

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
December 7, 2023**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, in the Selectmen's Chamber as well as via GoToMeeting by Chairman Polhamus. Members present: Mmes: Ausiello, Maguire, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber. A quorum was present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Polhamus.

III. PUBLIC HEARING: None

IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS: November 2, 2023

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the minutes of the November 2, 2023 Meeting as drafted.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE

Michelle Traub, 44 Avonwood Road, shared that she came to speak to the Town Council regarding the lack of essential services provided by Empire Realty at a previous meeting; at that meeting she represented many of her fellow neighbors as she brought to Council's attention the dishonesty of our management company, the untruths of their communication with us, and the thirty-eight days we spent without hot water; during that meeting and upon further communication with the Town and the Health Department, the Health Department issued a notice of violation that stated Empire Realty was required to provide us with hot water in forty-eight hours, to provide communication updates of this progress, and re-location housing; as you know, none of those three needs were met; it is also important for the Town to know the truth from the people actually experiencing it, instead of from a management company as most if not all of what they say is a blatant lie; for example, they said multiple times that they offered us relocation housing; however there was no communication to the residents of Building 44; after many calls and e-mails and only after copying the Town and the Health Department, she finally received a message from the property manager that she could stay at a place in Wethersfield but was given no information on how to contact them and it was 10 p.m. by the time they got back to me, eventually saying she could stay a few days in a place in Building 47 in Avon; she was ecstatic, really believing they were going to follow through on alternative housing; they told her the key would open Building 47's main lobby door which it did not; she waited outside the building for twenty minutes in the freezing cold at 10 p.m. with all of her stuff and her dog until a random resident of Building 47 opened the door for her on his way in; she had her things packed to stay a few nights as this was to be my relocation housing until they got their hot water back; the address they gave her was to an empty apartment with no heat and the lights did not work; it had a shower with no shower curtain in a room with no heat, water spilling everywhere, no furniture and no place to stay; a bare and unlocked apartment that anyone

could have access to and one which she did not have a key; after thirty-eight days with only a shower from the gym, she was unable to clean herself in a private space, even if she had to have a stranger let her in and guard the door; it was not a scenario that she would feel at all comfortable sending her family and it certainly did not qualify as relocation housing; moreover it is important to note that she is the only person of the forty people in the tenant union of the fifty-two units who were even given this information for relocation if you can even call it that; it was only because she copied the Town and the Health Department and notice of violation; no communication was sent out to residents about relocation housing at all, even though the property manager said they sent out messages to everyone multiple times; she shares this story with Town Council just to give you one example of how what they say is not the truth; she recently reached out to the Town Manager of Avon to see if the Town of Avon was going to be following through with holding Empire Realty accountable for not following with the order; he sent me a letter sent to Empire Realty stating that as the order was not appealed, Avon and the Farmington Valley Health Department are entitled to file a complaint in the State court which would fine Empire Realty over \$42,000 and that is just for three days without hot water; for thirty-eight days it is \$512,000; however the letter from the Town Manager also states "I assure you that Avon and the Farmington Valley Health District do not wish to pursue this course of action, and will only do so if necessary. They would much prefer to resolve this in a cooperative way which will open lines of communication to assure residents' concerns are addressed quickly and effectively." I come to you representing the forty families of the Avon Place tenant union, along with some of my neighbors here tonight to tell you that we absolutely do want you to pursue this course of action; we want Empire Realty to be held accountable; yes, we want them to do better in the future too, but that does not negate their need to be held accountable for violating the order. I know the Town Manager and Town Council do not feel this as personally as we do; we were taken advantage of, we were lied to, we were withheld essential services for over a month, we were treated as a commodity and not as human beings, and this is not the first time; this is just the first time we brought it to your attention; it is the first time we have figured out how to use the Town and the Health Department to help us; it is the first time you have heard about it; it's not the first time we have lived it; for us it feels like an abuse case; we finally got the authorities involved and we want them to hold the defendant accountable for their past actions and we want them not to strip us of our dignity in the future; the Town Manager shared with me that although the meeting was stated in the letter to take place no later than December 6th which was yesterday, due to both parties' busy schedules there is nothing currently on the books; we ask that whenever this meeting takes place, residents of Avon Place are there and that the Town does in fact hold Empire Realty accountable for their violations; if they did it once, they will do it again; the management company has shown over and over that their words are meaningless; they need accountability for people like us to be there to tell the truth; we ask that the Town does not back down from this; as we add more affordable housing and rental spaces to Avon we need to have a direct plan in place to hold landlords accountable for violating orders written by the Health Department; if they violate the order and do not appeal it they should be fined immediately; this plan needs to be consistent and management companies, starting with ours, need to know that if they do not follow the rules they will be held accountable and penalized financially; thank you for your considerations of the needs and experiences of myself and the thirty-nine other families affected at Avon Place. Chairman Polhamus thanked Ms. Traub for coming to the meeting and making Town Council aware of the situation; we have heard from many of you during this process; it was a new experience for members of the Town Council as well as from the Town's perspective; we are still navigating this; we hear you; we have heard you and glad that it seems some of this has been restored to you but we will need to continue working on

this and do want to make sure this is not something that happens with any kind of frequency in Avon.

Leon Kosovski, 44 Avonwood Road, commented this is not first time with the issues at Avon Place property management; the condo association has been brought to light. He noted that his neighbor has brought several concerns to Town management in the past and never got a response; we would like to see formal action from the Town of Avon. He noted that this is unacceptable. Mrs. Barthel responded that she has a phone call into an attorney who does work for the CT Housing Authority in Hartford and will hopefully soon have information for you that will explain how and what process needs to be done for you to go directly to the CT Housing Authority. She noted that as Ms. Traub previously provided to the Town, CT General Statutes indicate that you have rights under State law to go directly to the State of Connecticut and get assistance and hold these rental authorities accountable; if you do not have an attorney they have people that will help you and there are lawyers that can be provided at a lower rate for people that cannot afford a lawyer at the standard rates. Mr. Kosovski noted that he has raised these issues with the CT Housing Authority in the past, as well as the State Attorney General, over the last six months and has just been bounced around from one State agency to the next. Ms. Traub added we filed in court but were told that it is really the Town that is holding Empire Realty accountable for breaking the notice of violation; we can put our rents in court, which some of us did.

Alex Kosovski, 44 Avonwood Road, commented there was a whole building that had no hot water and a lot of people involved who were paying a hefty rent and not being able to take a shower; it is a bit out of control; these people broke the law, and we want the Council to enforce that law. Chairman Polhamus responded that as a result we reached out to the Health Department. Mr. Kosovski added that the swimming pool was closed in the middle of the season because there was not enough chlorine and were instructed by the Health Department to shut it down but at that time they needed to be fined as well. The Town Manager responded that these are all important concerns that we are aware of and will follow up on them; this is not an item on the agenda tonight for discussion; he and the Council hear the concern; we will have to decide at some point what to do next. Ms. Traub asked when that some point is. The Town Manager responded that we have time under the statute and would most likely be discussing the matter in executive session. Mr. Weber commented that if we are talking about a possible court case, anything that we discuss right now should not be in public and it should be under the advice of counsel. Ms. Ausiello commented that this section of the meeting is not meant for back and forth discussion; we hear you loud and clear, we have gotten the e-mails, and the Town is working on it. Chairman Polhamus added that audience members have five minutes to speak but we do not act on items under this section of the meeting.

Jeff Demanche, 44 Avonwood Road, echoed comments made by his fellow residents. He asked if this happens again with no hot water, what is the best course action? Chairman Polhamus responded to let the Town Council and Town Manager know via e-mail; we are interfacing with the Health Department at this point.

Chip Walters, 56 Stony Corners, commented on the upcoming public meeting for the next phase of Old Farms Road. He noted that he liked the recent Avon Talks podcast where the Town Manager spoke about public engagement and civics. He restated that the Town Manager supports public engagement, and that people don't show up and participate in civics because they are either

very satisfied with how things are going, or they are not tuned in. He commended the Town for its expanded use of digital platforms to share information with residents and for what seems to be an increase in public information sessions. He suggested that there might be a third group of people who are frustrated and don't understand the process or get the process to work for them; require Town staff to more actively do outreach, which they are doing but to keep raising the bar to drive engagement, to actively listen to understand and incorporate the goals and preferences of a broader cross section of residents as the basis for scope and design and deciding what's important. He noted that with regards to the upcoming Old Farms Road – East/West Section, he is glad to see a public information session scheduled for January 3rd, he is excited to see a lot of people come out, and he requested that since this topic has not really been shared with the public and the public has changed a lot in the last five years or so, when we start that kind of session and we talk about the goals, the objectives, the problem statements so that people can really understand it to begin with and then we take people's input into what is important to them into account before we truly start designing a solution; it is important for the efficiency of getting to an end place and getting the support of the townspeople behind it. He appreciates Council for what they do, and he looks forward to continuing to engage with Council throughout this process and wishes all happy holidays.

VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL

Chairman Polhamus thanked all who came to the brief reception prior to the meeting to help celebrate Mrs. Maguire's ten years on the Town Council and many, many more years to the community prior to that. He recalled that when he joined the Council, the advice from her was always Avon comes first once you're in this room; she embodies that; her leadership embodies that; it is example for all of us; even though she will retire as of today, we all hope and believe that she will stay involved. From the Town Council and all of Avon, thank you for your service and we will miss you. On behalf of the Town Council, he read aloud a resolution for her.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council, on this 7th day of December 2023, adopts this resolution in recognition of Heather Maguire's years of exemplary service to the Town of Avon. Heather served on the Town Council for ten years and was twice elected by her fellow Council members to serve as Chairperson for a total of four years. Heather also served on the Board of Assessment Appeals, and;

WHEREAS: Prior to, and throughout, her tenure as an elected official, Heather's dedication to volunteerism has been unmatched. Her steadfast commitment to the Avon Junior Women's Club, various Parent-Teacher Organizations, the Avon Education Foundation, Avon Dollars for Scholars, the Avon Lion's Club, the Garden Club of Avon, the Avon Soccer Club and BikeWalk Avon, CT is evidence of her love for Avon and her commitment to building and fostering a strong community where neighbors care for one another, and;

WHEREAS: In all of these roles, but especially as Town Council Chairperson, Heather demonstrated her exceptional qualities as a leader, public servant and advocate for Avon and its residents. Heather's caring and approachable nature encouraged residents of all viewpoints to come to the table to discuss challenging and controversial issues facing the community. Over the course of her tenure, Heather navigated a great many complex and emotional issues with impressive finesse and sensitivity, and;

WHEREAS: While facing unprecedented challenges in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Heather's steady leadership and unwavering dedication to the people of Avon was

critical in guiding the community to safety. Heather immediately recognized that the pandemic would impact virtually every aspect of Town operations and would be an immensely challenging time of fear and uncertainty for us all. Heather was consistently at the forefront of the Town's response effort, offering the community frequent updates, reassurance, encouragement and support, and;

WHEREAS: Not only did Heather talk the talk, but she also walked the walk. She helped us all to "stay safe and stay at home" by running essential errands for homebound residents and working with local restaurants to advertise curbside service opportunities. She helped to ensure the continuity of Town operations by retrofitting N95 masks for our first responders when PPE was hard to find. And, she helped to boost community morale and show support for essential workers by instituting the weekly Salute our Superheroes Friday Night Clap Out during the height of the pandemic. Heather's resilience, strength and generosity during those very dark days were an example and an inspiration to us all, and;

WHEREAS: Above all, it is Heather's warmth, kindheartedness, compassion, thoughtfulness, and amiability that define her legacy; she will be remembered as an ally to all in Avon. It is because of these qualities that she will continue to be a well-respected leader of the community and an inspiration for future leaders for many years to come.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Town Council of the Town of Avon, on behalf of its citizens, recognizes Heather Maguire for her excellent work on behalf of the community and, with profound thanks and deep appreciation, directs that this RESOLUTION be spread upon the minutes of the December 7, 2023 Town Council Meeting and that a copy be presented to her.

Chairman Polhamus noted that the resolution has been signed by prior Council members that served with Mrs. Maguire and is truly an expression of how much we are all thankful for your service. Mrs. Maguire thanked everyone. She shared the following parting words. I was appointed to the Avon Town Council in October 2013 after the untimely passing of Dr. Christopher May. I served for the remainder of the year alongside Pamela Samul who retired from the Council and was of the first of many people to suggest I run for the Town Council. I was already on the ballot and won office that November 2013; over the year I had the honor of serving with Doug Evans, Bill Stokesbury, David Pena, Council Chair Mark Zacchio, Jim Speich, Jeff Bernetich, Anthony Weber, and of course Dan Polhamus, and more recently Barb Ausiello and our dear friend Jason Indomenico who is no longer with us and who we pray for; and Erin Barthel. As I reflected on ten years of service to the Council I reviewed a few of the highlights we experienced as a Town: the installation of solar panels at the Middle School, High School, and Public Works, an initiative that we still carry forward today; we purchased Engine 7, Engine 11, and a pumper truck for the Avon Volunteer Fire Department; we pursued and purchased open space to preserve the natural beauty of our Town; we strived for public safety enhancements including new patrol cars, the completion of the Emergency Operations Center, and the Public Safety Communication System; we expanded Fisher Meadow fields adding a gazebo and seven additional multi-use fields; we finally brought a multi-purpose synthetic turf field to Avon High School and finished it off with lights through a partnership with ACORN and the Avon community; we survived COVID years and successfully managed almost two years of meetings via GoToMeeting; the casual banter and side discussions may have been challenging but we made it work and saw through our responsibility to the Town; we rang bells as a Town along with our surrounding communities on Friday nights to show our support for our frontline workers; we miraculously put through a zero percent increase in taxes that year; we have built bridges and we have weathered storms, coming through stronger and

better. So, what did I learn from ten years on the Council? I have numerous thoughts on this but to be brief, we are the best when we work together; the Council may disagree on issues but 9-3/4 times out of 10 we agree; Council must always be respectful towards each other and to the citizens that show the courage to attend our meetings and speak; Council should listen to other points of view, even when they do not agree with them; this is how we grow, we learn and maintain empathy with our elected leaders and officials and within our community. In the words of Mark Zacchio, “leave your D’s and R’s at the door and do what is best for the Town of Avon.” We all had a choice when we moved to Avon; the history of this Town which is so well preserved and documented by Terri Wilson and Nora Howard is immense; we as a Council are a blip on the screen to the overall success of the Town of Avon; it is far reaching and thanks goes out to so many that have come before us; we have an amazing and highly dedicated staff that work here; the longevity of the Town staff speaks volumes to the leadership and positive nature of the Town; having had the opportunity to be involved in multiple organizations prior to the Council, I experienced the Town staff from various levels. I was always greeted with a smile, my questions were answered, my needs were met, and there was always a partnership with the community. I probably worked the most with Public Works and Recreation and Parks, who always went the extra mile with a smile. Truly my hats are off to all of the Town of Avon staff and that includes Bridget and the Board of Education staff as well; top quality people supporting and positively impacting the citizens of the Town of Avon. So, Jennifer, thank you for always greeting me with a smile, a friendly chat, and for posting my flyers. Grace, I have really enjoyed watching you grow into an integral part of this Town’s government, your calm demeanor and your no nonsense attitude have been tremendous assets to the Town and will carry you far in life; you are a rock star. Brandon, many in the Town do not realize how lucky they are having you to run this Town; having been educated in Town administration and having a mentor like Phil Schenck who was the Town Manager prior to you we are so fortunate that Avon has you to guide us through; you are thoughtful in your approach and I believe that you really do know the answer to every question; during my time as Chair I believe I spoke to you more than some in my family; you are a constant source of guidance, support, and friendship, thank you. Thank you to the citizens of Avon that have entrusted me with their Town. I am forever grateful to have served this incredible community. Thank you to my family – my daughter Maggie, my twin boys who are here tonight, Sean and Matthew, and of course my husband Jeff; you have been my rock and my north star; running for office and sitting up here requires time, energy, and a thick skin; thanks for supporting, guiding, and sharing me with the Avon community. I will miss sitting in these chairs. I will miss the camaraderie of the Council and the discussions that we engage in. I will miss the budget season and the tough decisions that are made and will support you all from the sidelines. I know that your vision and your love for Avon is your north star. Margaret, I wish you all the best as you join this wonderful group on the Town Council; clearly your eighteen years of experience on the Board of Finance will be a tremendous asset. Erin and Barb, I really enjoyed getting to know you over the past few years; we’ll have coffee; you bring tremendous energy to the Council – I love the Avon Shines. Anthony, I love your passion and stories, you’re great, and look forward to hearing them from the other side. Dan, I love hearing your stories too; keep the ship moving forward as I know you will; you have done a great job as Chair; I wish you and the Town all the best. And in the immortal words of the Winnie the Pooh, “How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.” It has been an honor and a privilege to serve on the Avon Town Council. Thank you. Godspeed.

Chairman Polhamus attended the Avon Volunteer Fire Department annual dinner where Mrs. Maguire officially became an honorary member.

Mrs. Maguire thanked David and Mardelle Pena for the traditional Christmas Tree Lighting on December 3rd; she thanked the Avon Volunteer Fire Department for her status as an honorary member and looks forward to working with them in the future; and she attended the Pet Pantry Grand Opening/Leash Cutting on December 5th that had a great turnout and expressed thanks to Christine Pescatore in Social Services and Animal Control Officer Angela Grano.

Ms. Ausiello wished Mrs. Maguire all the best and that it has been a pleasure having the opportunity to work with her; she will be missed but asked her not to be a stranger.

Mrs. Barthel thanked Mrs. Maguire for welcoming her in when she first joined Council and always being there for advice and helping her at her first meeting; she will have wonderful things to do and will still be a huge part of our community leading more projects everywhere. She expressed thanks to the Assistant Town Manager for the Facebook posts for the Thank You So Much series; we highlighted fourteen volunteer organizations who participated and a great project; Avon Shines 2023 kicked off along Main Street and there will be a map for residents to use and find the businesses as well as a trophy for one business winner. She recognized Elena Tobin, a Pine Grove School student, raised \$175 through a pinecone bird feeder fundraiser to support Share the Meal and feed over two hundred people.

Mr. Weber shared that it has been a pleasure these last number of years serving on the Town Council with Mrs. Maguire; it has been an absolute joy and she will be missed. He gave a shout out to the Avon Clean Energy Commission who conducted an invasive species clearing event by the Farmington River in November; there is quite a bit of burning bushes and multiflora roses that are contaminating the banks of the Farmington River and will take quite a bit of cleaning up to get them out of there; look for additional opportunities to assist in the future; and he inquired about possible grants through the Environmental Protection Agency. Chairman Polhamus noted that the Lower Farmington River & Salmon Brook Wild & Scenic Committee has procured grants in the past and may be an option.

Chairman Polhamus encouraged all to follow the Town of Avon Facebook page. He highlighted the series of posts over Thanksgiving break thanking local organizations; he thanked the Assistant Town Manager for putting it together on Facebook and thanked Mrs. Barthel for the great idea. He noted, to Mr. Walters' point earlier, it is a great place to get plugged in to what is going on around Town.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

21/22-46 American Rescue Plan Act: Discussion re: Projects List

Chairman Polhamus asked if there are any updates regarding timeline extensions. The Town Manager responded no, and we will need to take that into consideration as we think about the capital budget for FY 25; ARPA funds must be committed by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026.

22/23-106 Recreation and Parks Master Plan Update

Ryan Chmielewski, Team Leader, Weston & Sampson, made a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, Mr. Chmielewski responded that anyone from the public can respond to the survey. Mrs. Maguire wants to make sure that we reach out to the senior citizen community during the public outreach. The Assistant Town Manager responded that we will be holding a Lunch and Learn with the seniors in January 2024 and Jennifer Bennett, Senior Center Coordinator, will also be included in the staff stakeholder discussions. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, the Assistant Town Manager responded that the Master Plan Working Group includes herself, the Director of Recreation and Parks, and the Town Manager. Ms. Ausiello confirmed that stakeholders will be involved in informal face to face meetings, not just surveys. Chairman Polhamus inquired how input is captured from the stakeholder meetings and how will it be shared. Mr. Chmielewski responded that they generally review the overall goal and the importance of each stakeholder group and why their feedback is so important; there are forms and questionnaires or provide different opportunities during public sessions with stations to provide input on an individual basis. Chairman Polhamus inquired if there are recent examples from other towns that Weston & Sampson has worked with that Council could look at. Mr. Chmielewski responded that they recently worked with Simsbury, Greenwich, Cheshire, Canton, as well as Wellsley and Lexington Massachusetts. Ms. Ausiello inquired how school students' participation will be captured, especially Middle School and High School students. The Assistant Town Manager responded that the Teen Room at the Avon Free Public Library may be a good location to engage the students who can voice their opinions. Mrs. Maguire also suggested talking to the Avon High School Booster Club and coaches. Mrs. Barthel commented that it is important to engage those students for the kids who don't play football, soccer, etc. to figure out what else they are interested in. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel regarding the recommendations, Mr. Chmielewski responded that they start with an open, creative mind to see what is possible and to think outside the box and then look at spaces in Town, working with local authorities (Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Commission) to see if what is permissible, get into the cost aspects and make it a realistic plan, including immediate needs versus long-term needs; if there is a large capital project that is a need or really desired they will work with the Town on how to get that done. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Chmielewski responded that their role is to listen to the community, translate that into what they hear and making recommendations; the implementation process will be important and you will use it similar to a Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) in Town that you revisit every once in a while and it is a platform to bring before the Town Council and the Board of Finance to understand what your needs are so when the budget season comes around you can make decisions based on needs that are backed by data and garner that support from your community in the future. The Town Manager commented that it is a bit of a puzzle - looking at identified capital projects, what Councils' ultimate priorities are, and how it overlays onto the capital budget or potential debt service plan. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Chmielewski responded that they will have several check-in points with the public meetings and before anything gets adopted it needs Council approval. Mr. Weber inquired about the trail network and the softer recreation areas and if any work will be done in that area. Mr. Chmielewski responded there was a previous study on open space and trails along with the recent Connectivity Plan, so it is not their specific focus; we take the work that has already been done and take it into context; we have heard about providing better connectivity to your existing assets in Town. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Mr. Chmielewski responded that the Connectivity Plan

and Master Plan are running parallel tracks and they will take those recommendations into consideration and there may be a time to connect during the process to compare notes. Mr. Weber commented that the Connectivity Plan is focused more on roads and not the trails, so he does not want to see that component get left out of the mix. The Assistant Town Manager responded that we received a grant to update our Forestry Management Plan and thinks there are recommendations related to the trail network in our large tracks of woodland area. Mr. Weber noted that the trail network is pretty established with necessary care and maintenance; if we are going to be doing an updated Master Plan and it is a blend of the POCD, it would be nice to see an update of that section as well. Chairman Polhamus inquired when the Connectivity Plan results will be presented to Town Council. The Assistant Town Manager responded in January 2024. Council thanked Mr. Chmielewski for his presentation.

23/24-11 Appointment: CRCOG Regional Planning Commission (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 23/24-11 Appointment: CRCOG Regional Planning Commission (D – 12/31/2023) to their January 4, 2024 meeting.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

23/24-32 FY 24/25 Budget: CIP Budget Presentations

a. Engineering – a power point presentation is attached and made part of these minutes

Larry Baril, Town Engineer, reviewed capital budget requests for FY 24/25. He congratulated Mrs. Maguire and appreciated the support she gave to the Engineering/Sewer Department over the years. He noted that permitting the Old Farms Road East/West Reconstruction Project is going to be much more challenging than the North/South Section due to the proximity with wetlands on both sides of the road. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Baril responded that we currently have approximately \$220,000 for design for the East/West Section. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, Mr. Baril responded that yes, the bridge over Thompson Road floods when Fisher Meadows floods; with the new federal highway requirements the open span is almost three times as much as the existing span. He added that the new design will keep it looking rural using timber guide rail. He noted that funds related to the box culvert project were used for design work. Mr. Weber inquired about any potential improvements to the parking lot at that location. Mr. Baril responded that he doubts CT DOT will help fund that. Mrs. Barthel noted the need for a crosswalk to the trail on the west side of the road. Mr. Baril noted that with regards to the Country Club Road Reconstruction and Multi-use Trail Project, a standard road is 11-foot travel lanes and 2-foot shoulders for a 26-foot wide road, with the multi-use trail, it would be a 34-foot wide road; if we are going to do a reconstruction of the road, it will be less expensive in the long run to do a wider road width than trying to separate a concrete sidewalk considering utility poles, etc.; we do not know the design yet. Ms. Ausiello commented on cohesiveness regarding the Country Club Road Reconstruction Project. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, the Town Manager responded that this project would require a townwide referendum. Mr. Baril noted that with regards to the Farmington Interceptor Replacement Project, currently, a 21" pipe from Avon flows into a 12" pipe in Farmington; under high flow conditions that pipe surcharges under high flow, fills to capacity and starts to go up manholes which could lead to flooded basements that are connected to it; he is looking for a consultant to assist with the design for this project. He noted

that with regards to the Infiltration and Inflow Project, we are in the process of completing the Farmington sewershed and want to move onto the Simsbury sewershed. In response to an inquiry from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Baril responded that with regards to the Farmington Interceptor Replacement Project, he is concerned that there is potential for residents' basements being filled with sewage. Council thanked Mr. Baril for his presentation.

b. Police Department – a power point presentation is attached and made part of these minutes

Paul Melanson, Chief of Police, reviewed capital budget requests for FY 24/25. Lt. Schmalberger was also in attendance. He noted that with regards to the Dispatch Consoles Project, the plan would be to build ergonomic workstations at the same time the radio system comes online; consoles pricing can be held until after July 1, 2024; new monitors are part of the radio system. Council thanked Chief Melanson for his presentation.

In response to an inquiry from Ms. Ausiello regarding the mention of a staffing shortage in the Police Department monthly report, Chief Melanson responded that one officer is in the academy but we just hired two certified officers, so we are currently down one officer.

c. Fire Department – a power point presentation is attached and made part of these minutes

Bruce Appell, Fire Chief and Joe Speich, Assistant Chief, reviewed capital budget requests for FY 24/25. Chief Appell noted that currently they are running 33 entry level personnel, 24 support firefighters, 11 fire police officers, 22 headquarter members, and 18 explorers, for a total membership of approximately 108; there will be a focus this coming year on recruitment; this is a systemic issue nationwide. Assistant Chief Speich noted that as of tonight, the Department has responded to 680 calls for service. He commented that we are still another two and a half years out from receiving the Engine and Ladder Truck which were ordered in February 2023; costs continue to increase and lead times are also increasing due to volume of orders with no end in sight; once it is our turn, it takes 4-8 weeks for a truck to be built; payment is due upon delivery. Chief Appell noted that the tanker, ladder, and rescue are specialty trucks and cannot be substituted for when any one of them goes out of service. He mentioned there is a tanker task force that provides mutual aid from surrounding towns. Assistant Chief Speich noted that demo trucks have become available that can fit their needs, but they go so fast. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel, Assistant Chief Speich responded that the old trucks would be listed to try and sell. Ms. Ausiello requested a current truck inventory/reference list. Chief Appell commented on the Buildings and Facility Request; there is currently \$298,000 in capital for architectural services to take the projects through schematic design. He noted that with regards to the Generator-Fire Station 2 request, Station 2 is not planned to be used as a fire station, but it is owned by the Fire Department, members who live in the area respond to a call from there, fire police use it as their base; and it can be used to house personnel during an emergency. Council thanked the Avon Volunteer Fire Department for their presentation.

d. General Government – a power point presentation is attached and made part of these minutes

The Assistant Town Manager reviewed capital budget requests for FY 24/25. She noted that the request for the Dial-A-Ride Vehicle can be stricken; a grant was recently awarded for a new vehicle. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, the Assistant Town Manager responded that the Electric Vehicle Charging Stations are not fast chargers with two ports. Ms. Ausiello shared concern about foot traffic through the atrium with the Building #1 Renovations Project and keeping it clean in all of the weather elements. In response to a question from Mrs. Barthel regarding the Emergency Shelter Supplies Project, Chief Appell responded that funds have not built up in terms of food; we would engage the Board of Education with use of their school kitchen, etc.; we just updated the local emergency operations plan; next, we will work on a comprehensive shelter program for Avon High School. Council thanked the Assistant Town Manager for the presentation.

23/24-39 Review, Discussion and Approval: Year End Transfers and Appropriations

No action required based on results from the Board of Finance's Special Meeting earlier this week.

23/24-41 Appointment: Board of Education (R – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council remove agenda item 23/24-41 Appointment: Board of Education (R – 12/31/2023).

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

23/24-43 Emergency Medical Services Overview by Chief of Police

Paul Melanson, Chief of Police, provided a brief presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). Lt. Schmalberger was also in attendance. He noted that we do not subsidize the one dedicated ambulance we currently contract for; just last week, we negotiated to add a second dedicated ambulance during peak overload hours; we will monitor and see what the results will be. Mrs. Barthel inquired about the analysis regarding the compliance rate. Chief Melanson responded that the contract includes exclusions, for example, overloads, and if the overload is being used that much then there is a problem. He noted that Farmington uses AMR; Simsbury runs their own ambulance program; and many towns use their fire departments as supplemental first responders. Mr. Weber is glad to hear there is a second ambulance now as we heard from residents in past meetings who were concerned about response times. He inquired about sustained winds over 40+ MPH as an exclusion. Chief Melanson responded that the ambulance would respond. In response to an inquiry from Chairman Polhamus, Chief Melanson responded that AMR purchases discounted fuel through the Town and then reimburse us. Ms. Ausiello appreciated the work being done regarding medical facilities. Mrs. Barthel appreciated these efforts and thank you to the police officers for having AED units in vehicles and often times being the first responder to a medical emergency while waiting for the ambulance to arrive. Chairman Polhamus asked if this does not pan out, are there other options as far as a contracting service. Chief Melanson responded that there is a process with the State and show that another service can provide a better service and there would be hearing to decide whether we would be allowed to

switch or not. He noted that patrol officers will provide feedback to Lr. Schmalberger with any issues, etc. Council thanked Chief Melanson for the overview.

23/24-44 Review, Discuss, and Approval: Town Council Policy No. 17, Elderly Tax Relief Program

Harry DerAsadourian, Town Assessor, provided a summary overview of the program which is typically reviewed every two years. He noted that currently there are 258 participants in the program, providing approximately \$281,000 in tax relief to the elderly homeowners; social security cost of living has gone up close to 20% in the past four years including the increase for 2024. He recommended that the program be extended another two years and the income limit increase from \$61,800 to \$69,000. He added that it is important to maintain current and newer participants. He noted that Granby is in the low \$70,000 and others would fall not far behind Avon. Mrs. Barthel inquired if we should adjust the income limit based on the average median income (AMI). Mr. DerAsadourian responded that the original cap came from looking at the surrounding communities as the program was new for Avon; we could use the AMI as a guide but would not recommend setting the program to auto pilot. Mrs. Barthel inquired how many elder residents we are not capturing by going up to \$71,000. Mr. DerAsadourian responded that we do not know the demographics of income throughout the Town. Chairman Polhamus asked how this is tied to the Veteran's Tax Relief Program. Mr. DerAsadourian responded that these limits will apply to the veterans and if a veteran falls below the \$69,000 they get an additional \$10,000 off their assessment; a regular veteran would not see any increase because their exemption is not based on income. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. DerAsadourian responded that for every senior citizen at the very low end you are funding two at the mid to higher end of the income scale; it will not add a tremendous additional expense, but it will bring in more participants. Mrs. Barthel commented on the Beacon Communities affordable housing units and inquired about a senior citizen who has a lower median income that falls under this bracket. Mr. DerAsadourian responded that you must own your property to participate in the Elderly Tax Relief Program. He noted that people in rentals can apply for a renter's rebate through the State that our office administers on behalf of the State and that income limit is consistent with what the homeowners' program is and caps at \$53,400. Council thanked Mr. DerAsadourian for his time.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the continuance of the Town Elderly Tax Relief Program (Town Council Policy #17) and increase the income limit from \$61,800 to \$69,000.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

23/24-45 Eagle Scout Proclamation

Chairman Polhamus read the proclamation aloud for, Scout Griffin A. Johnson, who will achieve Eagle rank at a ceremony being held on January 7, 2024 of which he and Mr. Weber plan to attend.

December 7, 2023

Permit the Town Council to join your many friends in offering our heartiest congratulations upon your achievement as an Eagle Scout.

This is indeed an appropriate honor for the many years you have spent as a Boy Scout. Through the years you have spent in scouting you have had to show qualities of leadership, integrity, loyalty, and service to your troop, community, school, religion, and your friends.

The high standards of the Boy Scouts of America are well known and your elevation to Eagle Scout most certainly attests to your fulfillment of their high standards.
Congratulations on your outstanding achievement!

Dan Polhamus, Chairman
Avon Town Council

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve a proclamation for the following Scout who will achieve Eagle rank: Griffin A. Johnson.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

23/24-46 Acceptance of Gift: Donation to Recreation and Parks Department, \$2,000

Chairman Polhamus noted that the donation is to the Recreation and Parks Department and will be used to offset expenses related to the Youth Basketball League.

On a motion made by Mrs. Barthel, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the gift of \$2,000 from Steel Sports Inc., in accordance with Section 4.3.2(l) of the Town Charter.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

23/24-47 Supplemental Appropriation: Senior Center Restroom Renovation (CT ARPA), \$100,000

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mrs. Barthel, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 23/24 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Intergovernmental, American Rescue Plan Act (DADS), Account #02-0330-43407 in the amount of \$100,000.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Town CIP-Facilities, Senior Center Restroom Renovations, Account #02-4829-53468 in the amount of \$100,000.00, for the purpose of restroom renovations at the Avon Senior Center.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

23/24-48 Approval of Motor Vehicle Tax Refunds, \$6,414.19

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve motor vehicle tax refunds to JP Morgan Chase Bank NA, \$1,456.48; Evan Drew Smith, \$1,017.39; VCFS Auto Leasing Co., \$1,282.82; Ari Fleet Lt Ltd, \$1,343.52; and Porsche Leasing LTD, \$1,313.98.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

IX. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. A: Purchasing Update: No highlights were provided.

Misc. B: Construction Update: No highlights were provided.

Mrs. Maguire recognized the Garden Club of Avon for their work with the holiday swags and wreaths around Town. She also thanked Public Works for their assistance.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Real Estate
Collective Bargaining

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council enter into Executive Session at 10:19 p.m.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

The Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, and the Clerk attended the session.

XII. ADJOURN

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mr. Polhamus, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 11:18 p.m.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Barthel, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

Attest: Jennifer Worsman, Clerk

TOWN OF AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE



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Weston & Sampson



1

AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE MEETING AGENDA



Weston & Sampson

2

AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

INTRODUCTION: WHO WE ARE






William J. Gifford
Vice President



Julia J. Gifford
Executive Director

Full-Service Firm

















124 Years | 800 Employees | Employee Owned

- 86 Professional Engineers
- 11 Professional/Certified Geologists
- 4 Certified Energy Managers
- 11 LEED® Accredited Professionals
- 5 Licensed Site Professionals
- 3 Licensed Construction Supervisors
- 5 Licensed Environmental Professionals
- 11 Registered Landscape Architects
- 5 Registered Architects
- 2 Professional Traffic Operations Engineers
- 6 Registered/Professional Land Surveyors

- 2 Certified Planners
- 1 Professional Transportation Planner
- 2 Asbestos Inspectors / Project Designers
- 1 Professional Hydrologist
- 1 Professional Wetland Scientist
- 1 Geographic Information Systems Professional
- 3 Certified Playground Safety Inspectors
- 2 Certified Floodplain Managers
- 5 Part 107 Pilot Certificates (drone pilot license)
- 3 ISA Certified Arborists
- 10 NICET Technicians



OFFICE LOCATIONS
Weston & Sampson

AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

BASIC PROJECT GOALS






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AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

PUBLIC OUTREACH



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AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

BASIC PROJECT TIMELINE



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6

AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

OPEN DISCUSSION



DISCUSSION

The Avon Recreation and Parks Department is committed to providing opportunities for participation in recreational programs and have access to parks so that people of all ages and abilities can stay active and enjoy the benefits of a healthy life.



Avon Recreation and Parks Department

Weston & Sampson

7



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8

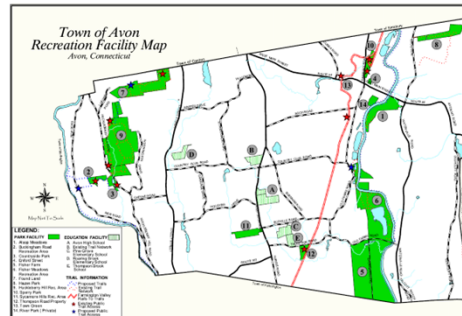
AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

FACILITY INSPECTIONS & OBSERVATIONS



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AVON RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

PRIMARY TASKS



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Weston & Sampson

10

Capital Budget Presentation FY 24/25 to FY 28/29 Projects



Engineering and Sewers
December 7, 2023

1

Engineering Department

Key Factors in Determining Projects and Priorities:

- Public Safety
- Reduce Property Damage (flooding, etc.)
- Environmental Protection / Quality
- Infrastructure Maintenance / Rehabilitation
- Public Requests
- Service to Residents

2

Engineering Projects – FY 24/25

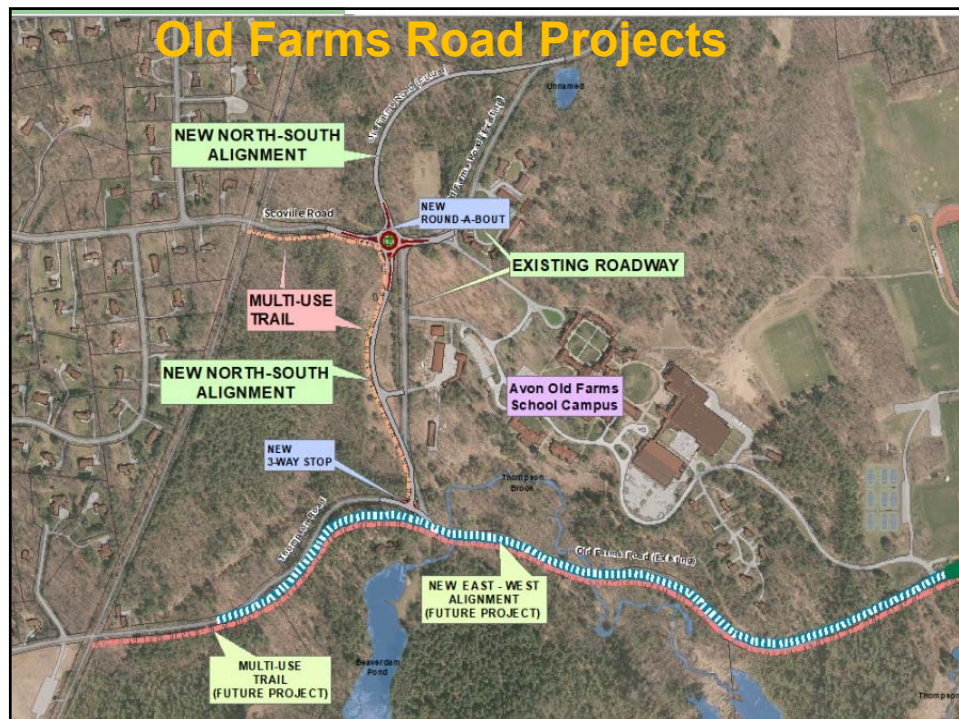
Old Farms Road East/West Reconstruction

(FY 24/25 Request \$100,000 – Additional Anticipated Design and Permitting)

- We have been approved by CRCOG and CTDOT for LOTCIP construction funding (\$3.6M)
- We will be applying for other grants such as Community Connectivity as they become available
- Includes multi-use trail connection to Fisher Meadows
- This will complete the Old Farms Road Projects

(FY 25/26 Request for construction funding in addition to LOTCIP – \$6M - preliminary)

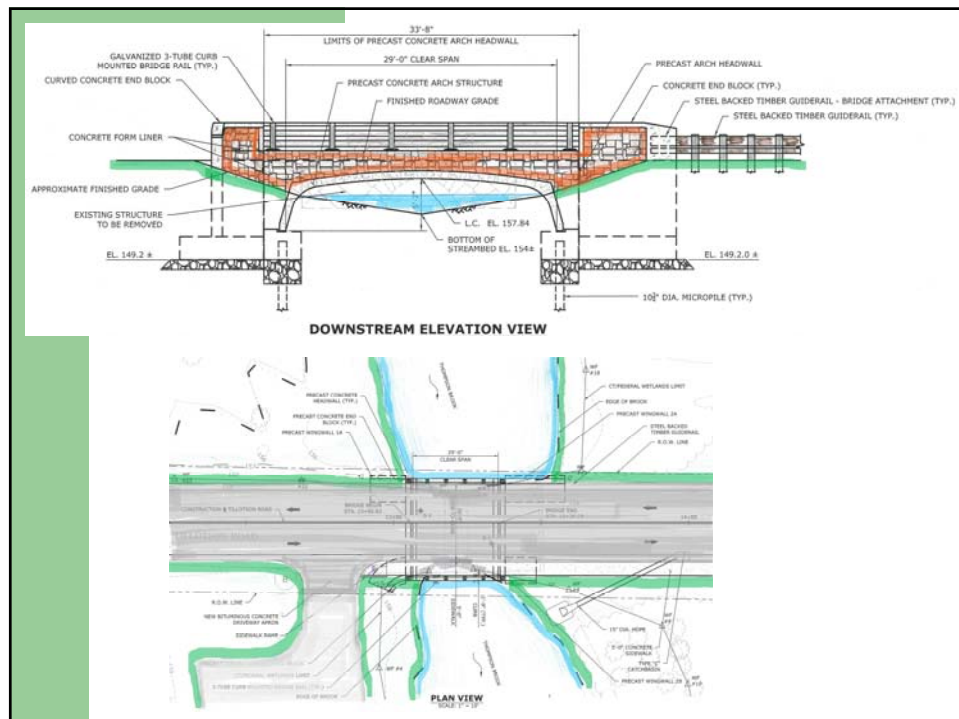
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4

NOTE: This project is approved under State Local Bridge Program at 50% reimbursement for all phases of design, permitting and construction.

5



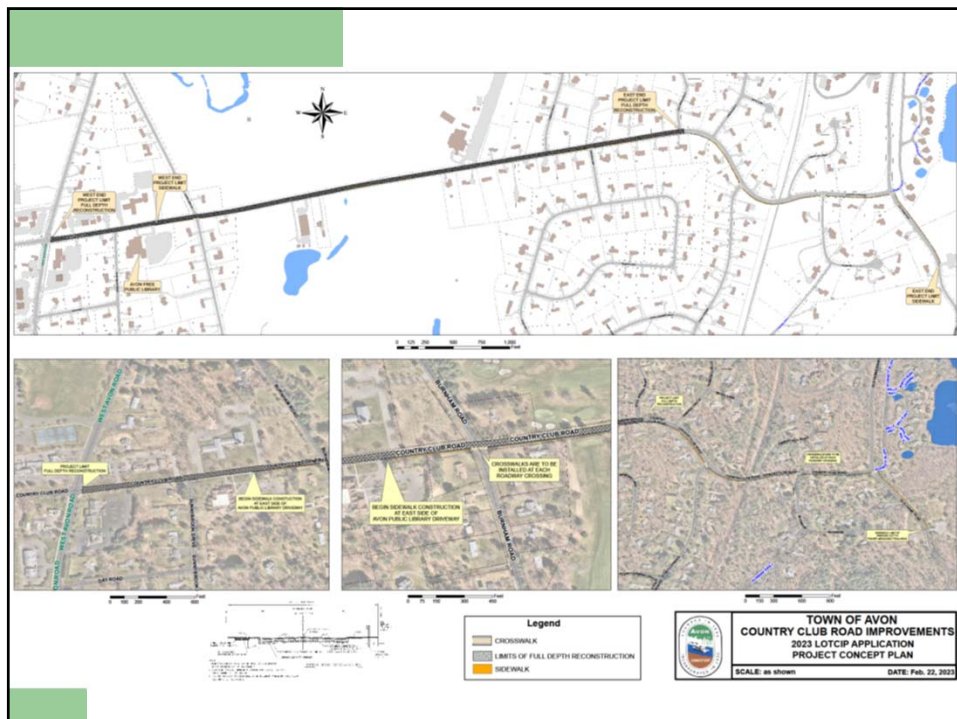
6

Engineering Projects – FY 24/25

Country Club Road Reconstruction and Multi-use Trail (FY 24/25 Request \$150,000)

- Project involves design for:
 1. Full-depth reconstruction of Country Club Road from West Avon Road easterly to Still Brook Road
 2. Addition of multi-use trail adjacent to the roadway from the Library to the Fisher Meadows trailhead on Old Farms Road
- Construction cost identified for FY 25/26 is rough estimate to be determined with design
- We have preliminary award of \$3.6M from LOTCIP grant program

7



8

Engineering Projects – FY 24/25

Drainage Issue Repairs

(FY 24/25 Request \$225,000)

- Climate change effected weather has resulted in intense storm events causing damage around Town
- Staff (DPW, Engineering, Administration) agree that now we should plan for this
- Deepwood Drive to New Road to the Farmington River is an example of the effects leading to needed repairs *(this example is being funded as an ARPA project)*
- We continue to see numerous issues with heavy rain events on the east and west sides of Town

9



10



11

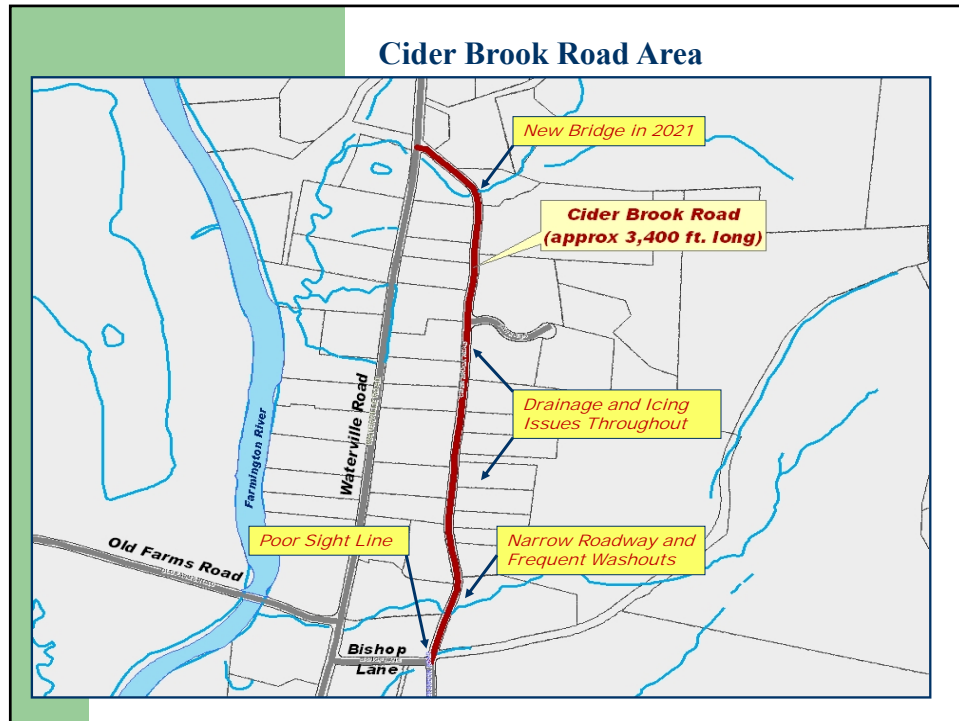
Engineering Projects– Future Years

Reconstruction & Drainage in Cider Brook Road

(Annual Requests: \$250,000 – goal is to build up funding)

- Road rides well due to chip seal a few years ago but is one of the poorest in Town
- Was approved for capped sewers in FY 12/13 (Sewer CIP – on hold until the roadway funding is in place)
- Roadway needs formal drainage and extensive base and paving reconstruction
- Road has poor sight lines and is narrower than 15 ft wide at its southern end (minimum Town standard is 22 ft)
- Drainage at southern end has and does wash out in heavy rains

12



13

Engineering Projects

Other future requests:

- Replacement of Box Culvert - Thompson Road crossing Thompson Brook
- Arch Road to Darling Drive Connector

14

Sewer Department / AWPCA

Key Factors in Determining Projects and Priorities:

- Public Safety
- Environmental Impacts
- Sewer Facilities Plan
- Development Interests
- Infrastructure Maintenance / Improvement
- Public Requests

Note: these projects do not affect the tax levy

15

Sewer Projects – FY 24/25

Farmington Interceptor Replacement

(FY 24/25 Request \$35,000 for design assistance;
FY 25/26 Request \$750,000 - estimated for construction)

- This is the sewer mainline from terminus to Route 4
- Original inter-municipal agreement clearly identifies Avon's responsibilities with this
- This sewer surcharges (backs up) with wet-weather flows
- We will be sharing costs prorated with Farmington and possibly Canton

16



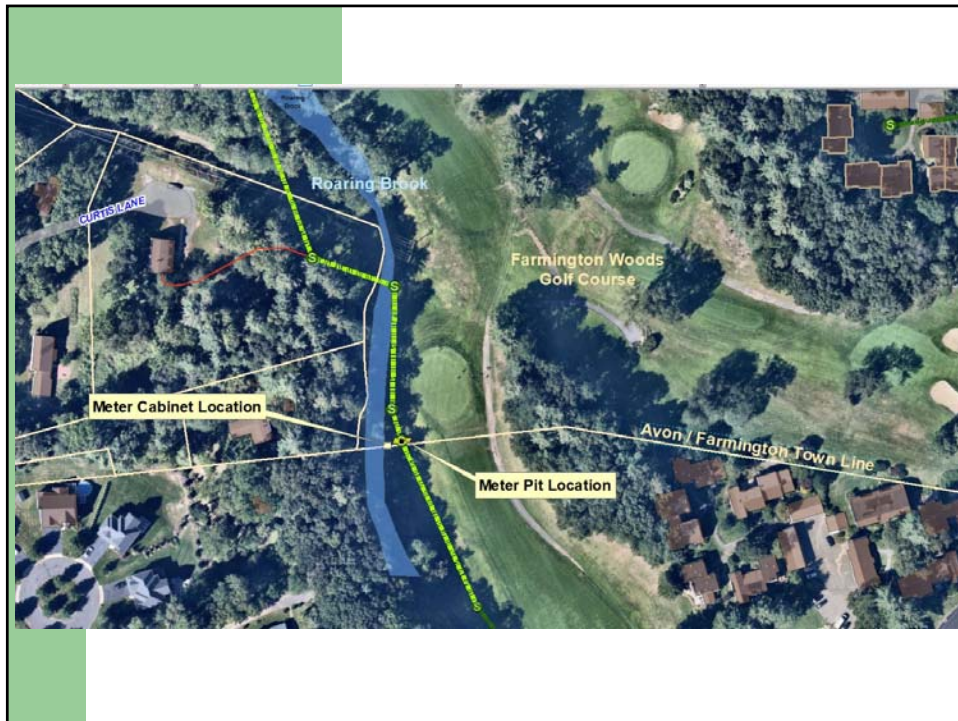
17

Sewer Projects – FY 24/25

Farmington Flume (Meter) Access Upgrade (FY 24/25 Request \$60,000)

- This flume and meter determines the majority of our sewer flows into Farmington and it is directly adjacent to Roaring Brook
- Because of the nature of the flume and equipment, and importance of it relative to treatment costs, we have it calibrated semi-annually.
- We also need to clear debris from its throat several times a year
- Entrance requires confined space entry currently
- We wish to make modifications to the hatchway so that we can work from the ground level – reducing the need to enter the chamber

18



19

Sewer Projects – FY 24/25

Infiltration and Inflow (I&I)

(FY 24/25 Request \$110,000;

FY 25/26 Request \$600k for I&I Study of
Simsbury sewershed)

- Funds requested other than FY 25/26 are for I&I related rehabilitation
- I&I study of Simsbury sewer-shed will be 55% reimbursable via the Clean Water Fund

20

Sewer Projects – FY 24/25

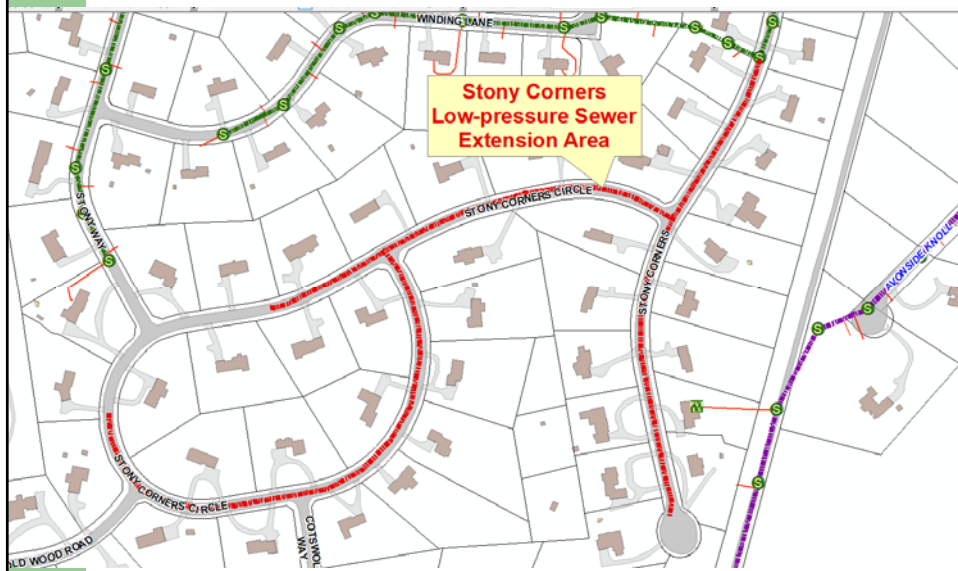
Lateral Expansion Program

(FY 24/25 and FY 25/26 Request \$0)

- We expand sewers based primarily on the Sewer Facilities Plan
- Requires public outreach component
- Priority is often combined with road reconstruction / pavement needs
- We have two projects under consideration – Stony Corners area and Carriage / Highwood area. We have funds allocated from previous year CIP. Future requests will be refined as needs present.

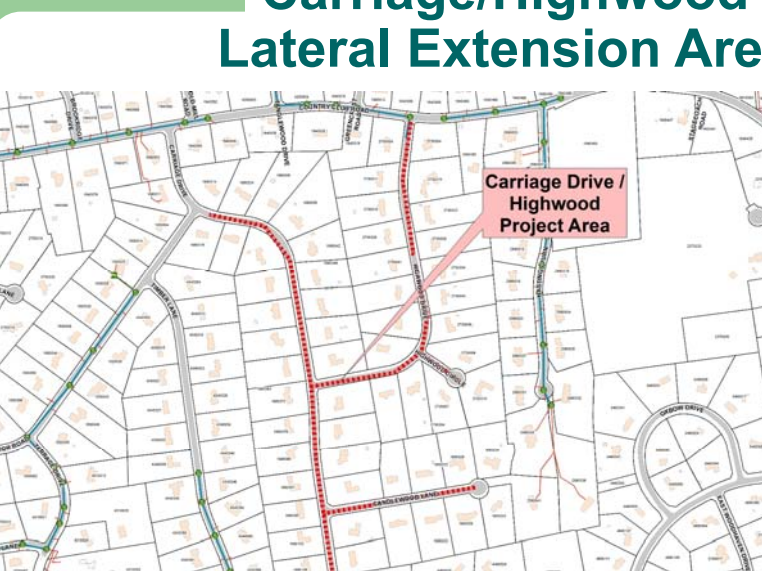
21

Stony Corners Lateral Extension Area




22

Carriage/Highwood Lateral Extension Area



A detailed street map of a residential area. A red dashed line highlights a specific project area, which is labeled with a pink callout box: "Carriage Drive / Highwood Project Area". The map shows a grid of streets including Carriage Drive, Highwood Drive, and various local streets like Carriage Lane, Highwood Lane, and Carriage Lane. The project area is located in the center-right of the map, following a section of Carriage Drive. The map also shows property lines, lot numbers, and some green spaces.

23

A slide with a light green background. On the left side, there is a dark green vertical bar. A white rounded rectangle is positioned on the left, containing the text "End of Presentation" in a bold, dark green font. A thick, dark blue horizontal bar is located below the text.

End of Presentation

24



AVON POLICE DEPARTMENT

CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSAL FY 24/25



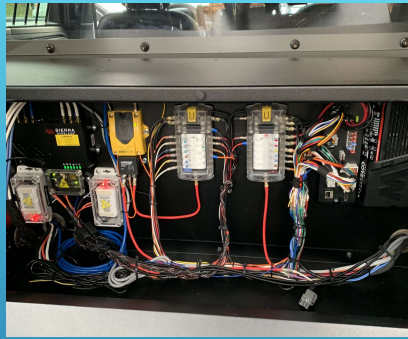
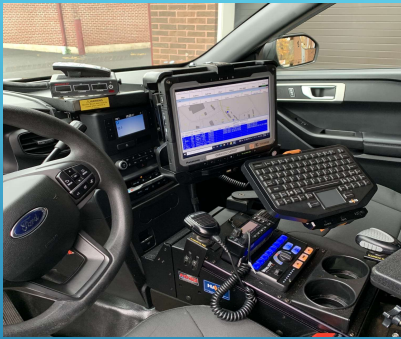
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AVON, CONNECTICUT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, PROJECT PROPOSAL FY 2024/2025 – 2028/2029

LIST OF PROJECTS (1)	Source of Funds *	Total Estimated Cost (3)	Estimated Expenditure by Fiscal Year					Five Year Total (9)
			FY 2024/25 (4)	FY 2025/26 (5)	FY 2026/27 (6)	FY 2027/28 (7)	FY 2028/29 (8)	
Technology	(1)	\$130,000	\$50,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$130,000
Dispatch Consoles	(1)	\$80,000	\$80,000					\$80,000
Animal Control Vehicle	(1)	\$50,000		\$50,000				\$50,000
TOTALS OF COLUMNS 3 – 9		\$260,000	\$130,000	\$70,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$260,000

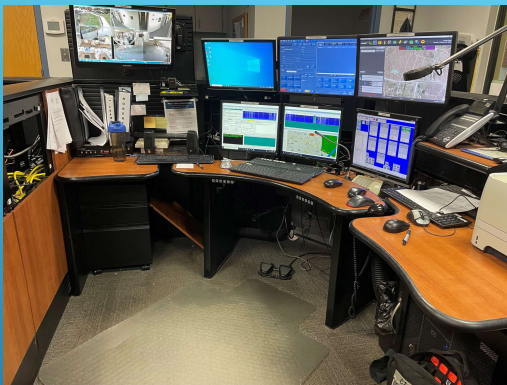
* (1) General Revenue (2) Long Term Bonds (3) Short Term Notes (4) State Aid (5) Federal Aid (6) Special Assessments
(7) Other (8) Sewers

2



TECHNOLOGY REPLACEMENT OF IN-CAR MODEMS 5-7-YEAR COMPUTER REPLACEMENT PLAN

3



REPLACEMENT OF DISPATCH CONSOLES. CURRENT CONSOLES ARE APPROXIMATELY 20 YEARS OLD AND IN A STATE OF DISREPAIR. THE MOTORS DO NOT RAISE/LOWER THE WORKSTATION. THE PROPOSED WORKSTATIONS WILL ALLOW FOR EIGHT SCREENS.

4

Animal Control Vehicle



- Planning for the replacement in 2025/2026 fiscal year
- Current vehicle is a 2012 mini van with 78,000 miles



Avon Volunteer Fire Department

2024-2025 Capital Improvement Budget Presentation

Bruce Appell, Fire Chief

Joe Speich, Assistant Fire Chief

Gina Kline, President

1



Introduction

- Year in review
- Apparatus Replacement
- Facility Upgrades



2



Avon Volunteer Fire Department - 2023



3

Year in Review

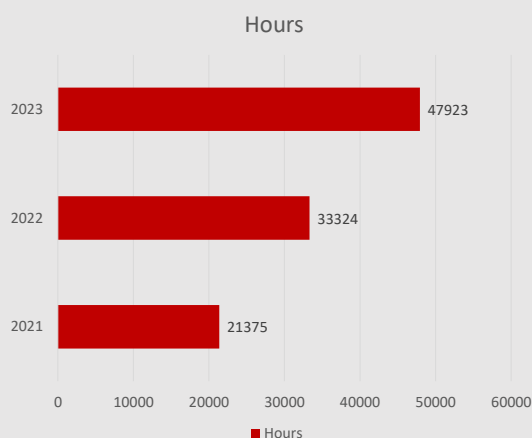
Avon Volunteer Fire Department - 2023

4

4



Volunteer Hours



- Thank you to our members
- Call Response
- Training
- Meetings
- Public Education/Outreach

5



Calls for Service

- Total for 2022 was 699
- Total for 2023 as of 11/27/2023 is 670
- Average 55 calls per month



6



2024/2025 Request



Project	Cost
Construction Architectural Fees	\$200,000
Fire Apparatus-Tanker 20	\$375,000 (1 of 2)
Fire Apparatus-Truck 15 Chassis	\$85,000
Generator-Station 2	\$35,000
Total Request	\$695,000



Apparatus Request

9



Tanker 20 Replacement- Year 1 of 2



- \$375,000
- Serves areas of town without public water supply
- 1997 model year
- At the NFPA recommended replacement date of 2022
- Parts availability
- Lack of safety systems
- 36-month lead time

10



Truck 15 Chassis Replacement



- \$85,000
- Current chassis is model year 2001
- Two-door cab
- Parts availability
- Current body will be reused and Truck 18 to be retired
- Reduces fleet size as recommended by CGR study

11



Future Apparatus Needs



- Second year of Tanker 20 funding (FY24/25)
- Engine 11 and 7 paint (FY24/25)
- Engine 10 replacement (FY25/26)
(as of today, 40-month lead time)

12



Facility Request

Avon Volunteer Fire Department - 2023

13

13



Avon Volunteer Fire Department - 2023



14



Buildings and Facility Request

- \$200,000
 - Continue planning for construction and renovations of fire facilities



Generator- Fire Station 2

- \$35,000
 - Current generator needs repairs that exceed the value of the generator
 - Current generator was installed in 1997



Thank You



- Funded and accepted the report from CGR
- Approved apparatus purchase in 2023 for Engine 14 and Ladder 12
- Appointed building committee for construction and renovations to fire facilities
- Supported the operating budget for FY23/24



Capital Improvement Plan

*Fiscal Year 2024/2025
General Government*

**Assessor, Emergency Management,
Social Services, IT, Town Manager
& Clean Energy**

1

Assessor's Office

- Project: 2023 Revaluation
- Amount of FY 25 Request - \$75,000
 - Second of three years of funding - \$75,000 in FY23 and \$75,000 in FY24; **\$225,000 total**
- Purpose – To engage a third-party consultant to assist with the completion of the revaluation and to handle appeals as needed.

2

Emergency Management

- Project: Emergency Shelter Supplies
- Amount of FY 25 Request - \$15,068
 - First of three years of funding - \$15,068 in FY 26 and \$15,068 in FY 27; *\$45,204 total.*
- Purpose – To purchase cots, pillows, sheets, blankets and hygiene care kits required to house residents at the Avon High School emergency shelter over the long term during a state of emergency. Each year of funding will purchase 100 shelter kits. The emergency shelter can accommodate 300 people long term.

3

Social Services

- Project: Dial-A-Ride Vehicle
- Amount of FY 25 Request - \$140,000
- Purpose – To purchase a new 14-16 passenger, lift-equipped vehicle to be used for general Dial-A-Ride service to replace an existing vehicle with over 125,000 miles.

4

Information Technology

- Project: Town Hall Campus Internal Network Upgrades
- Amount of FY 25 Request - \$107,810
- **Purpose** – To replace the network switches supporting the internal network of the Town Hall Campus and Police Department Buildings to improve speed and reliability of internal network connections.

5

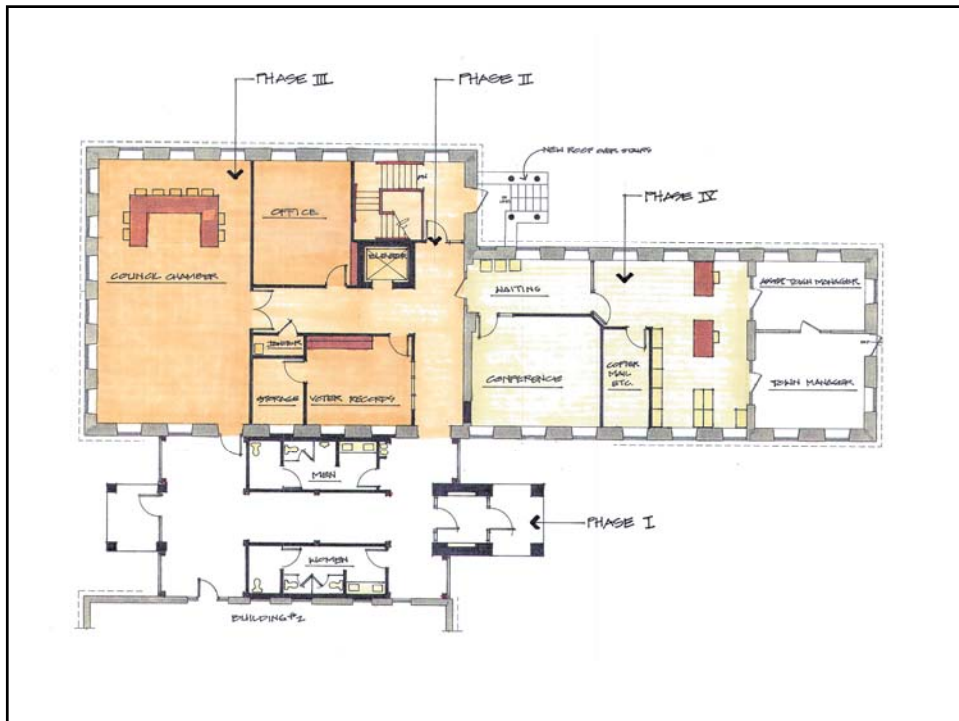
Town Manager's Office

- Project: Building #1 Renovations
- Amount of FY 25 Request - \$350,000
 - Second of several years of funding request. \$25,000 included in FY23 CIP for planning. \$1.25 million for construction phased over four fiscal years. *\$1.275 million total.*
- **Purpose** – Complete renovations to Town Hall Building #1. Renovation will include the following:
 1. Renovation & Reconfiguration of interior spaces to create office and meeting spaces.
 2. Construction of new atrium structure between Building #1 and Building #2 to create ADA compliant formal entryway and to house ADA compliant restrooms.
 3. Installation of ADA compliant elevator and code compliant stairs.
 4. Installation of efficient HVAC and lighting systems.
 5. Creation of additional storage space.

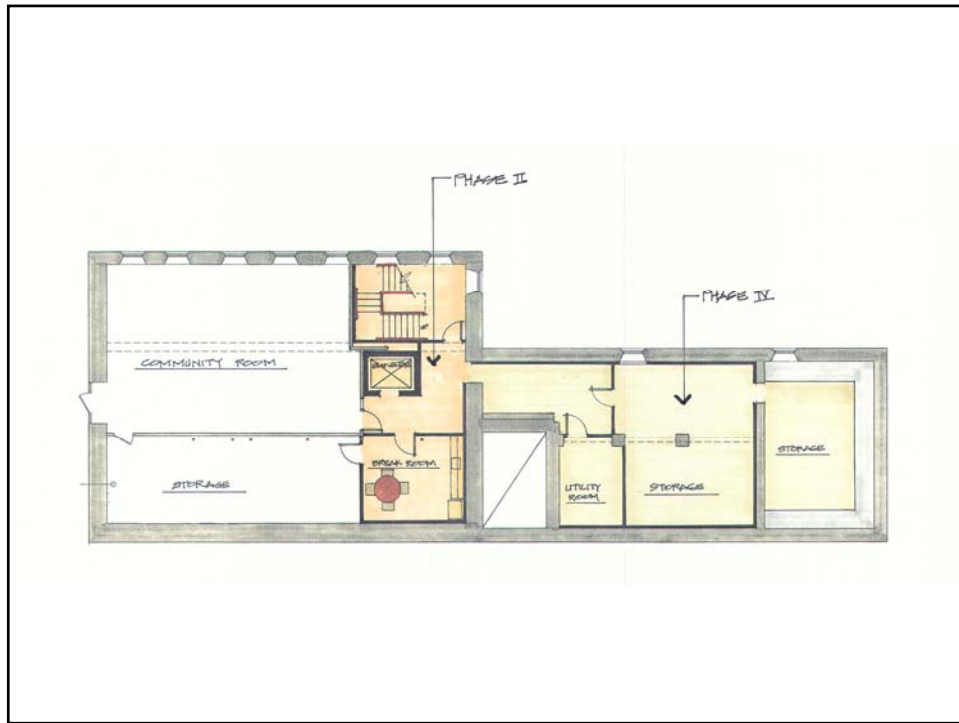
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Town Manager's Office

	Detailed design/ construction drawings	\$65,000	FY 2024/25
PHASE I	Construction of atrium and roof replacement (\$600,000)	\$285,000	FY 2024/25
		\$250,000	FY 2025/26
PHASE II	Elevator, Stairway, Lower-Level Breakroom	\$420,000	FY 2026/27
PHASE III	Council Chambers, Youth Services, ROV and window replacement	\$250,000	FY 2027/28
PHASE IV	TMO (\$150,000) and Lower-Level (TBD)	\$150,000 +	FY 2028/29

10

Clean Energy

- Project: Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Amount of FY 25 Request - \$40,000
 - \$40,000 per year over five years.
- **Purpose** – To continue to install electric vehicle charging stations on Town-owned properties.
 - Level 2 charging stations cost ~\$40,000 each.
 - This appropriation would provide funds for new stations that could be offset by grants or utility incentives.
 - Locations where charging stations might be desirable include the Town's parks and trail heads, the Town Office complex, the Senior Center and the fire stations.



Emergency Medical Response

Chief Paul Melanson

12/7/2023

What happens when you call 911 for a medical emergency

- Connect with Avon Dispatcher
- Enter details into CAD system
- Dispatcher radios Officer and AMR ambulance
- Call forwarded to AMR call center for Emergency Medical Dispatch instructions with caller
- Ambulance has CMED radio to speak with the Hospital directly

AMR Contract

1 Dedicated Paramedic Ambulance

Response times:

Arrival to 90% of calls*

Priority 1- within 9:00 minutes

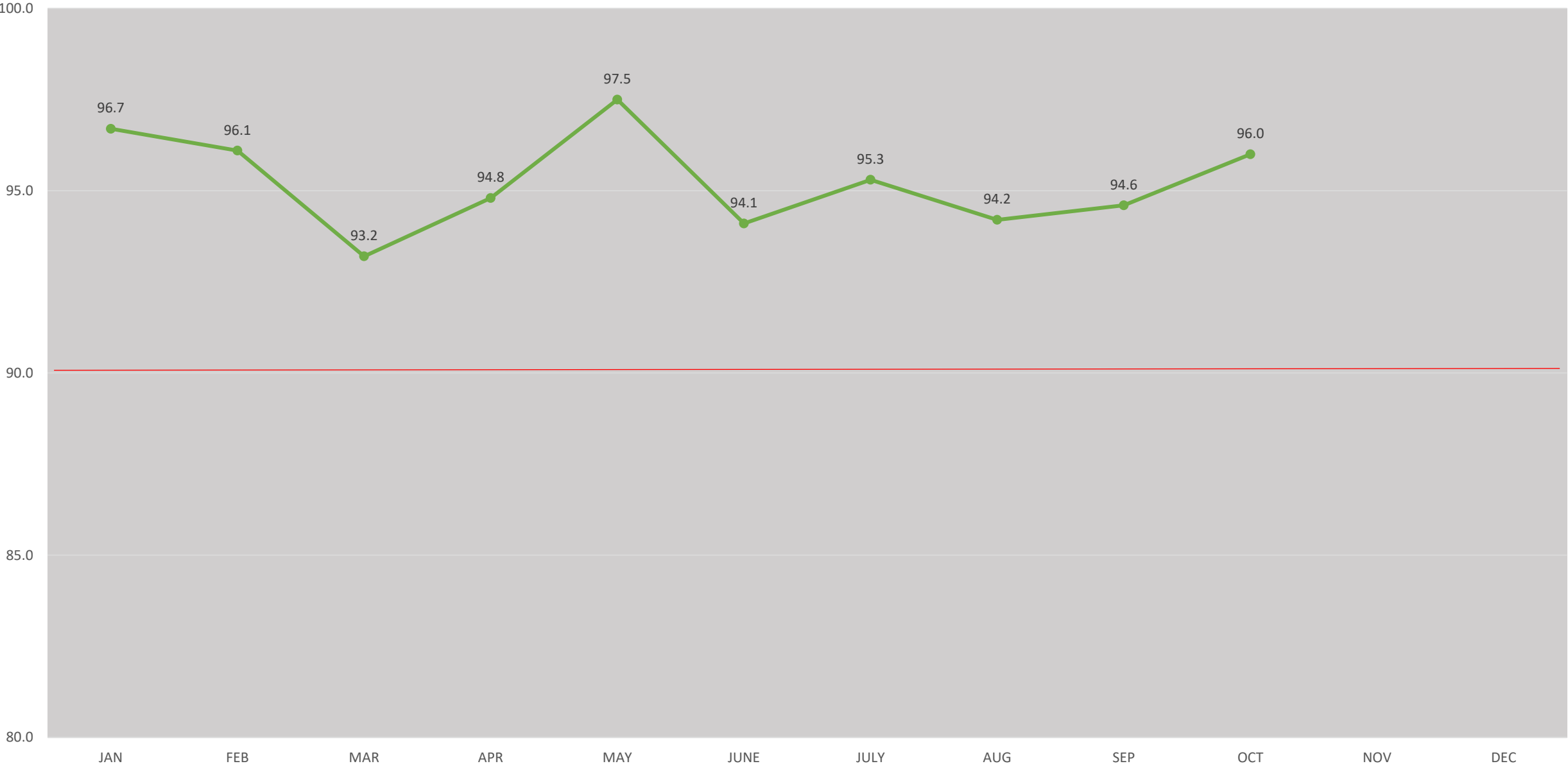
Priority 2- within 15:00 minutes

* WITH EXCEPTIONS

Call overload-When more than 1 EMS call occurring in Town of Avon

Month	Calls	Total Late	Contractual Exclusions	Does not Meet Contractual Exclusion	Percentage Late
July	190	52	39	13	27%
August	228	63	51	12	28%
September	184	50	36	14	27%
October	207	64	53	11	31%
November	181	43	30	13	24%
December	235	61	52	9	26%
January	234	64	58	6	27%
February	186	38	32	6	20%
March	198	47	36	11	24%
April	218	53	44	9	24%
May	193	34	30	4	18%
June	198	39	29	10	20%
Year	2262	556	451	105	25%

AMR Compliance Rate
2023



Improvements

- 30% of medical calls are from Assisted Living Facilities
 - Have a non-dedicated ambulance respond when possible
- Add a second dedicated ambulance during peak overload hours
 - Mon-Fri 0900 to 2100 hours
 - Sat-Sun 0800 to 1800 hours
 - Staged at Harris Rd/West Avon Rd
 - Used to cover overload calls in Avon/Farmington