 for Capitol Equipment with \$150,000 being used this year and allow the balance of \$75,000 to rollover into the Capitol Equipment Account for years when it will be needed. It was noted that there are two pieces of equipment due next year that are estimated to cost around \$300,000. After some discussion a motion was made by Tom and seconded by Dave to recommend the budget amount of \$225,000 with \$150,000 being expended this year and the balance rolled over into the Capitol Account be made to the Board's of Selectman and Finance for their action. The motion carried unanimously.

With nothing else on agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

John D. Fredsall
Chairman, Capital Equipment Committee



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