



Town of Oak Bluffs Capital Program Committee

William Vrooman, Moderator appointee
Richard Weiss, Finance Committee appointee
Bill Cleary, Select Board appointee
Mark Leonard, Planning Board appointee
Cameron Naron, Select Board appointee
Paul Schulz, Select Board appointee
Deborah Potter, Town Administrator, ex officio
Carrie Blair, Acting Accountant, ex officio

Capital Program Committee Meeting Minutes October 26, 2023, at 2:00pm

Committee Members: Bill Cleary, Mark Leonard, Paul Schulz, William Vrooman, Richard Weiss

Committee Members Absent: Cameron Naron. Town Administrator Deborah Potter

Others in Attendance: Acting Accountant Carrie Blair, Executive Assistant Debra Alley, Assistant Town Administrator Wendy Brough, Conservation Agent Garrett Albiston

Public: Maura McGroarty

2:04 pm Mr. Vrooman called the meeting to order

Approve Meeting Minutes October 19, 2023

Mr. Leonard made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for October 19, 2023, Seconded by Mr. Vrooman

Vote: Leonard - Aye, Vrooman - Aye, Schultz - Abstain, Cleary - Abstain (2 - Aye, 2 - Abstain)

2:05 pm Mr. Weiss joined the meeting

The committee discussed and voted on the Special Town Meeting Article # 6 for the harbormaster vehicle

Mr. Leonard made a motion to approve the STM Article # 6 \$57,300 for Harbormaster vehicle, Seconded by Mr. Vrooman

Mr. Schulz asked if this article was on a fast track. Mr. Vrooman confirmed yes this was on the Special Town Meeting warrant for November 7, 2023. There were further questions regarding the type of vehicle, it was confirmed it is an electric vehicle.

Vote: Cleary - Aye, Leonard - Aye, Weiss - Aye, Schulz - Aye, Vrooman - Aye (5 - Aye)

CONSERVATION

Bulkhead near ECBC FY 2025 \$75,000

The committee asked where this parking lot was located, and who owns the parking lot. It is the sand parking lot to the left of East Chop Beach Club. This is for a feasibility study, preliminary engineering, and design work, not construction. This bulkhead needs to be replaced to protect the area from further erosion.

Mainstay Insulation / basement finishing FY2025 \$70,000

The committee asked what this building was going to be used for. For community use- meetings etc. The committee asked is this building and sailing camp park generates income. Mr. Albiston advised there are approximately two to three weddings per week from mid-May until October. Mr. Cleary asked how the quotes were achieved. Mr. Albiston said he had spoken to several contractors; this would also include the floor. Mr. Cleary mentioned the Energy committee works with Cape Light Compact and they may be able to assist with this project. The question was asked about the square footage of the building and specifically the basement area. This would not be insulation the entire space as Sail MV rent and use part of the basement for storage.

Mainstay Heating FY2026 \$50,000

This heating system is for the basement area. This unit would be a propane system, as the Town is moving toward electric, this would be able to be expanded to the upstairs of the building if in the future the upstairs was insulated.

Conservation will work with the Energy Committee and Cape Light Compact. Mr. Albiston has worked with Cape Light Compact previously; the building just had a new heat pump hot water system and new lighting in the building through the program run by Cape Light Compact.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Sea View Ave Seawall FY2025 \$225,000

Waiting for the updated condition report from FOTH; this will come back with priority items which will help with the next stage which is to go out to bid for design and engineering services. This also includes the engineers going out for funding, Permitting takes about two years to complete. Ms. Brough explained anything with coastal infrastructure runs into the millions of dollars, there are grants out there. Not doing the entire seawall at once but working in sections which are a priority. Looking at construction in FY2028. Mr. Weiss asked about the \$3 million; will this cover the entire project. This is an initial ask, and the project will be back on a future capital request. This is a priority issue which has been in the Mass Vulnerability plan, every environmental impact study and the climate action plan – have all recognized the seawall from the Steamship Authority down to Farm Pond needs to be addressed. In some areas it needs to be armored in places, shored up. This initial phase is to get the engineered report and make up the priorities. This is a multi-phase project; this is a big project.

Ms. Brough explained Farm Pond Culvert, she has been working with MASS DOT on this over the last year. The capital request for this have been removed as she is working with MASS DOT to take over the culvert project. Last year the capital request for this was \$325,000 for the second phase of Farm Pond, she is only going to need about \$50,000 and the remainder will go bridge the transition from FUSS and ONIELL our engineers to give it to MASS DOT. When MASS DOT take over the culvert, they will then look at the seawall and the road from Farm Pond Culvert right up to Tuckernuck Road. They will look at the road, the Town will need to look at the seawall.

Ms. Brough explained this is coastal resiliency protecting the town infrastructure, the downtown and the neighborhoods.

Hospital Roads Resiliency FY2025 \$57,544

Looking for a grant match of 25%, the town has been successful in achieving a grant from coastal zone management. Coastal Resiliency Road Assessment which will help address all the town roads getting to the hospital in storm surge, sea level rise and any kind of weather event. Learning another resiliency against traffic and emergency vehicle getting to the hospital

Will be working with MASS DOT; they are involved in maintaining their state roads. This assessment will look at nature-based solutions or what can be done around state roads to further protect down by Beach Road. Included in this amount is money to employ someone to go out grant hunting for the next phase - Construction.

Ms. Brough is working with the hospital and will be working with other towns for a regional share of this. A Hospital Roads advisory committee is being formed with emergency managers from the other towns and the hospital and MASS DOT.

The committee had questions about other projects like dredging. Mr. Albiston said the channel is dredged every year and the inside and outside once every five years. Mr. Leonard asked about Edgartown dredging machine. Mr. Albiston said we use the dredger for the inside and the outside. The town uses Danny Rogers, a local excavating company does the channel; Edgartown dredger does the inside and outside areas. Mr. Cleary asked about transaction / payment with Edgartown dredge committee - do they charge us or do they take the sand. This next time Oak Bluffs is keeping the sand.

2:42 *Mr. Schulz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Mr. Leonard*

Vote: Cleary - Aye, Leonard - Aye, Weiss - Aye, Schulz - Aye, Vrooman - Aye (**5 - Aye**)

The next meeting will be held on Thursday November 2, 2023

Documents Attached

Conservation and Natural Resources Capital Requests

Respectfully Submitted


Debra Alley - Executive Assistant
Approved Capital Meeting 11.20.2023