



TOWN OF  
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

MAIN STREET • NEW LONDON, NH 03257 • 603-526-4821 • WWW.NL-NH.COM

**CIP Committee**

**Regular Meeting**

Minutes

**September 15, 2021 – 8:00AM**

**Attendance: Paul Vance, Emily Campbell, Paul Gorman**

**Absent: Lyndsay Harkins**

**Others Present: Adam Ricker, Emily Cobb**

1. **Call to Order** –

Chair Gorman began the meeting at 8:00.

Chair Gorman explained that the intention of today's meeting was to review the requests of each Department and that with the CIP Spreadsheet a brief narrative will accompany that highlights particular notes for each Department.

For the Tracy Library, the Committee agreed to continue to recommend the CIP include a note that the Committee recommends that the \$35,000 that has been in each of the past years' budgets, be used to accomplish portions of these goals.

In discussing the Public Works Department, Mr. Vance noted that the CIP should recommend that the Highway Department utilize an asset management program to aid them in equipment maintenance and replacement. Additionally, it would help the department evaluate the options to purchase vs. lease equipment. The Committee noted that the Sewer Department is already using an asset management program.

The Committee discussed the plans of the New London-Springfield Water Precinct. Recognizing that the Town does not have authority over the Water Precinct, the Committee appreciates their participation. The Committee would like to recommend that the Precinct and the Town work closely on upcoming infrastructure projects.

The Committee recognized that the Fire Department would also benefit from an asset management program for their equipment and apparatus. The Committee noted that the Fire Department expansion that is potentially needed to replace Ladder 3 is of significant concern. The Town should begin the planning process soon to determine what the best solution is. The Committee also discussed the issue of ambulance service. Though New London Hospital currently provides the service, there is always the question of whether they will continue this long-term and what the solution would be if the hospital opts to discontinue ambulance service.

The Committee discussed the Conservation Commission and their need for future funding. The Commission has requested that over the next 15 years, they accumulate \$750,000 for land acquisition. With this plan being a 10-year perspective, the Committee recommends a \$500,000 request in 2032 and the Budget Committee would be charged with determining how to achieve that goal.

The Town Administration had an additional request. The Archives has requested \$25,000 in FY 2023 and \$20,000 FY 2024 to replace the shelving in the Archives. In addition, the Committee recommends the Records Management system be consolidated into one project for this plan. This would create one line item of \$130,000, broken up over a period of 5-years.

The Committee discussed the Police Department's plan and recognized that the main issue is the facility. Chief Cobb explained some revisions she made to her spreadsheet. She has prepared a new draft that includes three options, new facility on different land, renovated facility on different land, and a renovation of the current facility. Chief Cobb handed out materials from the previous studies that project the range of costs for each of the options. Mr. Vance asked if there had been any budgeting for the cost of temporarily relocating the Police Department if the current facility was renovated. Chief Cobb explained that that cost has not yet been determined. Mr. Vance shared that in his experience, this is a significant cost and should not be underestimated.

The Committee and Chief Cobb discussed the various options. The Committee feels that renovating the existing facility is a short-term solution. This option does not increase the land area, so the primary concern is that the Department would eventually outgrow the property again. When comparing the two options of renovating a new location or new construction, the Committee did not feel they could adequately evaluate the options without specific properties to look at. Each property would present unique attributes and challenges so the evaluation should be on a case-by-case basis. The Committee recommends that the Town convene a committee to be ready to evaluate these properties as they become available.

The Committee discussed the process going forward. The next meeting will be Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM in the Syd Crook Room. The draft will go to the Planning Board on September 28<sup>th</sup> with a Public Hearing on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

2. **Future Meeting Dates:** September 24 at 7:30 at the Syd Crook Room.

### **Motion to Adjourn**