

**TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE
October 15, 2019**

MINUTES

Present: James Kelly, Bob Hanson, Leandra MacDonald, Valerie Jenkins, Carl Mabbs-Zeno, Sarah Steinberg Heller, and Bill Reinhardt

Also Present: Peter Throop and Laura Norton, Office of Community Development

Following the Site Visit Chair Hanson called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m. He introduced the Members and Staff.

Minutes:

A motion was made/seconded (MacDonald/Jenkins) to approve the Minutes of October 8, 2019 as written with an amendment by Mr. Mabbs-Zeno with all in favor. Mr. Mabbs-Zeno noted the importance of his inquiry as he intended to ask the other Department Heads about any concerns they may have with the quality of the GIS systems data.

Fire Department:

Chief Ed Walker was present and noted his only request for 2021 was \$250,000 to bid for architectural plans for a new Fire & Rescue facility design. He told the Members the result would be a set of plans that would be used to bid out the construction of the facility with a firm cost for construction.

Chief Walker then explained the how the department's ambulances were purchased and reviewed their life-cycle spans. He also reviewed specific equipment purchases including cardiac monitors, respiratory ventilators, Autopulses (a mechanical CPR device), ultrasound probes for fast assessment sonar technology in trauma and *iSTAT* devices for monitoring arterial blood gasses (Troponin, indicative of myocardio infarction and Lactate Acid, indicative of sepsis) in the field. "Both of which may factor into the Critical Care Paramedic's decision for transport of the patient). "Does the patient have a say?" asked Chair Hanson with Chief Walker relying "of course" but noted the decision to transport directly to a specialized facility (such as the cardiac catheterization lab at Catholic Medical Center) saves time and lives.

Chief Walker concluded by telling the Members “while the purchase of these items affects the processes for how the town may borrow money, there is *no* taxpayer impact.”

Chief Walker went on to tell the Members he would be replacing the 2003 ambulance (24-A2) which was purchased few years ago from the town of Marlborough, New Hampshire and explained how the used apparatus is sold through a website called Municabid.

Chief Walker briefly reviewed some upcoming items including \$40,000 for three years for the replacement of the department’s portable radios (a critical factor in life safety for the responders). He noted the current radios were purchased in 2005 through a state grant and have exceeded their lifespan of 10 years. Chief Walker went on to note he and his Officers had begun to see consistent failure with the radios, telling the Members “they are no longer serviced by Motorola, they stop supporting them after 10 years.”

Ms. Jenkins interjected “how many radios will \$120,000 buy?” Chief Walker replied, “about 30” adding “that includes one for each Officer and all the (apparatus) riding positions.” He concluded by noting the cost of a new radio was between \$3500 and \$3700 each and manufactured by Kenwood (versus the approximate \$6000 cost of a radio manufactured by Motorola).

Mr. Mabbs-Zeno concluded by noting “I assume Fire and Rescue uses GIS” and asked Chief Walker (like Chief Guinard) if he felt that service was adequate for his department at the current level. Chief Walker replied, “we have a stand-alone application and it has worked out. The department is often heavily engaged in GIS. There is always room to grow and improve on what we have but we are a pretty heavy user of the data and we are happy with it.”

With no additional questions or comments Chair Hanson thanked the Chief for coming in. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Norton

Administrative Assistant