



MINUTES
of the
JOINT
GENERAL GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
&
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
May 4, 2023, 2023
6:00pm

CALL TO ORDER The Joint meeting of the Southbridge General Government Subcommittee and Town Council met on April 13, 2023, at Southbridge Town Hall. Chair Steeves called the meeting to order at 6:07pm.

Roll Call: 3 voting members present.

Member	Present	Others Present	Present
Gus Steeves, Chair, Council Member	Yes	Charles Blanchard, Interim Town Manager	Yes
Denise Clemence, Citizen Member	Absent	Kristine Russell, Town Accountant	Yes
Martena Shea, Citizen Member	Yes	Adriana Robaina, HR Director	Yes
Michael Marketti, Council Member*	Yes		
Jacquelyn Ryan, Council Member	Absent		
Jasmin Rivas, Council Member	Absent		

*Councilor Marketti was sitting in for Councilor Rivas

Vote to Approve Minutes

March 20, 2023:

Motion: Ms. Shea moved, and Mr. Marketti seconded to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2023 General Government Subcommittee meeting. The motion passed 2-0-1 by a show of hands vote with Councilor Marketti abstaining.

April 26, 2023:

Motion: Ms. Shea moved, and Mr. Marketti seconded to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2023 General Government Subcommittee meeting. The motion passed 2-0-1 by a show of hands vote with Councilor Marketti abstaining.

Discuss/review a transfer request for \$2,842.00 from #09400000-574000-0145 Insurance-Deductible to #09400000-57400 Insurance-Property & Liability to cover the cost of Fire Dept and DPW equipment and DPW replacement vehicles added to the insurance policy. Entertain a motion to Town Council for approval of this transfer.

Motion: Councilor Marketti moved to recommend that Town Council transfer \$2,842.00 from #09400000-574000-0145 Insurance- Deductible to #09400000-57400 Insurance-Property & Liability to cover the cost of Fire Dept and DPW equipment and DPW replacement vehicles added to the insurance policy. Ms. Shea seconded.

Ms. Shea said she would prefer that this be done when a new vehicle is purchased rather than later.

Ms. Russell explained the reason for this request and explained the timing, which was discussed.

The motion passed unanimously by a show of hands vote.

Review the Capital Planning Committee's FY 2024 Capital Expense Recommendations and entertain a motion to submit to Town Council as presented.

Please see the proposed recommendations on the next page. Note that adjustments were made at the April 13, 2023 General Government meeting and are indicated in red.

There was a discussion of the Tip Project, which the CPC recommended against. Councilor Marketti explained why they made this recommendation.

Mr. Blanchard reviewed the status and timing of the open capital projects in town and the future financial impacts they may have.

There was a discussion of the debt level, with Mr. Blanchard saying that there is debt that was authorized but has not been used.

Chair Steeves asked which of the projects must be done this year, and Mr. Blanchard said none of them did which he explained.

Councilor Marketti explained why some of the capital projects were not recommended. He also explained what had been discussed about the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Charles Chenier, Theresa Avenue asked if the Foster Project will go out to bid in May 2023. Mr. Blanchard said the estimate will be done in May, but the bid will go out in October. Mr. Chenier then asked about the East Main Street Project. Mr. Blanchard said it is not on next year's budget and explained how any work on this would be funded. There was a discussion of several project timelines and possible funding.

Motion: Councilor Marketti moved to submit to Town Council the Capital Planning Committee's FY2024 Capital Expense Recommendations meeting. Ms. Shea seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by a show of hands vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councilor Marketti moved to adjourn the meeting of the Southbridge General Government Subcommittee. Ms. Shea seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by a show of hands vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Susan Peghini, Recording Clerk

**Capital Planning Committee 2024
Capital Expenses**

Favorable Recommendation

The committee recommends the to fund the following requests.

Department	Funding Request
<u>Economic Dev.</u>	
Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	\$40,000
<u>Fire Department</u>	
Radio Replacement Project	\$25,000
SCBA Air Packs Replacement Program	\$100,000
<u>Police Department</u>	
Duty Weapon	\$45,000
Police Cruiser (2 vehicles)	\$150,000
Epoxy Flooring	\$15,000
<u>Library</u>	
Boiler	\$30,000
<u>School</u>	
Phone System Upgrade	\$180,000
Emergency Repairs	\$350,000
Maintenance Truck with Snow Plow	\$100,000
Total	\$1,035,000
<u>Funding Sources</u>	
Amount	
Capital Stabilization Fund	-\$517,500
Available Funds \$1,500,000	
Free Cash	
Available Funds \$2,990,000	-\$517,500

Department	Funding Request
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Water Department

SCADA I/O Rack Replacement \$265,000

Total	\$265,000				
<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="170 357 1088 504"><u>Funding Source</u></th> <th data-bbox="1088 357 1446 504"><u>Amount</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="170 504 1088 575">Water Stabilization</td> <td data-bbox="1088 504 1446 575" style="text-align: right;">-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	Water Stabilization	-	
<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>				
Water Stabilization	-				

Unfavorable Recommendation

The committee does not recommend the following funding requests below.

Department	Funding Request
<u>DPW</u>	
Dump Truck (#6 & 9)	\$270,000
Dump Truck (#7)	\$240,000
Dump Truck (#46)	\$240,000
F350	\$130,000
<i>This items was ADDED to the recommendation at the 4/13/23 meeting</i>	
Skid Steer	\$52,000
<u>Economic Dev.</u>	
Urban Renewal	\$125,000
Wayfinding Signs	\$10,000
<u>Fire Department</u>	
Pumper Truck	\$700,000
<u>Library</u>	
Parking Lot	\$200,000
<u>Water Department</u>	
Ford Escape	\$30,000
Tip Project	\$750,000
Total	\$2,747,000