

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
December 6, 2018**

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 by Chairperson Maguire. Members present: Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Bernetich, Stokesbury, Pena, and Speich. A quorum was present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Maguire.

III. PUBLIC HEARING: None

IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: October 23, 2018

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the minutes of the October 23, 2018 Meeting as presented.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Pena, Speich, Stokesbury, and Bernetich voted in favor.

V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE

Mike Trick, 48 Pine Tree, thanked Council for the resolution and for the privilege and honor to serve our community as he has over the last eight years and he thanked them for the friendships that he has kindred with all of you in one way, shape or form and the support that you have given both him and the Avon Volunteer Fire Department; he knows that you will continue that support and give Chief Appell the same support, friendship and guidance that you have given me. He expressed thanks and wishes for the upcoming holidays. Council thanked him. Chairperson thanked him for all of his service and all of the things you have done to make our Fire Department the best. Chief Trick responded that he has enjoyed it, it has been a lot of fun with a lot of challenges, will be taking some leave time and pretty sure he will be back.

Amy Alamar, 56 Westland Road, commented that the Lighting of the Christmas tree was fabulous and very grateful to have such a nice community event; she wants to show her support for the teacher contract, she knows budgeting can be tight and it is a difficult year but as a resident, parent, and educator she really supports the teachers and this contract is something that she would like to see more forward. Chairperson Maguire shared that anything that is on the agenda is spoken when that agenda item comes up.

VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Pena reported that he attended the Veteran's event at the Senior Center; it was well attended, in the past we have more people participate; the Lighting of the Menorah was a very nice event, he has attended in the past, every time he goes he learns something, and happy to represent; for

the Lighting of the Christmas tree about 100 people attended considering the rain, he thanked the Town who helped with set-up.

Chairperson Maguire thanked Mr. Pena for organizing the Christmas Tree lighting, thank you to the Director of Public Works for getting everything in order, it really is a fun night and great opportunity for people in Town to get together; the Menorah lighting was wonderful; she attended the Farmington Valley Collaborative meeting today with the Town Manager, a group of people from Granby, Canton, Farmington, Simsbury, Barkhamsted and it is either First Selectmen or Town Manager and our State Representative Leslee Hill who will be sworn in in January and Senator Witkos was there; they talk about key issues that are going on in a more regional focus; today's topics were bears and Simsbury has it worse than we do, we talked about vaping and e-cigarettes; it was a good opportunity to attend and meet some of these people and hear what is going on and things for the future.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

18/19-18 FY 19/20 Budget: CIP Budget Presentations

- a. **7:00 p.m. Engineering – a power point presentation is attached and made part of these minutes**

Larry Baril, Town Engineer, reviewed each of the summary requests for FY 19/20. He highlighted the key factors in determining projects and priorities. The first item is Old Farms Road Reconstruction. He noted that the Community Connectivity Grant will help with the trail part of the project and related things relative to the greenway trail and putting in rapid flashing beacon sensors on there to make it safer for the bicyclists and residents. Mr. Speich questioned what part of Old Farms Road this is for. Mr. Baril responded this is the north-south section, section from Thompson and past Scoville and includes the new alignment. Mr. Baril clarified that LOTCIP stands for Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program.

The Town Manager asked Mr. Baril to give a quick update on the good news about the Old Farms Bridge Project. Mr. Baril explained that not only has this project gotten traction it has become a fast track; he had a meeting this morning with DEEP environmental staff and their contractor and looking at the last phase of taking care of the two endangered plant species within the area of construction; they moved over 1,000 plants in the summertime to an area with a restricted easement, now they are putting fencing and flagging the areas they did not move but are adjacent to the construction zone; the contract was awarded to Rotha last week, which is an Avon company, we have a pre-construction meeting on Tuesday next week and they plan to start clearing trees the following Monday. He noted that Rotha has indicated that they plan to get this project completed in two years or less which is very aggressive but it is good news; we will put a posting through the Town's web site and on Engineering's web page; we want to get this news out to the residents as they will see some pretty dramatic changes in the next month relative to tree clearing and cutting roads in for cranes to be staged, etc. so there will be some real activity happening this winter.

Mr. Baril reported that the second item is Replace Bridge over Cider Brook – Cider Brook Road. He noted that the monies being requested is in addition to money that was already allocated last year which last year's money will cover the vast majority of the design and permitting fees; the

\$435,000 will cover the construction as well as remainder of design and permitting fees and we will be reimbursed 50% of the entire project cost. Mr. Stokesbury questioned the timing issue and how it would be impacted by Route 10 traffic and that work; do we need to worry about the bridge being fast-tracked and making this a faster track. Mr. Baril responded yes, we do need to worry about that however it is very likely that the design consultant is going to replace this bridge with a box culvert and the construction phase will be much quicker. Mr. Stokesbury questioned how dissimilar this is from Old Wheeler Lane. Mr. Baril responded that is very dissimilar; with Old Wheeler Lane only the super structure, anything above the abutments, was replaced and existing foundations were solid; this is a complete tear out and install new. He noted that once work starts happening on Waterville people are going to be looking for alternate ways to get around that and this is an alternative. His hope is that if we can get this in design and through permits by early summer of 2019 and you approve the construction phase of this we can launch right into construction and he thinks we can have this built by the end of fall 2019; pretty aggressive but it will be helpful; the Waterville Road section work won't start until spring 2020.

Mr. Baril highlighted a project in future years – Replace Box Culvert over Thompson Brook – Tillotson Road. He noted that he does not get resident complaints about these projects but he knows there are issues and flooding at times but there is other stuff in the future that is going to be more important to talk about in about five to six years out. He added that this road has a lot more traffic on it. He highlighted another project in future years – Reconstruction and Drainage in Cider Brook Road. He noted that we don't get a lot of resident complaints about it, but it is rough even after a skim coat; if we could do the drainage in one phase the reconstruction part could be much less expensive. He highlighted additional projects in futures – Replacement of Box Culvert – Thompson Road crossing Thompson Brook and Arch Road to Darling Drive connector, at the tail end of the five year projection with no current concerns. Mr. Speich questioned what would drive you to pave the portion between Darling and Arch. Mr. Baril responded that the initial request had to do with public safety and has nothing to do with the industrial park.

Mr. Baril reviewed requests for the Sewer Department/AWPCA. He highlighted the key factors in determining projects and priorities. He noted that the Sewer Facilities Plan will need to be updated in another four to five years, about a twenty-year cycle. He added that sewer projects are typically paid for by the sewer users. The first item is the Lateral Expansion Program to continue Stony Corners. He noted that this program brings in sewers to the older neighborhoods in particular where the soil is very tight, groundwater is very high, houses are forty to sixty years old and in many cases have experienced known septic system issues and residents come in talk about them; Farmington Valley Health District is responsible for septic systems; we do not have a backyard inspection program. He noted that that people who benefit have the unfortunate benefit of paying for them as well through assessments. He highlighted the map for the expansion – the green and purple areas have been completed and people are connecting at a pretty regular basis; for FY 20/21 we are looking at possibly pushing into Carriage Drive/Highwood area as residents have expressed an interest; groundwater has risen, less than a foot from the top of the ground surface in many of the areas. The second item is Infiltration and Inflow (I&I) – Next Phase. He noted that the Sanitary System Evaluation Survey (SSES) breaks it down to discrete leaks in the system, i.e. infiltration (groundwater entering through leaks in the manholes and pipes or inflow (groundwater typically entering through illicit connections like sump pumps connected to roof leaders or footing drains. He added that the I&I Study did open

up some infiltration issues, we are sealing manholes and have to do some additional video work but want to pursue the SSES work as well. He is confident that DEEP will help to fund this so 55% of the \$450,000 will be reimbursed. Mr. Stokesbury questioned the overall timeframe. Mr. Baril responded that the SSES will take about one to one and a half years; the I&I took about two years; we located some parts of our shed that were the primary leakers.

Mr. Pena commented that when he is out and about he hears most about sewers; a lot of it happens to be misinformation because they hear it from other towns or came from another town; everything is positive from the Engineering Department. He noted that pricing becomes an issue with residents as well. He questioned if more information would help them. Mr. Baril responded that when we are about to do a project we spend a fair amount of effort informing residents; we do public information sessions, they all have public hearing requirement before you can even begin construction, and he sends out at least one information piece as the project is happening. He agreed that misinformation is a real challenge; with the Paper Chase/Hurdle Fence Project that we had on the docket to be done ended up not happening due to misinformation; he is always trying to find other ways to get information out to people. He noted that under the Engineering web page he keeps the project section relatively up-to-date and he encourages everyone at these meetings to contact the Engineering Department and not rely on your neighbors. Mr. Pena noted that it has been very positive in regards to the Engineering Department. Council thanked Mr. Baril for his presentation and expressed appreciation for all that he is doing.

b. 7:30 p.m. Secret Lake Association

Bruce Williams, Director of Public Works, reported that there are no capital improvement requests for Secret Lake Association for FY 19/20.

c. 8:00 p.m. Public Works – a power point presentation is attached and made part of these minutes

Bruce Williams, Director of Public Works, and Alex Trujillo, Deputy Director of Public Works, reviewed each of the summary requests for FY 19/20. Mr. Williams highlighted requests for the Pavement Management Program. He noted that they are listed in priority order. He added that for School Street we also want to make improvements to the sharp curve which is being done with the assistance of the Engineering Department. He highlighted the request for crack sealing 16 miles of road in the amount of \$100,000 and Pine Grove School Parking Lot improvement in the amount of \$191,137. He noted that we have been doing some crack sealing throughout Town over the last week. He added that the Ride Surface Rating (RSR) is one of the criteria used to evaluate the streets. Mr. Speich questioned how much road did we re-pave this year? Mr. Williams responded we did Hurdle Fence and Pheasant Lane this year; we were focusing on the field improvements to Fisher Meadows and had some other jobs that we were in the middle of. Chairperson Maguire noted that Public Works did the other side of the Middle School. Mr. Williams responded that two summers ago we did the south parking lot and completed the paving improvements there this past summer.

Mr. Williams highlighted the Sidewalk Improvement Plan request for West Avon & Country Club Road with a request for \$25,000; we don't need a large request but anything will help us to

start the process. Mr. Stokesbury commented that where we have different widths is it possible to get them uniform or wider. Mr. Williams responded that we try to keep a 5-foot sidewalk so people can walk side by side; anywhere that we have either replaced or extended sidewalks we have been able to keep the 5-feet; there are some challenges along West Avon with a crossing and some right-of-way width restrictions without an easement from a property owner; across the street there is a new sidewalk and Mr. Baril was instrumental in getting that as part of the water main project and we paid the difference to extend it to the 5-foot. Mr. Stokesbury questioned what the \$25,000 budget allocation covers. Mr. Williams responded that a sidewalk would cost about \$13 per square foot times a 5-foot width. Mr. Stokesbury commented that it is marginal, incremental work. Mr. Williams responded that when he first got here he did a section in front of the High School. Mr. Stokesbury responded that it is fairly good but as you continue south it deteriorates. Mr. Williams noted that they are not built with a road base that can take the frost. Mr. Stokesbury questioned doing poured concrete and how much of a factor. Mr. Williams responded that there is a substantial difference. He noted that the pavement done in front of Carmon Funeral Home about fifteen years ago is bad; the structure of the base just isn't there. Mr. Bernetich questioned how much it would cost to pour it like a street. Mr. Williams responded that to make a better structural base, it depends on the soils, so he is not prepared to throw out a number; if it was going to be asphalt with a 9" base with 2" lifts of asphalt it would probably be cheaper to put concrete. Mr. Stokesbury asked Mr. Williams to explore all of those so we have an idea. The Town Manager responded that it was about \$500,000 as we had to come up with an estimate for the STEAP grant application for cement. Mr. Williams noted there was a lot involved with the grant application. He added that anywhere he has changed sidewalks here other than off the bike path we have used concrete to minimize the returns because of the climate in New England. Mr. Speich commented that we will look at the worse locations on West Avon and do as much as you can. Mr. Williams responded yes; we were asked to this last year but we were trying to get other things completed and reached out to get quotes which came back very expensive for temporary patching. Mr. Bernetich commented that we get done paving a road and then someone immediately cuts it up and asked if there is a process in place to alleviate or limit that; we paved Huckleberry Hill two years ago and within a year it was cut at two or three spots. Mr. Williams responded that we do everything to minimize; we have annual meetings with what was Avon Water Company and is now Connecticut Water Company and that is starting to drift apart a little bit, the gas company who talks about their expansions, but it takes a few neighbors to call the gas company and say they want gas on a street and the company comes in; we have a policy in place with strong criteria about if you are going to cut up our new road. The Town Manager commented that we had the issue on Country Club Road where a cut was recently done and then developed a Pavement Cut Policy and when there is a permit pulled the utility has to fix the surface of the road to our satisfaction and standards in the policy that they have to meet; it has been used several times. Mr. Williams commented that a water main is probably the most common thing that will happen; we try to discourage against doing the cuts and he and Mr. Baril work together on sewer extensions.

Mr. Williams highlighted Facilities Improvements – Company #1 with a request for \$42,500 for energy efficient improvements, \$55,000 for boiler plant, and \$45,000 for stairway replacement. He noted that the boiler was installed in 1973; the cost of some utilities is fairly stable now. He added that Chief Trick came up with a nice product for the stairway replacement so we will continue to work on this. Mr. Speich noted that those stairs have been deteriorating for years. He added that while everyone wants to brick the place in, he is an architectural fan and this

building has a certain architectural beauty to it, with the windows on the side could we put in better glass. Mr. Williams responded yes.

Mr. Williams highlighted Facilities Improvements – Company #3 with a request for \$55,000 for an updated exhaust system. He noted that the trucks run for a period of time before they leave the station. He highlighted the existing updated exhaust system at Company #1. Mr. Stokesbury commented that came out of Simsbury. Mr. Williams responded yes, when they did their new station. Chairperson Maguire commented that with the Avon Volunteer Fire Department's capital budget requests and there is some overlap – interior renovations. The Town Manager responded that with these presentations, they are rough cut; next, he and Mr. Williams will meet with the Fire Chief or his designee and go through and make sure everyone is on the same page, figure out how many dollars we have to put towards the Company stations and then prioritize.

Mr. Williams highlighted Facilities Improvements – Pine Grove School House with a request for \$30,000. Mr. Stokesbury commented that this schoolhouse was actually where the Library is now. Mr. Williams noted that the Avon Historical Society has been applying for grants and we are getting estimates to protect the interior and secure the exterior from the elements. The Town Manager commented that there are some exciting opportunities for alternative funding sources and the Assistant to the Town Manager has been working with Teri Wilson with the Historical Society to track that down; we have preliminary discussions with Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and putting feelers out to see if we can leverage whatever we can contribute through capital. He noted that it is a neat building. Mr. Stokesbury commented that it has been isolated but the new Town Center Project may bring more foot traffic back to it. Mr. Speich questioned who owns the building. The Town Manager responded that we do.

Mr. Williams highlighted Facilities Improvements – Fire Company #3 Roof Replacement with a request for \$35,000. He added that we have had some staining, damage up above the ceiling into the insulation and into the framework of the building; it is past its life; last thing we need is a catastrophic failure with the roof and water coming into the building. Mr. Stokesbury questioned if that is a quote for all roofing on the building. Mr. Williams responded yes; he increased it a little to cover the gutters. Mr. Bernetich commented that it should be \$350 per 100 square feet on and off, 30-year architectural, 3-tab shingles, including dumpster fees with ice and water six feet up. Mr. Williams responded that he will get back to Mr. Bernetich.

Mr. Williams highlighted Facilities Improvements – Countryside Park Pedestrian Bridge with a request for \$27,000. He noted that it is decaying and we really need to do something about this; the proposal is to put in a pre-fab span bridge, wider in the event we need to get a vehicle across. Mr. Stokesbury questioned if it is ADA compliant. Mr. Williams responded no. Mr. Stokesbury requested that it be priced for compliance. Mr. Williams responded that we could make it ADA accessible with approach ramps on both sides and the new handrail system would have to meet code.

Mr. Trujillo highlighted DPW Vehicle Replacement Requests. He noted that the majority of all of the requests is carried over from last year. He added that mileage and year have changed and conditions have gotten worse. He noted that Truck #51AV is the sign shop truck that is out every day through the Highway Division; it was already taken out of service from the Engineering Department as the Water Pollution Control pick-up truck and the previous truck that

was assigned to this function was a used Corrections pick-up truck that dated back to the late 1970s; there was no replacement in sight when it failed so this one had to resurrected for all of these years for the last six to seven years. He added that there is a hole that goes into the cab of the back seat and have to be concerned about fumes entering the vehicle. He noted that Truck #19AV does not get everyday use in the winter time but come spring it is towing a trailer and working on the fields. He noted that with the Admin. Crown Victoria it was taken out of service and had to resurrect again about a year and a half ago; market value on the auctions is only about \$1,000. He noted that Truck #6AV has a 2007 chassis and short sold ourselves on the body, a regular steel body, and unfortunately with the salt that we use and the work that it does the body is rotting out; we made it through the winter season last year; with the snow operations as intense as they are there is no guarantee from operation to operation that the body will become obsolete and cannot fix it anymore and that truck will come off the road and of our twelve plow routes someone is going to have to double up which will extend the snow operations. Mr. Stokesbury commented on the pick-up and service trucks that seem to have relatively low miles for their years. He questioned what the market is for used equipment and is that an option or do we really need to buy the spec to avoid rebuying too soon in the future. Mr. Trujillo responded that it would be in our best interest to put a spec together for its use; with the work that we do we are abusing the vehicle; you are buying the higher cost of operation of a vehicle, the lower end of the cost is the newer part of the vehicle so you are buying what somebody already used, the efficiency out of it and you will inherit the unknown costs; the biggest problem that we have is that you want to buy the right vehicle for the right operation; as far as mileage you have to take idle time into consideration which has been dwindled down; it is the type of work; with the bigger 6-wheel vehicles it is snow plowing, carrying 12 tons of salt on its back when it begins its route. Mr. Williams noted that with the light duty vehicles the concessions that some of these manufacturers give municipalities and government is remarkable; you would be spending a considerable amount more on the light duty fleet than you would expect; you can buy a \$60,000 light duty vehicle for \$35,000 to \$40,000; heavy duty trucks are different as you need certain classification weights to do the tasks; you have to buy the vehicle for the task or its function to maximize the lift. Mr. Trujillo added that with State pricing the truck on the lot cannot be sold for that price and has to be ordered and you could be waiting anywhere between three to six months; government purchases come behind retail or lease sale. He noted that with the bigger trucks they will take that much longer as there are different manufacturers for the chassis and body. He added that there is also a portion of the work that we do when it is delivered to us: communications, graphics, fuel management system, some customizing in the cab depending on the truck.

Mr. Williams highlighted the Public Works Five Year Plan summary. Chairperson Maguire thanked them for their presentation, you have given us a lot to think about, and you have done a great job with everything so far, the paving and all of the work you have done at Fisher Meadows, it looks great. The Town Manager noted that something important to keep in mind with this you hear a lot of necessary proposals but you probably have a cash capital budget of \$2.6 million next year and that is to maintain all of our road system, all of our buildings, our facilities, and our rolling stock so when you add up all of the requests which are usually in the ballpark of \$11-\$12 million so it is a matter of trying to get ahead where you can and triage what you have to.

d. 8:30 p.m. Recreation and Parks – a power point presentation is attached and made part of these minutes

Ruth Checko, Director of Recreation and Parks, reviewed each of the summary requests for FY 19/20. Ms. Checko highlighted the Department's FY 19/20 CIP drivers. She noted that this year we would like to fund a lot in design so we have something in place and move forward into construction as money allows in future years.

Ms. Checko highlighted the Farmington Valley-Trail Fence Replacement request in the amount of \$68,000. She noted that this could be funded in one shot and break us to the Simsbury Town line or done in phases; the fencing behind Building #6 has been done by the contractor building the Town Center so that number would come down a little bit.

Ms. Checko highlighted the Design Renovations-Countryside Park Buildings request in the amount of \$21,500. She noted that the basement is very musty and we do store stuff down there. She added that it is the only indoor space that residents can rent for their private parties including baby showers, graduation parties, birthday parties, and a family that rents it for Thanksgiving; last year in 2017 we had 67 rentals, including non-profits like Boy Scouts and Garden Club; of that, there were 27 for profit rentals generating \$2,700 in revenue; the Community Room at the Senior Center is strictly for non-profits. Mr. Bernetich questioned if we need to have an architect to do a rendering; it is a pretty simple building. Ms. Checko responded that Mr. Williams recommended a gentleman here from Avon who walked through it with us and in an order for us to have solid specifications for bidding the job for contractors we really wanted to rely on the services of an architect. Mr. Bernetich questioned if it is required; \$21,000 to do an architectural rendering seems a bit excessive; he could re-roof it, re-window it, give you a new kitchen and probably two new bathrooms. The Town Manager responded that we will refine it.

Ms. Checko highlighted the Field Paint Machine request in the amount of \$26,360. She noted that currently the Grounds Division is painting all of the field lines; we have a 15-year old paint machine, a 30-gallon tank with a pump system and currently using 60 gallons of paint a week just to line Fisher Meadows and an additional 60 gallons to line the outlying fields; next fall we are bringing Fisher Meadows and MH Rhodes online and that will at least double what we are painting. She noted that the proposed machine is much more efficient and estimates 30 percent reduction in paint use and with the new fields online this would save us 6-8 man hours a week because the larger tank will mean fewer trips back to the garage; with everything coming online and increasing their tasks and duties we are looking for any efficiency we can find for them. She believes that this would probably pay for itself in four to five years. Mr. Stokesbury questioned why this machine over other machines. Ms. Checko responded he took the Grounds Foreman's advice who reached out to other municipalities were using and there was a lot of good feedback on it. Mr. Bernetich questioned if it is going to be use all over the place. Ms. Checko responded yes; they know what fields need to be done, blue or white lines, everything gets painted once a week. Mr. Speich questioned what will be one at the MH Rhodes property. Ms. Checko responded that we are waiting for the grass to grow and in the fall hopefully bring it online; she and the Town Manager are going to be working on a presentation to Council to let you know how we will introduce the Thompson Road property as well as the new Fisher Meadows fields. The Town Manager noted that before we get to that is a policy discussion we are going to have to have about what we want to do with MH Rhodes.

Ms. Checko highlighted the AHS Synthetic Turf Field and looking forward to the referendum on December 12th. She highlighted the Senior Center/Community Room Interior Improvements with a total request for \$103,000; we have gotten a lot of things done through the operating budget (fobs replaced, ADA accessibility on the west entrance, refinished the shuffleboard court, some painting, new TVs, painted exterior trim this past spring, replaced the kitchen fence) but to a point we need some capital items done. She added that the carpet on the Senior Center side is original to the building (30 years old) and would replace with carpet squares. She noted that there is no longer the State reimbursement program for LED lighting; it would be an energy savings.

Ms. Checko highlighted Planning and Engineering-Buckingham Recreation Area Development request in the amount of \$25,000; the Recreation Area has a lot of potential; we would like to do some preliminary design work so when we are ready to expand we can. Mr. Speich questioned there being additional property left there. Ms. Checko responded yes, when you pull in there is plans for tennis courts but there is also water retention and runoff plans, parking improvements, and lighting. She highlighted Softball/Baseball Field Sperry Park request in the amount of \$25,000 and noted this request is for FY 20/21. She added that they would like to bring the girls' softball to Sperry Park who currently plays at Fisher Meadows and other areas.

Mr. Stokesbury questioned if there was any update on the pavilion at Sycamore Hills. Ms. Checko responded that we are almost ready to pull the trigger; Mr. Williams has some great resources for people who will custom build it for us but waiting for the right time to do that. The Town Manager commented that funding is in place for it, but just trying to find the right solution and in the meantime Fisher Meadows and all of the other unscheduled projects have taken priority. Mr. Stokesbury questioned if that is something we are likely to outsource. Ms. Checko responded that it will be a complete tear down and rebuild of the whole structure. She noted that we had money left over from the Sycamore Hills improvements which was done in two phases and we put in extra money in phase two to do more than just the roof because we found out it was much worse than it was; there was also money left over from phase one. Chairperson Maguire questioned the total cost. Ms. Checko responded she believes approximately \$105,000. The Town Manager commented that it might be closer to \$90,000. Chairperson Maguire noted that the new pavilion at Fisher Meadows is spectacular; she would love to see that copied with on the other two pavilions there. The Town Manager noted that we should have money left from the original appropriation for Fisher Meadows and be able to take care of the pavilions and do some fencing or guard rail around the fields to create a barrier. Mr. Bernetich questioned if we ever thought about doing a playground at Fisher Meadows. Ms. Checko responded that we can't because of the flood zone; we have two little sets of swing sets and that's all we can have. Chairperson Maguire noted that the playground at Sycamore Hills is ancient. Ms. Checko responded that is on her capital budget plan going out further. Council thanked Ms. Checko for her presentation.

18/19-24 Collective Bargaining Agreement between Avon Board of Education and Avon Education Association

Chairperson Maguire commented that the Board of Education (BOE) entered into an agreement which was filed on November 8th with the Town Clerk; as per State statute we have thirty days during which time to take action, no action; our thirty days is up on Saturday; if no action is

taken, on July 1st the contract would go into effect; it is our responsibility to look at the contract, do our due diligence, and see how this contract will affect our overall budget; this one particular line item, teachers' salaries, is greater than our whole operating budget for the Town; we looked at this very seriously and had a lot of concerns which the Board of Education is aware of that; the percentage rate that is going up is 2% which is better but what was a big concern was the base salaries and how significantly higher they are than our surrounding neighbors; we had three meetings to discuss which included two fantastic presentations from the Superintendent of Schools to shed light on the contract; had a lot of information and concern from citizens; we had an Executive Session the other night and spent time talking about what was in the best interest of the Town.

Bruce Corbett, 171 Huckleberry Hill Road, commented that the base salaries are too high; he sent a letter with some of his flyers from previous years and from his experience the salaries are too high; teachers in Avon get to the maximum in twelve years which is a few years fewer than other districts get to; salaries are very complicated and you need to look at them; and at one point he mentioned how come a teacher that goes from an 11th step of the 6th year to the 12th step of the year is a \$8,000 raise and the previous year is a \$4,500 raise. He hopes Council had in their discussions a look at the salary schedule all of the fringe benefits that are in their own pages 27-29, retirement benefits, etc. His concern is that it is excessive and non-sustainable; you get 2% on a very high salary and that adds up; and when he looks at some of the things that need to be here, for example, \$103,000 for Countryside Park, that is a teacher's salary. He noted that these are his thoughts not knowing what Council has decided to do.

Debra Chute, Board of Education Chairperson, commented that the salaries have accrued over time based on past negotiations that have occurred so you have what you have, we can't ask employees to take a cut in pay; every time we negotiate there is going to be some type of increase and of course we have a very seasoned staff as we discussed before so they are already at the top step so they are not earning any additional money as the years go on, they are already established in what they have; we are in a position that when we hire new people on we can negotiate a rate but you wouldn't expect an employee to say they are willing to give up \$10,000 from their pay when they have already been earning it; we worked very hard to negotiate this and our number is one of the lowest in the State so based on the historical precedent that has already been set we did a really fair and reasonable job for Avon citizens to keep that number as low as we possibly could moving forward because they are mindful that they are at the top end; with other towns getting settlements at 10% and we settled at 7.99% that is a huge win and very reasonable to accept anything else would put us in a position of having to pay even more money and if you want to avoid that we have to be reasonable in accepting the work that has been done. Mr. Corbett sought clarification regarding the settlement percent. Ms. Chute responded that our 3-year is a 7.99% whereas most surrounding areas are at 9-10%; we kept ours one of the lowest in the State compared to everyone else and for Avon being able to do that sends a message as well that it is a vision that we have; our Superintendent did provide last time trying to do an apples to apples comparison over the years of how this has accumulated over time and in the past it showed GWIs were up in the 10%, and even had 12% at one point; we are 5.53% if you only look at the GWIs so in comparison to all of the other negotiations that have occurred this contract is the lowest it has ever been; you are compounded by what already exists but you can't expect employees to say they are willing to take a huge cut in pay and we value education so that matters too. Mr. Corbett commented that if they are currently one of the highest paid in the State

with all of the retirement fringe benefits and you do 2% which is a common percent raise, that 2% on a very high salary schedule means that over the years you are compelling the salary to go up extensively and a 2% of somebody else's salary and 2% of Avon's salary are entirely different figures. Ms. Chute responded that she understands and agrees with Mr. Corbett but it is compounded over many years. Mr. Corbett questioned that he is not sure why that has happened. Ms. Chute responded that she is not sure what the suggested solution is at this point other than once there is turnover of staff then you start with a different rate because they would be at the lower end versus being a seasoned staff; they stay because they are happy and they are doing a good job for our students and we value them and is where we are at this point in time and the best we could do is get the lowest negotiated amount that we could. Mr. Corbett commented that you could pay the teachers 1% and they would still feel valued.

Christine Winter, 191 Cold Spring Road, commented that as someone who served a dozen years on a Board of Education and has gone through that process of teacher negotiations she has a respect and appreciation for the hard work that went into this process; it sounds like the result was one that is quite moderate given the situation; the option of trying to bring this to arbitration would be an expensive process and doesn't think anything would be gained from it. She noted that the comment about comparing the cost on the Board of Education side versus the Town side, every town, all the smallish towns the Board of Education is the biggest part of their budget. Chairperson Maguire responded that 75% of our Town budget but of that \$25 million is teachers' salaries. Ms. Winter commented that salary always is the biggest part of it and that part is contract and what is being negotiated here. She voiced her support and respect for the process; it would be expensive to go down an alternate route at this point. She understands that part of why our salaries overall are so large is that we have a lot of senior staff and if this truly a concern then maybe at some point some consideration could be given to encourage people to retire with some kind of incentive, some towns do that, if they want to bring down the salaries; she thinks we do benefit from the experience on staff, by and large that serves us well. Chairperson Maguire responded that would be a Board of Education issue.

Chairperson Maguire entertained a motion to reject the contract and pursue interest arbitration. Council did not make a motion so at this point Council will not be taking action on the contract. She noted that does not mean that Council does not have a lot of concerns about the contract; after doing a cost benefit analysis and looking very seriously at all aspects of this contract, while a tremendous amount of headway was made we still come back to the base salaries as being a very big concern and something that if we don't get a handle on will just keep spiraling out of control. Council thinks that once the tentative agreement is signed by both parties it makes it very difficult to go into an arbitration situation and be successful; we are always going to hear in Avon that we have the ability to pay, there are documents all over that their attorneys can bring out to show that; where the flaw in the system is that we were not involved sooner and something that she is going to recommend in the future that that Town Manager or whomever sits up here in three years which comes around rather quickly, is that in February we discuss that this is going to come up, let's look at numbers and see where we can make some cuts in salaries; for starting salaries in Avon we start at \$55,000, in Simsbury they start at \$47,000, in Glastonbury they start at \$47,000, in Farmington, they start at \$46,000, in Simsbury, a very comparable town to us, their sixth year is \$95,000 at max, ours is \$105,000; when you add up all of our teachers that are at our max that comes out to a different of over \$1.4 million, that is a lot of money. She comes from a family of educators and thinks the world of teachers and would do anything, but we need

to find a way to get market salaries and be comparable with our neighbors and will still be equally fair to our teachers. She thinks going into an arbitration situation this year would have been an expense and created a lot of animosity and hard feelings; we ran a tremendous risk of having it come out higher; there were settlements for 10% and is sure that people out there would love to make Avon an example and she was not willing to put the Town of Avon at risk. She concluded that at this point the Council will take no action but they would like to be involved in the future.

Mr. Corbett commented that if you want to try and get this process under control and the arbitration process is a good process if it is used; he was a teacher before the arbitration law went into effect and teachers would ask the Board for a raise and they would in essence pat you on the head and give you \$100; what you have done is leveled a playing field that the Town of Avon has not used the weapon that they have of arbitration to do this; if you want to get this under control you are postponing this for three years and now you are beginning to build upon an already high base salary schedule where 80% of the teachers are making the maximum and they make that many times in twelve years where in other districts it takes fourteen to fifteen years to get to maximum and when they do get to the maximum which is higher than other towns they get 2% of that; if he was to start to bring this under a control how about a one-year contract at 1%. Chairperson Maguire responded that she does not disagree with a lot of what Mr. Corbett is saying; at some point this has to fall onto the Board of Education; this is going to be part of their budget and have to figure out how to make it work so they can offset this big expense. She sees a lot of flaws but she is looking at this after the fact; the starting salary is a way to make some substantial gains but this comes down to the Board of Education, they need to work on how they want to look forward in the next three years. Council is moving on, not taking action. Ms. Chute commented that we would welcome a talking strategy with you; if we had realized there was a hard number you were concerned about we would have approached this process differently; we really did go in trying to get the best that we could for Avon and is sorry if you feel disappointed by what took place but we would be very open to working with you strategy wise and why we had Cathy Durdan join us from the Board of Finance; we did it very openly and transparently. Chairperson Maguire responded that she knows you worked hard and there were things negotiated that are definitely steps in the right direction; we are going to make this work but we will work harder for the future; three years will come around very quickly. She thanked everyone for their input and patience.

18/19-30 Discussion Regarding Sale and Distribution of Tobacco/Nicotine/Vaping Products

Chairperson Maguire commented that she attended this morning's Farmington Valley Collaborative meeting with the Town Manager and there is interest having the State take a bigger role in moving this up to age 21 to purchase products, South Windsor is now discussing banning smoking products all together for under 21; what came out of today was a two-fold action: the Town Manager will draft a letter from the Collaborative that they would send to our legislators and encourage this to come out of Committee and on the floor; they thought the turnaround time could be June would; she would really like to see something happen sooner; moving in the direction of an ordinance will only help save kids from having an easier way of getting it. Mr. Stokesbury commented that the subject matter is heavily regulated by both State and more importantly a Federal level and believes that leads to a pre-emption by them of the subject matter

and it is inappropriate for the Town to take affirmative action toughening any standards when we have that legislative and in doing so would be opening ourselves up to attack for the ordinance we would pass and run the risk of adverse litigation. Chairperson Maguire questioned why. Mr. Stokesbury responded that we don't have a different drinking age in the Town of Avon than the Town of Simsbury, we don't have a different driving age or different ages of going to school; there are State laws that heavily regulate those issues and this is another one of them; we don't like it, we know Food and Drug is working on it, but we have to press State and Federal legislators to move quickly on it. Chairperson Maguire commented that Simsbury is also interested in possibly pursuing this; they have their Council meeting in the next week or so. She noted that enforcement is a bit of an issue. She questioned if there is a real downside to having something that would keep our kids safer. The Town Manager responded that there is a pre-emption issue; the State has indicated an intent to occupy a field in terms of regulatory authority; it is likely, and the Town Attorney has opined on this and Bloomfield is hung up on the same issue now, that if Council were to go ahead and adopt an ordinance and it were to be challenged the court would likely find against the Town, that we did not have the authority to do it. He added that there is always the possibility that you can draft an ordinance, implement it and see what happens; the enforcement would be an issue; the communities that have looked at it they were looking at doing it through their health district; our Health District is not going to have the horsepower to do it so it would fall on the Police Department; we have to dedicate more resources to doing that and may be problematic for them. He added that we can continue to explore the idea of the ordinance; there is strength in numbers, there is a lot of interest amongst the Collaborative communities, particularly Simsbury; he will write the letter, get all of our legislators in the loop and push on it; he also thinks there is an important role in terms of education and being proactive in the schools; Officer Lundell has been out there talking with the kids, my 4th grader knows all about it from interactions she has had in school; he had a discussion with Susie Alexe, Youth Services Coordinator; if the concern is about retail locally, maybe there is a softer way to approach it, maybe we can contact the vendors in Avon and express our concern, that we recognize what the law is, that there are complexities if we take a heavy handed approach, can you just not sell it or not make it so available or do something proactively to reduce the likelihood that this will be circulating in the community. Mr. Stokesbury commented hearing that a manufacturer recently came out and said they are going to restrict it to age 21. The Town Manager noted that he thinks the regulatory environment is going to be changing in this regard but it is an issue that is easy for them to support. Mr. Pena commented that he would like to see something happen sooner rather than later. He discussed this with Chief Rinaldo about a year ago and at that time he sent an officer to the places in the areas of the Middle and High Schools and that did make a change but it needs to be done regularly. He noted that he hears from neighbors that there is something going on; some of that product is very well seen when they walk into the stores; he agrees that by working with the store owners it could potentially be in our favor. Chairperson Maguire commented that if it is ordinance it gives the business owner something to stand on; any way to make it more difficult they are going to get it any way, like online, but you have 18-year old siblings that could potentially buy it for a younger sibling or kids; if we can control that in some way shape or form because these e-cigarettes are horrendous. Mr. Stokesbury commented that we need to be very careful not to tell lawful enterprises not to do a lawful activity; that is not our role; he does not like it but it is not our role not to tell someone that he can't sell a legal product legally; we need to emphasize the legislative action and it is the education, control and discipline in the school system. Mr. Pena commented that if you ask Chief Rinaldo, it is not that the officer said you

cannot sell it, it might be preferred if you not keep it front of anybody when the kids walk in. He noted that the Library has become an area of concern and police go there on a regular basis after school. Mr. Stokesbury commented that we should try to control the use issue within the means of our officers and their other duties. Chairperson Maguire suggested waiting to see what happens in Simsbury and how what their Council decides; we need to do it regionally and the letter would be a step in the right direction. Mr. Stokesbury questioned what the Superintendent Association or Boards of Education are doing regarding the push for legislation; certainly they have as much committed to it as we do and want to make sure we have a united front and a very broad presentation. Chairperson Maguire asked the Town Manager to follow up with our Superintendent of Schools. The Town Manager responded that there would have to be a coalition with CCM, Boards of Education, and Superintendent Association. Mr. Pena requested that Council receive a copy of the letter. Mr. Bernetich commented that his daughter says 1 out of 4 students vape at the Middle School and High School so the ordinance is not a good idea, let the State handle it; when there is a demand there will be a supply regardless of what we do; make it a stiffer penalty in the school system and educate the parents a little more. Mr. Stokesbury commented that we have a real practical problem on the Police Department side writing a citation if they can't stop kids from stealing cars, they are not going to get into court for vaping; if it is not going to result in meaningful change in action our Police Department could be put to better use. Chairperson Maguire concluded that we will keep working on it.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

18/19-34 Review, Discussion, Set Public Hearing: Acceptance of Roads in Phase III of Weatherstone Subdivision

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council set a public hearing to be held at their January 3, 2019 meeting to consider the acceptance of the title of roads or parcels of land situated in the Town of Avon, County of Hartford and State of Connecticut shown and designated as: “Weatherstone, Norwood Way, Cranbrook, and Northington Drive” on the following maps:

1. “Weatherstone Subdivision Plan, Phase 3A Final Approval, Prepared for Toll CT Limited Partnership Cranbrook and Northington Drive, Avon, Connecticut Scale 1” = 40’ August 6, 2012, Sheets 1 thru 5 of 5”, which maps are on file in the Avon Land Records as Map #13-05, 13-06, 13-07, 13_08 and 13_09.
 2. “Weatherstone Subdivision Plan, Phase 3B Final Approval, Prepared for Toll CT Limited Partnership Cranbrook and Northington Drive, Avon, Connecticut Scale 1” = 40’ August 7, 2012, Sheets 1 thru 3 of 3”, which maps are on file in the Avon Land Records as Map #14_02, 14_03, and 14_04.
 3. “Weatherstone Subdivision Plan, Phase 3A Final Approval, Prepared for Toll CT Limited Partnership Cranbrook and Northington Drive, Avon, Connecticut Scale 1” = 40’ August 6, 2012, Sheets 1 thru 2 of 2”, which maps are on file in the Avon Land Records as Map #14_05 and 14_06.
- Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Bernetich, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

18/19-35 Contract Recommendation: Public Safety Communications System Replacement Project

Chairperson Maguire commented that pending the referendum passage of this project we would need to meet immediately after to hold the prices down. The Town Manager added that the contract would be subject to the appropriation being approved at the referendum.

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mr. Speich, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract with Motorola for the Public Safety Communications System Replacement Project, subject to the approval of the project at the December 12th referendum.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Bernetich, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

18/19-36 Review, Discussion and Approval: Year End Transfers and Appropriations

Peggy Colligan, Director of Finance, was present to highlight the Final Fiscal Year Transactions FY 2017-2018. The Town Manager noted that the good news is that there is no news; it was a quiet and good year; our tax collections remain strong, we didn't have any unplanned drawdown of Unassigned Fund Balance at the end of the year, we were able to place some assignments on Fund Balance to get ahead of next year's budget, and we were able to increase our Unassigned Fund Balance overall to just over 11%. He noted that our Policy is just over 10%. He added that one of the reasons he is recommending these actions by Council is that we know we have a negative Grand List as we go into the FY 20 budget and one of the only times that we have approved drawdowns from Unassigned Fund Balance as part of the budget process historically is to smooth out the impact of a negative revaluation so there is some cushion there if the Board of Finance opts to do that and even though we are exceeding our Unassigned Fund Balance Policy it is good to be in compliance with our policy but generally AAA communities are higher; as we are potentially going to be going out for ratings reviews as we get debt approved for one or two projects coming up he wants to be in the best position possible to show that we are exceeding our policy and making substantial progress.

Ms. Colligan requested any feedback if there are additional reports you wish to see or fund reported in a different manner. She recalled that in the FY 16/17 book we added some new reports. She noted that there is a new report in this book providing more detail in the General Fund on the expenditure side. She noted that Tabs A-E in this booklet are all required for approval for Charter compliance. She added that generally it has been a lot of the same activity that you see every year; in Fund 2 we receive additional revenues from the STEAP grant in its final phase for the Sidewalk Project; we usually do revenue adjustments for State aid, Fund 8 and Fund 11; this year we get an additional \$77 of LoCIP and still have to do a resolution to balance the budget; we have pretty small entries in the supplemental section of this budget. She noted that Tab D includes standard entries that we have done in prior years, usually for an offset to our employer contributions for pension and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB); we also move money into a Compensated Absences Fund to pay someone's vacation/sick time on the books when they terminate/retire and fund on an as needed basis. She noted that Public Works usually has an auction on annual basis to sell their used vehicles and we've had a past practice to allow that revenue source which is \$25,000 or less if they make the full appropriation to get moved to assignment where they can replace capital equipment for small items. She noted entries five and six are related to the Sewer Fund; besides having to pay the water treatment potential debt service costs that we will be getting billed from Farmington if the referendums get approved, one

or both, we will be going to the market and the credit rating agencies will look at all of the funds and these entries will put the Sewer Fund in a favorable position.

Ms. Colligan noted that under Revenues we cut a lot of intergovernmental revenues but is where we see a positive variance, over a half million dollars; a mix of new revenues that came in most of them we didn't see the revenues but we budgeted for them, the revenues that we have been receiving they said we wouldn't get, we didn't budget and they came in; in the current year the revenues that we did not receive in FY 17/18 we did not budget for in FY 18/19 and should be in a good position. She noted that we had a positive variance in taxes and interest income; in the current year budget we are at a 50% level of what we have received and anticipate we will have another positive variance at the close of FY 18/19. She noted that our self-insurance fund for medical claims for hospitalization is also in good shape and been able to keep a reserve for the past three years of \$2 million which is about 28%.

Mr. Stokesbury questioned how the process was this year and how was the process with the Board of Education. Ms. Colligan responded that every year the process in general is getting smoother and better and earlier; in terms of the turnaround times to pull this together, prepare documents for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), and get it out by the deadline we are already two to three weeks in advance of where we were last year; a lot of it has to do with our financial system and Accounting staff; this year we had less uses of Fund Balance, less activity, less resolutions; capital projects have gotten larger in terms of volume and number of projects and could slow us down as we have a lot of project management involved; overall, the process is much smoother, the accuracy has been enhanced and the auditors have been very pleased when they come in with where we are and what we can hand them. She responded that regarding our communication with the Board of Education, that is always improving; they asked to have access to our financial system which we have given them to look at their capital projects and see up-to-date balances; we did have access to their financial system; they are going through changes in their IT area and we are trying to get that access back and that is the only thing that has slowed us down a bit when we do reconciliations; overall, things have gone smoothly. Mr. Stokesbury questioned if Ms. Colligan envisions a time where we can use one system. Ms. Colligan responded that when Mr. Mala was here she and the Town Manager went to Plainville that uses the AUC financial system on the school and town side; there are not a lot of them that do, but you can; you can do a crosswalk between our financial systems pretty successfully by converting the files to readable files to download between each one so a lot of times it hasn't been an issue. Mr. Stokesbury commented that he is looking for efficiency and going back more than ten years to his role on the Matrix Study Committee where we looked at efficiencies and why he is asking what works or doesn't work; please let us know as we see software improving all the time. Ms. Colligan noted that if there are less companies and have more of the market the transition will be there and seamless.

Mr. Speich commented on the Undesignated Fund Balance increasing and questioned because we wanted it to. The Town Manager responded that it will go from 10.6% to 11.3%; once the reconciliations are done between revenues and expenditures at the end of the year you don't want to end up in a deficit position and there is always some funding leftover and there are management recommendations that the Council and Board of Finance act on; there are a lot of options; other options would have been to encumber it or increase various assignments on Fund Balance; in this case you spend it down through the encumbrances, you make other decisions

about assignments or what seemed most prudent here was to bump up Fund Balance a little bit more given what is on the horizon. Mr. Speich questioned if there will be funds left to soften the blow of the houses being reassessed. The Town Manager responded that when we get to the Board of Finance and they ask how can we make up some of that increase that is going to be built into the mill rate as a result of a 2% reduction in the Grand List; it is unlikely that he is going to offer anything on the revenue side but he could say that we have a policy in place of 10%, Moody's likes to see AAA communities around 15-20%, it is a policy decision, we can draw down a couple of basis points on Unassigned Fund Balance to offset revaluation recognizing we are still ahead of our policy. Mr. Speich questioned that if one of these two projects go through is there a concern. The Town Manager responded that it is a story we will have to tell the rating agencies and rather than say we have 11.3% Unassigned Fund Balance, maybe it is 10.5% if a portion is used to offset next year's mill rate impact but still ahead of our policy. Mr. Stokesbury commented unless we amend the policy. Council thanked Ms. Colligan; wonderful job. Ms. Colligan noted that she will share the compliment with staff.

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance approve the Fiscal Year End Transactions: Transfers and Encumbrances, Supplemental Appropriations, and Assignments, Appropriations from Fund Balance, as outlined in the booklet Final Fiscal Year Transactions FY 2017-2018, and as described in the memoranda from the Director of Finance to the Town Manager.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Bernetich, Speich, Stokesbury, and Pena voted in favor.

18/19-37 Supplemental Appropriation: Consulting Services for Sewer Study-Avon Gardens Apartment, \$2,700.00

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 18/19 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

Sewer Fund, Other Local Revenues, Refunds & Reimbursements, Account # 05-0360-43612, in the amount of \$2,700 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

Sewer Fund, Sewage Coll. and Disp., Services – Other, Account # 05-3205-52189, in the amount of \$2,700, for the purpose of recording funding received from Lee Land Development, LLC for consulting services by Fuss & O'Neill for a sewer capacity study in connection with the November 5, 2018, proposed development for Avon Gardens Apartments.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Speich, Stokesbury, Bernetich, and Pena voted in favor.

18/19-38 Donation to Avon Volunteer Fire Department-Fire Police, \$250.00

- a. **Acceptance of Gift**
- b. **Supplemental Appropriation**

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Speich, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the gift of \$250.00 from a Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Fund made on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Shein in accordance with Section 4.3.2(l) of the Town Charter.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Pena, Speich, Stokesbury, and Bernetich voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 18/19 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

General Fund, Other Local Revenues, Donations & Grants, Private Sources, Account #01-0360-43651, in the amount of \$250.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

General Fund, Fire Fighting, Town Organizations, Account #01-2203-52161, in the amount of \$250.00, for the purpose of funding activities of the Avon Volunteer Fire Department, related to the Fire Police.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Pena, Speich, Stokesbury, and Bernetich voted in favor.

IX. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. A: Purchasing Update: The Town Manager did not provide highlights at the meeting.

Misc. B: Construction Update: The Town Manager noted that the focus is wrapping up Fisher Meadows and Police Department improvements. He added that the biggest news in the last couple of weeks is Old Farms Road Bridge and work is underway. Mr. Stokesbury questioned who the contractor is for this project. The Town Manager responded that they are on Waterville, have a great reputation, and are local. Mr. Stokesbury reiterated that any progress would be helpful for citizens to know.

Misc. C: CCM Board of Directors: The Town Manager reported that he will be on the Board starting in January. Council extended congratulations. Mr. Speich questioned how strong the big cities are on this to drive policy and things. The Town Manager responded extraordinarily; Avon is in a unique spot, there are not a lot of communities with our types of demographics so there is not a lot of representation so it can be awkward in that setting to make the arguments that we have to make.

Misc. D: Avon Land Trust: The Town Manager reported that we had a meeting two of their members, Bill Shea and Scott Ilg, who were looking for ways to partner with the Town, they have a lot of great ideas but not a lot of resources or money; they own some land in proximity of where the Bridge Project is going to be and we talked about working with the State to take advantage of some of that; most importantly they had interest in getting work done on the Hazen Trail and we will take care of that. He added that in January we will host the Land Trust here for one of their regular meetings and provide an overview of our GIS system and mapping capabilities; he encouraged Council to attend. Mr. Speich questioned the history behind the Land Trust; people will land to the Trust. Mr. Stokesbury responded that he was on the Trust until he sought office; much of it started in the 1970s, there was a core group of families that donated some pretty important land to the Town; their challenge is that they cannot raise enough money to buy an acre, let alone 5 or 10 acres; he assisted them in trading land on Knoll Lane, land that was donated by Nora Howard's father in memory of her mother that they had great visions for but wasn't being used for any purpose and traded it with Bill Ferrigno and have developed a very nice facility on the map off of Chidsey south of DOT and abuts Reverknolls and done quite well; they are trying to find efficient ways of preserving open space in Town. Mr. Speich commented that he sees a lot of signs around for Avon Land Trust. Mr. Stokesbury

noted that they have a lot of events but they don't have a lot of money, current cash behind them; these trading opportunities is a pretty good advantage; they own land abutting the Severni property but it was land locked, there is a right of way to get to it but no one used it, that in partner with the Town eventually we will have open space and public use; it is a dedicated core of members.

X. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pending Claim/Litigation

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mr. Stokesbury, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council go into Executive Session at 9:38 p.m.
Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Bernetich, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

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

XI. **ADJOURN**

On a motion made by Mr. Speich, seconded by Mr. Stokesbury, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.
Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Pena, Bernetich, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

Attest:

Ann Dearstyne, Town Clerk

Capital Budget Presentation FY 19/20 Requests



Engineering,
Sewers

December 6, 2018

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

Engineering Projects – FY19/20

Old Farms Road Reconstruction

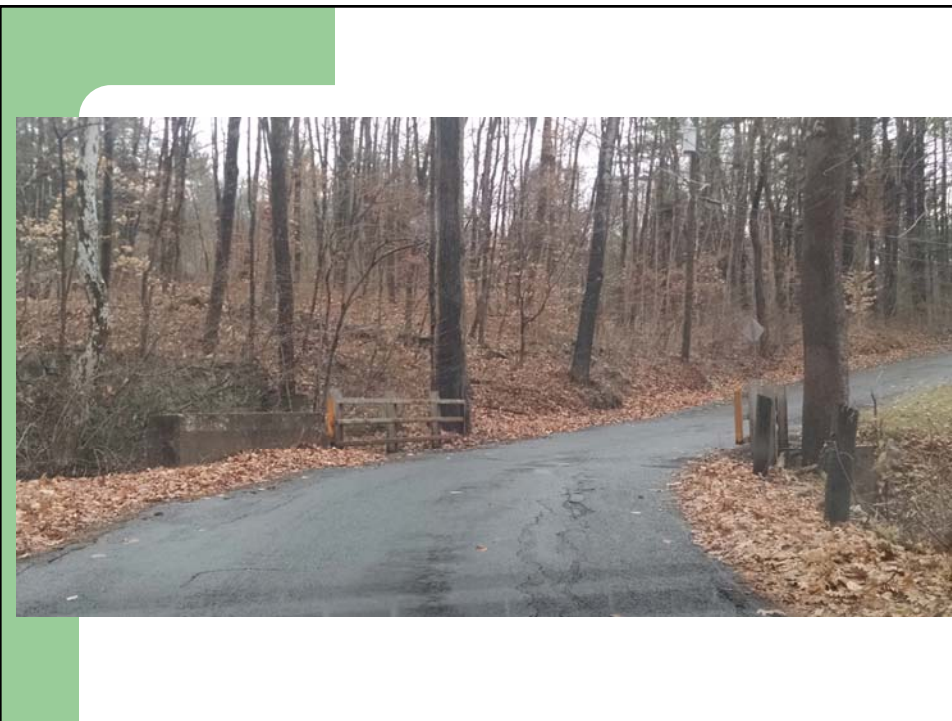
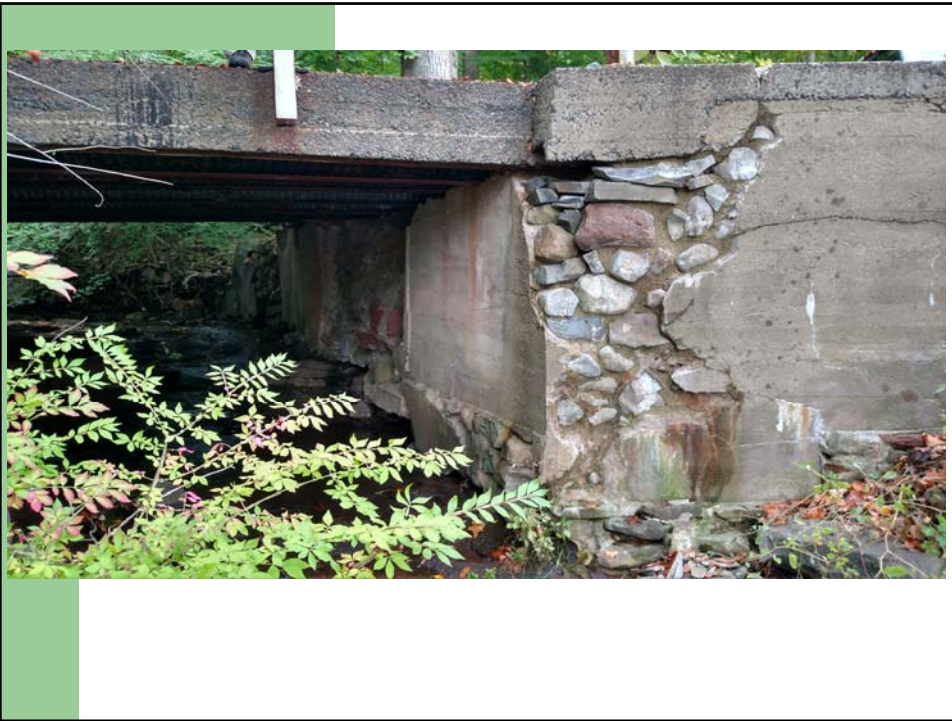
(19/20 request \$307k – this is to continue/complete the design / permitting process)

- We have been approved by CRCOG for LOTCIP funding (\$3.3M)
- We have been awarded a Community Connectivity Grant (\$378.5K)
- Next steps include a commitment to fund by CTDOT
- Construction is 100% reimbursed
- ***Future requests are to pursue the east-west section***

Engineering Projects– FY19/20

Replace Bridge over Cider Brook – Cider Brook Road (19/20 Budget request \$435,000 – construction \$ shown is estimated)

- Structure built in 1900, rehabilitated in 1934
- CTDOT-level inspection done in July '18
- Super structure and abutments are in poor condition
- Approaches / safety measures are non-existent
- Failure will require road closure
- When Rte 10 is under construction will likely see additional detour traffic
- Replacement is likely to be a box culvert
- ***NOTE: structure has been approved under CT Local Bridge program – 50% reimbursement for design and construction***



Engineering Projects– Future Years

Replace Box Culvert over Thompson Brook – Tillotson Road

(19/20 Budget request \$0 – future costs are estimated)

- Structure age is unknown (over 40 years old)
- 2 sink holes occurred summer 2009, another in summer of 2010, additional patches since
- Failure will require road closure and possible motorist accident
- Above water line there is some degradation of deck support walls
- Replacement is intended to be a box culvert – if ADPW does the work beyond the setting of the box, cost would be lower

NOTE: CTDOT performed preliminary screening inspection and recommend detailed inspection but ran out of funding. This will likely be applicable under State Local Bridge program in future.



Engineering Projects– Future Years

Reconstruction and Drainage in Cider Brook Road (19/20 Budget request \$0)

- Road is listed as poorest in TOA
- Skim coat overlay performed three years ago
- Was approved for sewers in 12/13 (Sewer CIP)
- Roadway needs formal drainage and extensive base and paving reconstruction

Cider Brook Road Area



Engineering Projects

Other future requests:

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

Sewer Department / AWPCA

Key Factors in Determining Projects and Priorities:

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

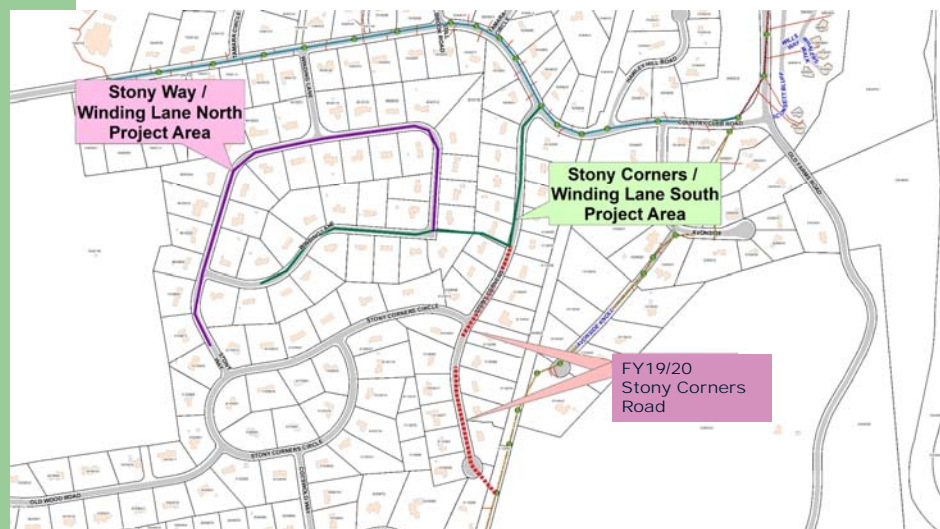
Note: these projects do not effect the tax levy

Sewer Projects – FY19/20

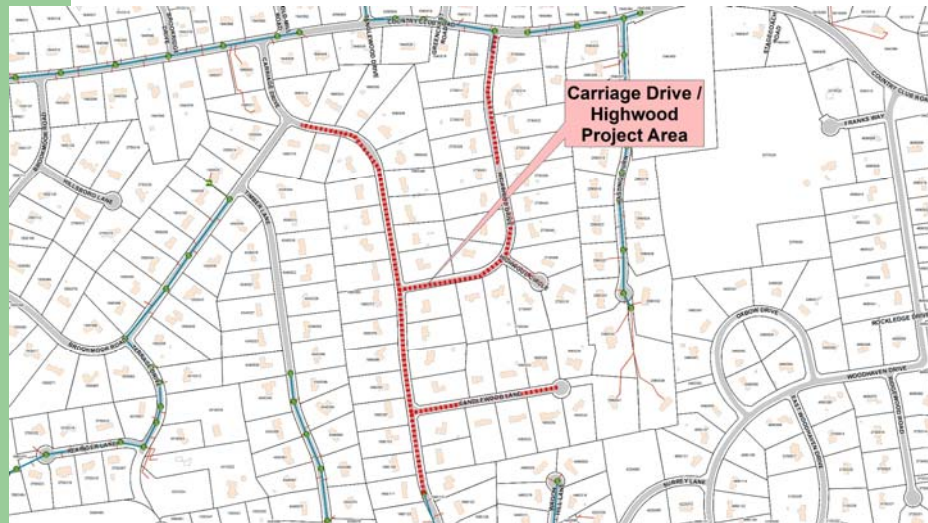
Lateral Expansion Program (19/20 Budget \$310k) remainder of Stony Corners Road

- We plan to expand sewers on a plan-based need basis – requires public outreach component
- Sewer Facilities Plan plays major role
- Priority is often combined with road reconstruction / pavement needs
- This is another part of the Stony Corners area sewers – petition received several years ago

FY19/20 Lateral Expansion



FY20/21 Lateral Extension



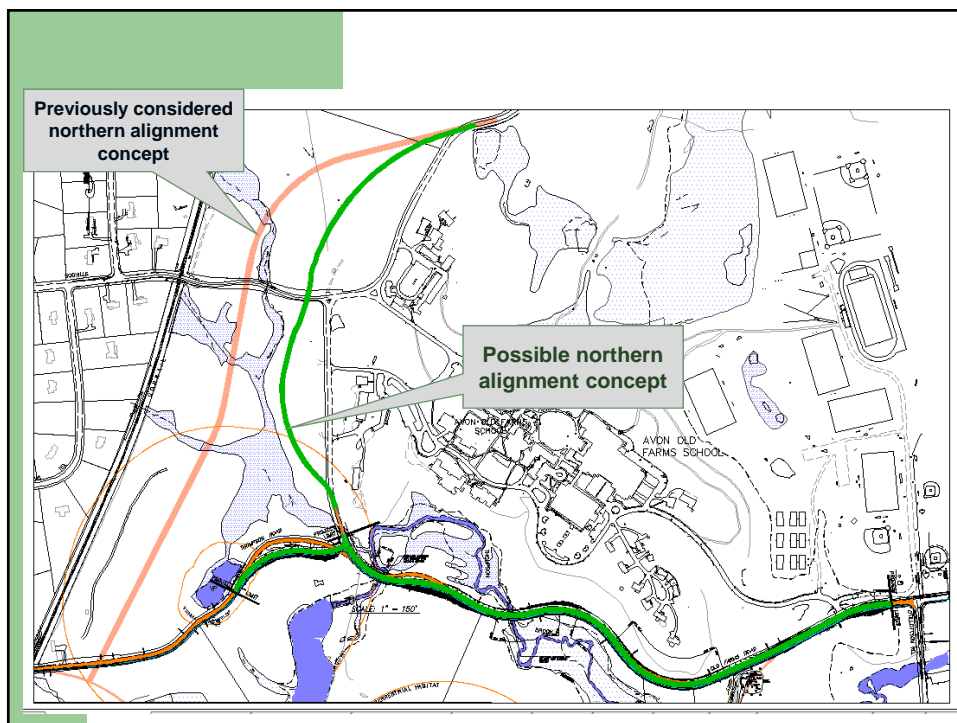
Sewer Projects – FY19/20

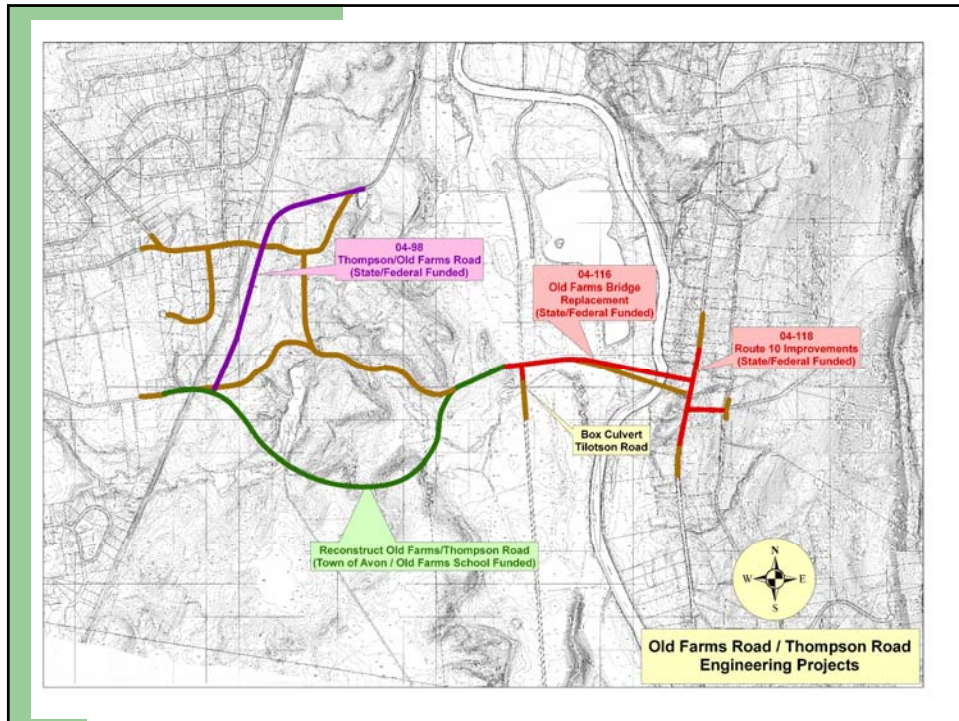
Infiltration and Inflow – Next Phase

(19/20 Budget \$450k)

- Continue with I&I study within Farmington sewer-shed via SSES (Sanitary System Evaluation Survey)
- Will be fundable under CTDEEP CWF program at 55% grant reimbursement; 45% local
- Future years are to perform rehabilitation and similar study of Simsbury sewer-shed

End of Presentation



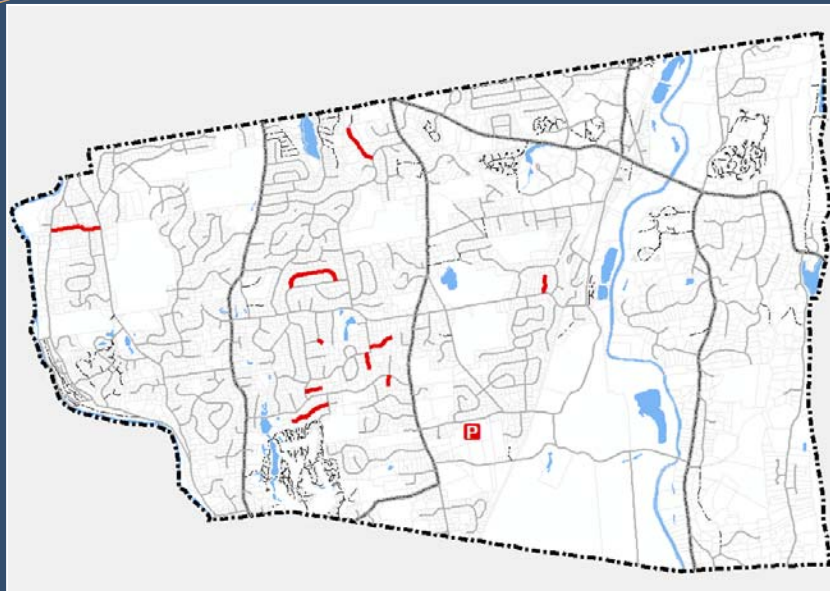


Capital Improvement Plan 2019/2020



Department of Public Works

Proposed 2019-20 Roadway Improvement Projects



Pavement Management Program

Fiscal Year 19/20 Mill & Overlay

1. School Street	\$175,000	6. Ridgewood Road	\$ 61,000	\$1,100,000
2. Highwood Circle	\$ 25,000	7. Brian Lane	\$148,000	
3. Still Brook Road	\$ 80,000	8. Holly Lane	\$ 47,000	
4. Lexington Road	\$152,000	9. Brownstone Drive	\$ 61,000	
5. Henley Way	\$246,000	10. Rockledge Drive	\$105,000	

Crack Sealing 16 Miles of Road \$100,000

Pine Grove School Parking Lot \$191,137

Total Requested Fiscal Year 2019/2020 \$1,391,137

Pavement Management Program

School Street, \$ 175,000



RSR 25.42 out of 100

Highwood Circle, \$ 25,000



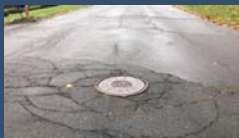
RSR 16.31 out of 100

Still Brook Road, \$80,000



RSR 22.33 out of 100

Lexington Road, \$ 152,000



RSR 21.30 out of 100

Municipal Parking Lots

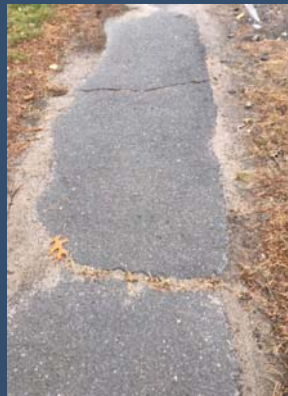
Pine Grove School \$191,137

LSR 47 out of 100



Sidewalk Improvement Plan

West Avon & Country Club Road, \$25,000



Facilities Improvements

Company 1



Energy Efficient
Improvements
\$42,500



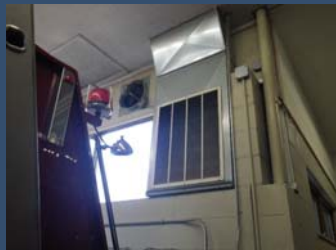
Boiler Plant, \$55,000



Stairway Replacement, \$45,000

Facilities Improvements

Company 3, \$55,000



Existing Exhaust
System, Company 3



Existing Updated
Exhaust System,
Company 1

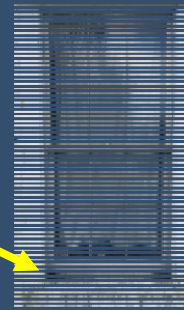


Facilities Improvements

Pine Grove School House, \$30,000



Exterior Siding and Windows
Deteriorating Due to Wood Rot

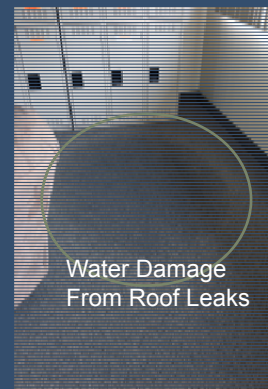
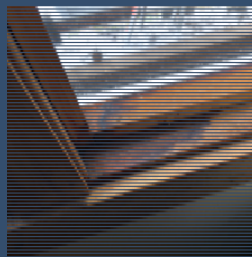


Facilities Improvements

Fire Company 3 Roof Replacement, \$35,000



Current Roof is 28
Years Old



Water Damage
From Roof Leaks

Facilities Improvements

Countryside Park Pedestrian Bridge, \$27,000

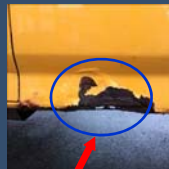


- Rotted Wood Structure
- Rotted Wood Decking



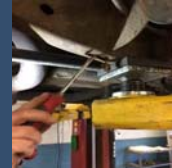
FY 19/20 DPW Vehicle Replacement Requests

**Highway
Truck #51AV
\$50,000**



- 23 Years Old
- Severe rust to frame and body

**Bldgs. & Grounds
Truck #19AV
\$60,000**



- 18 Years Old with 120,110 Miles
- Original body replaced due to rot
- Rotted frame

FY 19/20 DPW Vehicle Replacement Requests

Admin., Crown Vic.
\$50,000

- 181,000 miles
- \$39,034 lifetime repair costs

- Rotted Body/Panels with holes

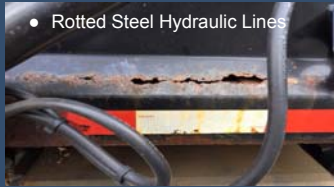


- Rotted Roof/Rear Window Leaking



Highway, Truck #6AV
\$85,000

- Rotted Steel Hydraulic Lines



- Rotted Support Rail



Public Works Five Year Plan

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	TOTAL
Highway Division	\$345,000	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$0	\$975,000
Buildings & Grounds Division	\$105,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$105,000
Public Work Administration	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
Engineering	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
Fire Prevention	\$46,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$46,000
Pavement Management Program	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$6,000,000
Parking Lot Improvements	\$191,137	\$191,137	\$191,137	\$191,137	\$191,137	\$955,685
Sidewalk Improvement Plan	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$125,000
Facility Improvements	\$425,000	\$80,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	\$565,000
TOTAL	\$2,437,137	\$1,706,137	\$1,656,137	\$1,656,137	\$1,416,137	\$8,871,685

Recreation and Parks Capital Improvement Program 2019/2020 FY Requests

DECEMBER 2018



19/20 FY CIP Drivers

- Develop, improve and maintain recreational facilities for Avon's growing population, POCD-2006
- Recreation and Parks Master Plan- 2007
- Established priorities of the Town of Avon and its residents
- Fund design and planning for future projects

A supplemental appropriation and a donation from the FVTC funds approximately 2500 linear feet of vinyl fencing along the Rails Trail from Farmington Town line north.

This request will fund replacing the rest of the fencing to the Simsbury Town Line .

\$68,000



Farmington Valley Trail Fence Replacement

49 year old building

Services of an architect
Interior and exterior
renovations

Improvements to lower
dam pump house

\$21,500



Design Renovations-Countryside Park Buildings

Kromer Pro Field Maintainer/ Paint Machine

300 psi –pressure system 62.5 gallon paint container

Field paint attachment universal field attachment right or left for circles and goal lines lacrosse, soccer and football

\$26,360



Paint Machine

AHS Synthetic Turf Field

Base Bid

- \$2,995,000 includes
- Synthetic turf field, 8 lane all-weather urethane track



The building is 30 years old now.

Paint select areas; west vestibule, community room, computer room and craft room. \$6500

New carpet on the Senior Center side. \$6500

Conservative upgrade to Kitchen cabinets, counter tops and appliances. \$80,000

Upgrade to LED lighting \$10,000

Total Request \$103,000



Senior Center/ Community Room Interior Improvements

2007 Recreation Master Plan identified improvements to Buckingham

Fund preliminary engineering done in-house. Review master plan recommendations and current needs.

Ongoing issue is the hill between baseball field and land fill.

\$25,000



Planning and Engineering- Buckingham Recreation Area Development

Design an additional ball field and amenities

This project is a priority for Avon Little League

\$25,000 FY 20/21



Softball/Baseball Field Sperry Park