

**Board of Selectmen-Board of Finance
Long Term Planning Subcommittee
Special Meeting
Zoom
December 15, 2021 — 5:00 PM
MINUTES**

Members Present: First Selectman Kevin Cwikla, Selectmen Kathleen Smith, Robin Chesmer, Betsy Petrie-McComber, and Mark DeCaprio; Liz Charron, Meghan Bruce (Board of Finance)

Others Present: Sarah Haynes and Nicole McGillicuddy (Board of Education); Andrew Gonzalez (Superintendent); Valerie Belles (BOE Business Manager); Jay Schall, Todd Kulman, Mark Elliot, Alan Olenick (LVFD) Dean Hunniford (Director Public Works/Facilities); Hayley Wagner (Finance Director); Bernard Dennler (Office Manager to First Selectman)

1.0 Call to Order

K. Cwikla called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

2.0 Discuss FY20-21 budget surplus priorities

L. Charron said it appears the Board of Finance could use up to one million dollars from fund balance based on the estimated surplus. However, it may be more appropriate to concentrate on the most critical projects out of surplus and there may be other large projects that they need to use fund balance for as they look at long-term plans.

2.1 Board of Education

S. Haynes shared a list of proposed building projects and estimated costs:

- Complete asbestos abatement: \$303,615
- 66-wing window replacement: \$1,050,000
- 66-wing make-up air system: \$295,000
- First grade make-up air system: \$180,000
- Lyman roof replacement: \$2,200,000 - \$2,600,000
 - Total project with additional costs: \$3,000,000-\$3,500,000
- Lyman Roof Restoration: \$1,000,000 - \$1,400,000

A. Gonzalez said the asbestos abatement, the 66-wing make-up air system, and first grade make-up air system represent significant health and safety issues that should be addressed as soon as possible. He said the roof replacement is not an immediate need, but it does need to be addressed before it becomes an emergency. The group discussed restoration vs replacement of the roof. L. Charron suggested investigating state funding options that could help bring down the cost to Lebanon. She also suggested the Board of Selectmen consider use of ARPA funds for the air systems at the school.

2.2 Fire Department

A. Olenick presented regarding the self-contained breathing apparatus project. He said the LVFD has 27 currently. The units have a 20-year lifespan. 21 units are due for replacement in 2023 and

remaining units are due in 2024. Each unit costs about \$7,500 to \$8,000. Total cost for replacement including RITs and compressor estimated at \$350,000. T. Kulman and J. Schall also discussed the need to replace Engine 106 (estimated \$750,00) and replace an ambulance (estimated \$250,000). They discussed the need for at least one substation in town. B. Petrie suggested that the current Fire Safety Complex could be used as the future home of DPW, and the town could build multiple substations instead of one.

2.3 Board of Selectmen

The Selectmen presented their recommendations for surplus including the following:

- Replacement of outdoor basketball courts: \$65,000
- New DPW Ford 250 w/ plow: \$45,000
- Replacement of over-the-rail mower: \$125,000
- New international snowplow: \$250,000
- Body cameras plus associated software/hardware: \$65,000
- Replace police cruiser: \$65,000

K. Cwikla said body cameras are especially important as this is an unfunded state mandate that the town must meet by the end of the fiscal year. D. Hunniford said due to the change in the mixture of sand/salt, he did not recommend funding the purchase of a sweeper this year. He also discussed the need to address the volume of dead trees in town. M. Bruce requested that he do a town-wide evaluation on the number of trees needed to be removed.

3.0 Discuss other long term planning needs

The group agreed to meet again before Tuesday's Board of Finance Regular Meeting.

4.0 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bernard W. Dennler III
Office Manager to the First Selectman