

TOWN COUNCIL  
**Town of Trumbull**  
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TOWN HALL  
Trumbull

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FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 4, 2021

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Chair called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** The clerk called the roll and recorded it as follows:

**PRESENT:** Kevin Shively, Chairman, Dawn Cantafio, Vice Chairman, Michael Miller  
Lori Rosasco Schwartz, Tony Scinto and Mary Isaac, Alternate

**ABSENT:** Lisa Valenti and Donna Seidell

**ALSO PRESENT:** First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro, Chief Administrative Officers, Cynthia Katske and Kathleen McGannon, Town Attorney Daniel Schopick, Town Council members, Joanne Glasser-Orenstein, Bill Mecca, Eric Paulson, Carl Massaro, Town Engineer William Maurer, Parks Superintendent Dmitri Paris, Fleet Supervisor Doug Bogen, Economic & Community Development Director Rina Bakalar, BOE Facilities Director John Morello, Scott Kerr of the BOE, BOE Chairman Lucinda Timpanelli, BOE Business Manager Paul Hendrickson, Superintendent of Schools Martin Semmel, Public Works Director George Estrada, Dayanara Aviles Public Works Comptroller, and Assistant Finance Director Dan Martin

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1. RESOLUTION TC28-142: Moved by Miller, seconded by Cantafio  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the 5-Year Capital Plan is hereby approved.

Attorney Schopick gave a brief overview. The plan includes capital projects that are typically bonded and puts the projects in order to move forward to underwrite the funds and to qualify for grants. The first year is the current year; the subsequent four years can change. The plan isn't a bond authorization and doesn't encumber funds.

The Committee reviewed the 5-Year Plan as follows:

**BOE CAPITAL PLAN:**

Mr. Morello of BOE Facilities explained the following projects and indicated all of the numbers inserted were formulated by the former Facilities Director. Mr. Morello was not part of that process.

- **ASBESTOS REMOVAL:** There is one school left to be done, (Madison Middle School).
- **BOILER REPLACEMENT AGRISCIENCE CENTER:** This project would replace four boilers with two. If another boiler is lost there will be no heat. Superintendent of Schools Martin Semmel indicated it was doubtful the state would contribute. The Chair questioned whether there were grant opportunities.
- **COOLING TOWER SUMP REPLACEMENT AT FRENCHTOWN & THS:** There had been no treatment center. Ms. Timpanelli explained during construction what had been in the original plan was replaced with something of lesser quality. Mr. Morello indicated there is a service contract in place now for both schools, but need to be fixed first. He isn't sure they will make another year. He had been told that some towers that are 25-30 years old aren't as bad as Frenchtown's. It was noted that Frenchtown School is approximately 20 years old.
- **DATA CENTER AT THS:** This project is no longer planned because the Long Hill Administrative building is not moving. It was agreed not to remove this item from the plan, at some point it will need to be done. Pre-COVID-19 there were 38-40 employees located at the Long Hill Administrative building. The current data center is spread out throughout the building in server closets; the main center is on the second floor. The television station is still at THS. The Chair indicated the television station does have some connections to switches.
- **WELLNESS/FITNESS CENTER:** They allocated for design with the project funded in 2022. It was noted that the BOE had added design funds at their last meeting.
- **PAVING:** The project would bring the Long Hill Admin building and Jane Ryan school in to ADA compliance. Mr. Estrada suggested adding to the plan the evaluation of the HVAC at the Long Hill Admin building in year 2021. He will be doing something similar at the Town Hall and expects to go out with the RFP within a month. The HVAC system and roof at the Long Hill Admin building are at life-end. It would be cost effective to put a RFP out for the two HVAC systems together. Mr. Estrada indicated the request should be \$25,000-\$30,000 in year 2021. It was suggested that this be added to the Town side of the plan since the BOE had already met and will not meet until January 12, 2021.
- **REMOVE EXTERIOR CONCRETE SHADE PANELS:** Safety issue.

- ROOF REPLACEMENT AT 3 SCHOOLS: It was reported Jane Ryan and Booth Hill Schools' roofs date back to 1991. Mr. Martin indicated the Finance Department had record of a 2010 purchase order for the Jane Ryan roof replacement. Atty. Schopick indicated the projects would need building committees. Mr. Hendrickson indicated it was possible to replace two roofs in one year. Mr. Kerr indicated this the BOE did discuss this; there are efficiencies with doing multiple roofs at one time. Ms. Isaac stated the Jane Ryan School HVAC system was done in 2015. The committee requested confirmation of when Middlebrook School was done. The BOE's consultant for these projects recommended if reimbursement doesn't approach 50% it wouldn't be worth it.
- ELEVATOR AT JANE RYAN: Safety issue. It will reduce catastrophic failure. It has failed in the past.
- THS AUDITORIUM IMPROVEMENTS: Requests have been made for a number of years, these 5 projects have been prioritized, some are safety issues, some are upgrades, some are because the equipment installed wasn't the best or because they are antiquated. The committee noted these items do not have a 20-year life span. They are maintenance/repair items, and should be in the operating budget.
- VEHICLE REPLACEMENT: Their equipment 30 years old and antiquated. Vehicles are in the operating budget, equipment is in the Capital Plan.

### TOWN CAPITAL PLAN

- ROADWAYS: The Beardsley Parkway drainage issues need addressing. If the sewer project moves forward Beardsley Parkway would be moved to a different year. (Ms. Rosasco-Schwartz left the meeting)
- TOWN HALL:  
Sidewalk Replacement: Safety concerns.  
HVAC System: The system is past its useful life, management systems need evaluation. Mr. Estrada explained this item ties into the Long Hill Admin building discussed earlier. This would standardize all town systems and making it possible to adjust the system remotely. U.I. funding may be available.
- SENIOR CENTER  
Install Handicap Ramps & ADA Door Opener: Compliance issue  
Replace A/C in Multi-Purpose Room: The Senior Center's system is one of the oldest systems dating back to the 1980's. Climate control is vital.
- PUBLIC WORKS YARD  
Town Yard Improvements: The culvert and stream on the property isolates an area for equipment staging. They plan on filling it in and paving the area. Mr. Estrada presented slides showing the Yard's condition. Pavement is deteriorating due to daily traffic, T-11 siding is rotting, and buildings have single pane glass windows. The buildings have old boilers, gas heaters in the garages

would be an improvement. Some roofs replacements took place in 2020 as well modifications of the building facades for truck access safety. They are planning to connect to the sanitary sewer, there have been discussions with IT to run conduit for future fiber installation at the same time.

- EMS Building:  
EMS Restroom Renovations (2): There are two overnight suites used daily. There is water damage and tiles falling off the walls.
- TRANSFER STATION:  
Roof Replacement: This a must as the roof is beyond it useful life. This item is supported by the TEAM account (Trumbull Easton and Monroe use the Transfer Station), the estimate is \$140,000. The TEAM account will cover 40% of the cost. It was confirmed the whole amount needs to be in the Plan.
- TOWNWIDE  
Townwide Sidewalk Repairs & Replacement: This is a multiple year program; improvements are based on an economy of scale.
- PARKS  
Various Locations/Restroom Upgrades: In-kind services are used; there will be warm water and floors that can be sanitized.
- Various Locations/Wooden Guardrails and installation: This is on-going.
- Abraham Nichols Barn: This is a 150-year old structure previously used for storage. The building was falling apart and is currently stabilized. The intent is to use it as program space.
- Dogwood Pond: An invasive vegetation took over the pond, which will choke off the wild life. A grant will be pursued with the assistance of Rina Bakalar. It has been determined 12-15 sterile carp will eat through the vegetation, a solution through a natural process.
- Katz Pond: There is a large amount of sediment from different points. The spillway dam is at risk. This would be a preliminary evaluation to determine the depth of the pond and what to dredge. Mr. Estrada indicated this is part of the storm-water management of the area. It was confirmed it might improve the Pequonnock River water quality. There are not any grants at this time but they will continue to pursue them.
- Paving Drainage at Twin Brooks: Relocation of Twin Brooks Drive away from the stream, the design has been done and will break ground this year.
- Tashua Pool: The design is completed and proposals have been received. This is OSHA and ADA compliance and is secondary to the repairs of the pool. They are looking at replacing all of the lines to the pool. The existing pumps don't prime, the liner decking and most of the mechanicals need replacement. The building

work could take place while open, the mechanicals and deck can be done post Labor Day.

- Tennis/Unity: The last upgrade was 20 years ago. Pickle ball is very popular at Unity Park. The intent is to redo all courts at Unity.

Tashua Courts #1- #4: Safety concerns, three courts are out of commission. This had been moved out of the first year last year. First Selectman Tesoro recommended this item.

- FLEET:

Mr. Estrada present slides of the condition of some of Highway's trucks.

Freightliner Snowplow/Sander:

61-TR a 1992 plow - Taken out of service due to safety issues

63-TR a 1991 spare truck, he thought it only had five years left twelve years ago - deemed unsafe.

There are 24 plow routes and now 25 plows. 2-3 of the plows break down during a storm event. The cost of two trucks is \$420,000, if one is purchased per year the older trucks drop off naturally, but we have gotten away from this. When mason trucks are used as plows, it shortens the life of that truck. They now have hook trucks and are able to do more with less.

Mr. Estrada noted it is miraculous what is done to keep the truck going through a storm event.

31-TR a 1988 truck has been rebuilt but parts are no longer available.

The roll-off truck has been taken out of service - deemed unsafe.

The triaxle is a high mileage truck that is an integral part of operations on a yearly basis.

Catch Basin Cleaner: Is an old vacall truck at the end of its useful life. A new truck costs \$400,000 but an accessory can be purchased for the hook truck for \$123,600.

Mower: The parks Toro mower cuts 16' at once, they put \$16,000 into it this summer and it was out of service for two months. This impacts what needs to get done.

- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Long Hill Green – Connection: Ms. Bakalar explained this would connect Gisella to Main and Whitney Ave. and the Marissa's area to where Mex on Main is. This is for a grant and expect to bid this during 2021.

- ENGINEERING:

Hedge Hog/Harvest Hill Culverts Construction: When it overtops it impacts all of Harvest Hill- this will alleviate that and will no longer happen during a 50-year storm.

Reservoir Ave Drainage Improvements: Floods by the Merritt Parkway, paving is planned for 2023-2024.

Williams Road Culverts-Design: The culverts are on a floodway. This is for the design with construction in 2022.

Old Town Road Bridge: The bridge is \$2 million and is over the Pequonnock River, it's 280'. They have a local bridge grant with a 50% match. \$620,000 is for paving. Mr. Estrada explained it is a state bridge but Trumbull has the responsibility to maintain it.

Town-wide Bridge & Culvert Inspections: This represent on-going inspections.

- ENTERPRISE:  
WPCA:  
Whitney Ave Pump Station: The station is 40+ years old and is dire need of upgrading, this is the second of three major pump station to upgrade, Beardsley was the first. Design is in 2021 with construction to follow in 2022.
- Various Forcemain Evaluations for Pump Stations: There are thirteen pump stations each has a forcemain. Beardsley pumps to Bridgeport and last year there was a failure due to the bottom of the pipe corrosion. It's necessary to bypass the main to inspect. 2/3 of the Town's flow goes to the Beardsley Pump Stations' forcemain.
- TASHUA KNOLLS:  
Toro Greens Mower: There was no one present to speak to this and will be contacted to be available at the full Town Council meeting.

First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro extended her gratitude to the Department Heads who presented in an efficient manner and noted there are no funds being requested or being approved by this resolution, this is a plan.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to discuss and upon motion made by Cantafio, seconded by Miller the Finance Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Margaret D. Mastroni  
Town Council Clerk