

Franconia Capital Improvements Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 11, 2013

A meeting of the Franconia Capital Improvements Committee (CIP) was held on Wednesday December 11, 2013 at 3:00 pm at the Franconia Town Hall. The minutes were recorded by Suzanne MacDonald.

Regular members in attendance were Bob Montagno, Mogens Jessen, Brian Williams, and Bernie Costa. Guests were Jeff Phillips and Scott Leslie

The meeting was called to order by Bob Montagno.

The meeting minutes of October 10, 2013 were discussed and approved.

The bridges were discussed and will be left on the list but we will not look into doing anything in year 2014.

Bob discussed the sidewalk plan. Approximately \$100,000 would be needed to do all of the sidewalks based on a square footage estimate. Harvard and Academy have been looked at by Blaktop and they have submitted a proposal. It would be approximately \$16,780 for the sidewalks on Harvard Street and approximately \$12,886 on Academy Street.

Safe Routes to school is still moving forward which will affect some sidewalks in the downtown area.

The price for paving the Elmwood Cemetery is \$15,291. This area is not salted or plowed during the winter. There is still a question if we can obtain money from the Cemetery Trust. This is considered perpetual care. There was some discussion if this item should be included in the road plan.

The Select Board should look into how to release funds from the Cemetery, Transfer Station and the Grader Fund.

The CIP would also like to discuss with Sally where the money goes for sale of lots at the cemetery.

The sidewalks were again discussed and a plan of which ones first. They can't all be done at once. The first year we could spend about \$24,000 which would take care of Harvard and Academy. The Sidewalk plan should be consistent like the road plan. Possibly a five year plan spending around \$20,000 each year would make sense. We will have to keep maintenance money in mind for the future.

Jeff will get the appropriate CIP maintenance form to Mogens or to Sally for sidewalks and cemetery paving.

Scott Leslie discussed the trucks at the Highway Garage. The 1997 ford F250 will not pass inspection again. It's in very bad condition. Scott is proposing trading the Building & Grounds truck a year earlier, 2014 and having the Highway Department buy this truck. Mogens is not in favor of interdepartmental trading. Jeff's truck is scheduled to be replaced every 5 years whether it needs it or not. Scott's F250 (1997) will be moved from 2017 to 2014 for replacement. Scott discussed buying a decent used vehicle. Scott will need to prepare a new CIP submission

form with the changes. The paper should state \$20,000 to buy a Highway Department patrol truck. The lifetime of the truck would be 5 years. He will be looking for a ½ ton, 4 wheel drive truck. He would like to keep the brand of the truck “flexible”.

The Committee discussed the 2014 CIP projects.

The Committee discussed the criteria for useful life of equipment. The CIP could determine the criteria if they could look at the cost of repairs and maintenance records. For planning purposes we still must plug in numbers. We also should be looking closer at maintenance costs of vehicles and equipment.

Carl Schaffer will be back the beginning of the year and is very good with detail. The Committee will ask him about coming up with a plan to monitor all the town owned vehicles. He can build a maintenance/cost schedule along with repair and operating costs. We must come up with a way to determine when vehicles and equipment need to be replaced making adjustment along the way.

The items from the minutes of the last meeting were revisited for the 2014 plan.

Bob will follow up with Scott Leslie on the road plan. Scott must continue with the plan.

Paul Schmucker would like to meet with the CIP to adjust some figures. The Committee will not be meeting with department heads any more this year and will be going with the figures that have been supplied for 2014.

Suzy discussed the paperwork needed for the public hearing. Bob will prepare a general write up from the Committee.

A public hearing will be held on January 7, 2014 to discuss the plan. The CIP will meet with the Planning Board on January 13, 2014 and with the Select Board on January 20 or 21, 2014.

Bernie has offered to take minutes at the public hearing if need be.

The next CIP meeting will be the public hearing on January 7, 2014 at 7pm.

With no other business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 4:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Suzanne MacDonald
CIP Secretary