



## Town of Oak Bluffs Capital Program Committee

William Vrooman, Chair, Moderator appointee  
T. Ewell Hopkins, Vice Chair, Planning Board appointee  
Barbara Alleyne, Select Board appointee  
Maura McGroarty, Finance Committee appointee  
Deborah Potter, Town Administrator /Accountant, ex officio

### Capital Program Committee Meeting – Minutes

October 28, 2021 at 2:00pm via zoom

Committee Members in Attendance: William Vrooman, Ewell Hopkins, Maura McGroarty, Barbara Alleyne.

Others in Attendance: Deborah Potter, Carrie Blair, Chief Wirtz (Fire Department), Chief Blake (Police), Sgt. Nick Curelli (Police), Sgt. Mike Marchand (Police).

Meeting called to order at 1:59 PM

Review minutes October 21, 2021 meeting.

Maura McGroarty noted Scotty Vail (spelling was incorrect, corrected.)

***Barbara Alleyne motioned to approve the minutes from October 21, 2021 seconded by Ewell Hopkins.***

***McGroarty, Alleyne, Hopkin, Vrooman, aye.***

Review FY23 Capital Requests

- Police – Sgt. Nick Curelli. The department is requesting to replace the Police Sergeant vehicle, to replace the firearms. Also requesting a low speed vehicle.

Sgt. Curelli noted the platform for the firearms the Police department is requesting is cheaper but superior in quality. Mr. Hopkins has asked for the technical detailed report on the firearms to be emailed to the Capital Committee.

Deborah Potter spoke to changing Capital and how vehicles are accounted for. Vehicle leases are priced out over three years.

Mr. Hopkins spoke to engine life of vehicles and also on the firearm platform.

Ms. McGroarty asked question about the Sergeants vehicle in FY23 and then again in FY28. Firearms – have they been replaced in the last ten years? Sgt. Curelli advised since he has been with the police department since 1991 the firearms have been the same. The low speed vehicle – does the Fire department have a similar vehicle? Chief Wirtz said they did not. Ms. McGroarty asked where the low speed vehicle would be garaged. Sgt. Marchand said it would stay in the Police Departments garage on site.

Sgt. Curelli spoke about removing the body armor in FY27 as they have received a grant from the Federal Government. Deborah Potter said to leave the body armor on for FY27 as this equipment needs to be replaced every five years.

- Fire – Chief Wirtz. The department is requesting to replace the Chief’s vehicle, Turnout Gear, Refurbishing the Fire Rehab Unit and continuance of ambulance refurbishment.

Chief Wirtz spoke about replacing the Chiefs vehicle; he is currently driving a 2013 vehicle with just under 90,000 miles. The current vehicle would need to be outfitted to be able to run a command center out of the vehicle. Mr. Vrooman asked about hybrid vehicle options, leasing vs buying. Deborah Potter said the Town is trying to get away from leasing vehicles as it cost more in the longer term.

Chief Wirtz spoke about replacing turn out gear. Equipment should be replaced every ten years. Every member should have two full sets of gear. Quote received for each set of gear is \$4200; this is more than Chief Wirtz previously requested. Mr. Hopkins asked about a previous approval of a specialized washing unit for turn out gear. Chief Wirtz noted yes the washing unit still in use and is used extensively. Mr. Hopkins asked if we should consider the longer term life of the washing equipment.

Ms. McGroarty asked how many fire fighters we currently have. Chief Wirtz said 42 including himself and the deputy. Ms. McGroarty asked about the life span and replacement times of the air packs. Chief Wirtz spoke about technology updates with this equipment and the variance in equipment. The existing air packs have different time limits – 45 minutes vs. 60 minutes.

Mr. Hopkins spoke about safety vs. cost in relation to the turnout gear.

Deborah Potter asked about the Fire Rehab Unit and the possibility of spreading the cost due to this being a regional asset. Chief Wirtz is still working on the possibility of obtaining funding from the state. However, he would like to keep the \$80,000 in the request as he cannot apply until November. Chief Wirtz noted he could push this request for six months but not out to twelve months. It is a repurposed VTA bus, Mr. Vrooman asked if the VTA have any other vehicles we may be able to repurpose. Chief Wirtz is still working on this.

Ms. McGroarty asked about the purchase of a new ambulance when the transport agreement with the hospital has not been finalized. Ms. McGroarty asked about the purchase of the new ambulances. Chief Wirtz noted the life span is five years on each ambulance.

Mr. Vrooman noted the meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup> needed to be moved up to 1:00 pm to accommodate Conservation Group.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm Building Maintenance, Highway Department and Parks Department are scheduled.

***Mr. Hopkins motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. McGroarty***

***Hopkins, Alleyne, McGroarty and Vrooman aye.***

Meeting adjourned at 2: 59

Respectfully submitted by Debra Alley, Office Administrator