

**MINUTES**  
**SELECT BOARD**  
**TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH**  
 Tuesday, January 21, 2020 – 5:00 PM  
 1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

**Present:** Tyler Ward, Karen Hatcher, Bill Taylor

**Also Present:** Rodney Bartlett, Nicole MacStay, Alison Kreutz

*(Starting at 6:00 PM)* Budget Committee: Ronald Patten (Chair), Bob Hanson, Richard Clark, Ron McIntire, Mandy Sliver, Carl Mabbs-Zeno, Donald Parkhurst, James Long

Chair Ward opened the meeting at 5:00 PM.

Ms. Hatcher made a motion to enter a Non-Public session, required pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (d) - Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

Roll call vote to enter Non-Public Session:

Chair Ward: YES

Ms. Hatcher: YES

Mr. Taylor: YES

Roll call vote to exit Non-Public Session:

Chair Ward: YES

Ms. Hatcher: YES

Mr. Taylor: YES

Public meeting resumed at 5:45 PM

*Vote:* Ms. Hatcher made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session.

*Motion:* Mr. Taylor seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

*Select Board Letter of Support for Article 6: Power Purchase Agreement*

Chair Ward said the Select Board had a Letter of Support for Article 6: the Power Purchase Agreement, to be added to the 2020 ConVal School District Warrant. Chair Ward read the letter aloud:

“We, the Select Board of the Town of Peterborough, enthusiastically support the inclusion of “Article 6: Power Purchase Agreement” on the 2020 School District Warrant. For over twenty years the Select Board and the voters of Peterborough have supported efforts that have resulted in both a reduction of the town’s greenhouse gas emissions, but also realized significant savings of utility customers’ dollars. We are thrilled by the steps that the ConVal District has already taken to reduce emissions by embracing alternative fuel for transportation and other programs, and look forward to the addition of a solar power program to your portfolio.

Without question the most successful of our efforts was the 2014 construction of the solar array at the wastewater treatment plant, which was constructed and is still operating under a power purchase agreement (PPA). Thanks to this arrangement the array was not only constructed at no cost to the taxpayers or utility customers but has saved tens of thousands of dollars each year in averted distribution costs on over 900,000 kwh of electricity. Thanks to our PPA we are not responsible for any maintenance or repairs to the array, but as of this date, there have been no problems with the array or its operation whatsoever.

Whenever we are presented with an opportunity to both save money and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, the question can’t be “why should we?” but “why wouldn’t we?” With the proven success of

Peterborough's PPA and solar array, we can't think of a reason not to lend our support to this project – and we hope you agree.”

*Motion:* Ms. Hatcher made a motion to sign the Letter of Support.

*Vote:* Mr. Taylor seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Dori Drachman said the School Board will be voting on whether or not to recommend Article 6, and the Select Board's support will be a helpful part of the argument to support it; “Thank you very much for going on the record for this.” She then handed a list of Frequently Asked Questions to the members of the Board with answers that were vetted by the Peterborough Energy Committee, in case people have questions about their reasons to support the Article.

Ms. Drachman said that people who are looking for more information about the project can visit the Peterborough Energy Committee's website, and click on the ‘ConVal Solar’ tab.

Ms. Hatcher thanked Ms. Drachman for all of her hard work.

*Megan Suokko for Appointment to Economic Development Authority*

Ms. Suokko introduced herself, and said she wanted to join the EDA as she's a new business owner in Peterborough – she owns Dogs On Depot, in Depot Square. Ms. Suokko lives in Dublin, and moved to the region 3 years ago. She said she found the EDA was the best way to help in the community.

Mr. Bill Kennedy was present in support of Megan's appointment, and said that her Master's Degree in Marketing and Communications will benefit the social media efforts of the group.

*Motion:* Ms. Hatcher made a motion to appoint Megan Suokko to the Economic Development Authority

*Vote:* Mr. Taylor seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

*Andy Peterson for Appointment to Economic Development Authority*

Mr. Peterson was not present at the meeting, but Ms. Hatcher said that Mr. Peterson brings a commercial real estate outlook to the EDA. With the loss of Chub Whitten, who was filling that role, Andy's perspective will be valuable.

*Motion:* Ms. Hatcher made a motion to appoint Andy Peterson to the Economic Development Authority

*Vote:* Chair Ward Seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

*Review of Main Street Bridge Partial Closure Plan*

Mr. Bartlett said that at the bid opening for the Main Street Bridge Project on October 30<sup>th</sup>, the bids were higher than anticipated. With the successful Special Town Meeting vote to support the additional needed funds, we can move forward and get contract signed. Additional review of bridge was done in the meantime to ensure there were no additional concerns, and accelerated concrete degradation was discovered. There will be a partial closure such that Pine Street and Concord Street heading into town will be routed on the South side of the bridge (the Transcript Dam side), and traffic heading out of town will be routed around, via Grove Street. Signs will be installed on Thursday and Friday and in the meantime we are working with our contractors Beck and Belluci to coordinate steel barriers for the Bridge, which weigh less than concrete barriers, and are therefore safer. For the short term, people coming into Town via Route 202 will have an easier time than they do right now. Mr. Bartlett said to expect a lot of activity over the next three days, and the partial closure is estimated to begin on Monday.

Ms. Mandy Sliver asked if traffic will be limited by weight. Mr. Bartlett confirmed – Vehicles using the Bridge are limited to 3 tons, which is about the weight of a standard passenger car or small pick truck. Heavy duty trucks, trucks outfitted with plows, and box trucks will be overweight.

Mr. Parkhurst asked if it would be plowed with a sidewalk tractor. The Select Board joked that it'll be shoveled.

Mr. Bartlett said the website will have the most up-to-date information, and invited those with additional questions to email himself, Ms. MacStay, or Mr. MacLean.

*Review and Approval of the Minutes of Joint Budget Committee & Select Board Meeting of January 14, 2020*

*Motion:* Ms. Hatcher made a motion to accept the minutes of January 14, 2020.

*Vote:* Mr. Taylor seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chair Ward called the Joint Select Board and Budget Committee Meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Roland Patten introduced the present members of the Budget Committee.

#### *Public Works*

Mr. Seth MacLean, Assistant DPW Director, introduced himself and noted that Nate Brown, Superintendent of Utilities; Scott Bradford, Recycling Superintendent; Dave Croumie, Building & Grounds Superintendent; and Highway Foreman Tim Rose were also in attendance.

Mr. MacLean presented a PowerPoint.

The Department Mission:

Enhance the safety and livability of the community by providing and managing services and infrastructure in support of reliable and safe transportation, clean water and a clean, safe, and enjoyable environment.

Ms. MacLean said, "all of our decision making is centered around 'How do we make the community a better place to live.'"

Major Department Deliverables

- Deliver over 170 million gals of clean water annually to thousands of residents and users of the water system
- Treat over 140 million gals of dirty water annually at the WWTF
- Maintain over 70 miles lane miles of public roadway
- Process over 2,000 tons of waste per year, with over 70% recycled
- Maintain and repair Town Buildings
- Maintain and enhance over 37 acres of public parks and rail trail

#### *Administration*

Administrative duties include, but are not limited to:

- Public Communication and Education
- Budgeting and Expense Management
- Department Planning and Coordination
- Coordination with Contractors, Utilities, and Gov. Agencies
- Project Management
- Human Resource Support for DPW
- Quoting and Purchasing
- Insurance Claims & Accidents
- Contract Management
- Permitting & Community Development
- Grant and Other Professional Writing
- Regulatory and Other Reporting Requirements

#### *Utility Division*

The Utility Division consists of the water and the wastewater department and is responsible for overseeing water and wastewater facilities, as well as all aspects of the water and wastewater system, distribution and collection systems, monitoring our wells and sewer system.

Superintendent Nate Brown reviewed the duties of the 6 full-time employees, consisting of himself plus two wastewater treatment plant operators and three utilities technicians, two of which have the additional titles of backflow coordinator and pretreatment coordinator. Mr. Brown said one of the workers focuses on industrial pretreatment, and checks the grease traps to make sure traps are cleaned and that the waste isn't dumped into the sewer system, as it can be a very costly issue for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

Mr. MacLean said the Utilities staff is always looking for ways to save money, and if they can do something in-house, they will.

Mr. Hanson asked if the pretreatment coordinators go to every restaurant in town to test the water. Mr. Brown said they go to every facility has food preparation, including the schools, RiverMead and Summerhill. Mr. MacLean said Mr. Brown put the program in place three years ago as a result of increased costs being incurred at the WWTP. Companies that were supposed to be cleaning and removing the waste were instead just flushing the waste into the sewer system after cleaning, which resulted in big problems. A town utilities employee is now present at those cleanings, to ensure waste is properly removed.

Chair Ward asked, if those businesses need to be monitored, how is the Utilities Department notified about the cleanings? Mr. Brown answered that the cleaning companies directly contact pretreatment coordinator Anthony Carland to let them know where they're going and when.

Ms. Hatcher asked where the waste is hauled to. Mr. Brown replied that it goes into the sludge tank at the WWTP, which gets sent out of state and incinerated.

Mr. Smith explained that Utilities is an enterprise fund, so their revenues equal their expenses. Mr. MacLean said, as presented, the budget is up 15.12%, or \$162,283. "We're actually about level funded, year over year."

Mr. MacLean said Utilities initiatives for FY2021 included:

- \$200,000 engineering for Cold Springs (will include offsetting revenue)
- \$20,000 for pressure reducing vault on dead-end line between MacDowell Rd and Union St. to prevent water stagnation
- \$4,000 for new GPS equipment
  - IT Director Fash Farashahi said the current GPS set-up for Utilities is about 8 years old and the software is operating on Windows 7, and would not work on Windows 10, and, with how heavily the Utilities staff relies on GIS to do their job, it's important they get updated equipment.
- \$8,000 for emergency eye-wash and shower stations with tempered water at North Well
  - Mr. Brown said, though there is an eye-wash station at the North Well, the water isn't tempered, and tempered water is necessary as "you can't hold your eyes open [to wash them] with freezing water." Sodium hydroxide and chlorine are used at the wells, and both could cause burns, so it's a safety issue.
- \$17,500 50% of replacement cost of Sprinter Van (shared with wastewater)
  - Mr. MacLean said the Sprinter Van was one of the few vehicles in the utilities fleet used on a daily basis.

Wastewater is down 1.86% (-\$28,899). Wastewater initiatives included:

- \$4,000 for new GPS equipment (shared with Utilities)
- \$40,000 for fencing around Pheasant Rd Pump Station (\$10,000), paving half of Water St. (\$25,000) and Church St Pump Station entrance (\$5,000)
  - Mr. Brown said fencing only goes  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way around Pheasant Road, and so as of now it is unsecured and there have been issues with unauthorized individuals, probably kids, getting on to the property.
  - Regarding paving half of Water Street, Mr. Brown said that portion of pavement won't get driven over when the lagoons close, so it will be worth fixing it now. Mr. MacLean added that there are maintenance costs for that road every year, which gets really rutted and muddy.
- \$20,000 based on expenditure trends and forecasted price increases

- \$17,500 50% of replacement cost of Sprinter Van

### *Highway Division*

Highway Division is responsible for the ongoing maintenance and improvement of our roadway network and related infrastructure which includes:

- Paving, repairing and plowing town roads and parking lots
- Winter operations
- Maintaining stormwater and drainage systems
- Roadside mowing, brushing, and tree work
- Maintaining and improving sidewalks and curbs
- Repairing/replacing signs and guardrails
- Fleet Services
- Supporting other Town departments and activities

Mr. MacLean said Tim Rose has been helping to keep things moving forward during Highway Superintendent Ron Dubois's extended absence. Mr. Rose introduced himself and explained the roles of the nine full-time employees: Two mechanics (one assistant, one fleet mechanic/manager), 2 heavy equipment operators, and 3 truck drivers, in addition to Mr. Rose and Mr. Dubois. The staff is responsible for more than 70 miles of town roadways. Mr. MacLean said keeping up the town roads is "a never-ending battle," and said, among other things, they have to repair catch basins and culverts, deal with nuisance creatures, and keep all the equipment well maintained. He said Mr. Rose has been tremendously helpful with the Road Program.

Ms. Hatcher asked about the 'nuisance creatures.' Mr. MacLean explained that beavers often are responsible for road flooding.

Highway Operating Budget is down 1.12% year over year (does not include warrant articles or CIP items).  
"We feel comfortable with the numbers presented."

Mr. Clark asked about the charged-out services line in the operations budget, which dropped significantly. Mr. MacLean explained that the higher amount in FY20 was for funding for engineering Fly Pond Dam/Summer St. Stabilization & Overseers Row, and now that it has been addressed, that line item can be reduced to the previous, lower amount.

Mr. Clark asked why the retirement line almost doubled. Mr. Smith explained that retirement is planned on a fixed percentage. It's over budget, but it's in-line with what it was last year, so it was underfunded last year.

Mr. Clark asked why the administration line went up. Mr. MacLean said it would cover the cost of part-time consulting for Rodney Bartlett (in the event that he retires) during the Main Street Bridge Project, as he has 13 years of experience concerning that specific project.

Mr. Clark asked why it wouldn't be covered by the bond. Ms. MacStay said it would protect the town's investment. The State has the engineers and DOT on their side, and multiple entities are involved in the bond. Mr. Bartlett would ensure the Town's interests specifically are protected. Mr. Taylor said, "it would be better to pay for it outright rather than finance it."

Mr. Clark asked why workman's comp is down. Mr. Smith explained that the Town got a recent estimate from Primex, the Town's insurance carrier. An analysis of each Department was done and it was determined the budget was underestimated, so adjustments needed to be made to individual departments.

### *Recycling and Solid Waste*

Mr. MacLean said the goal of Recycling was maintaining and promoting a healthy environment by safely and efficiently receiving and processing over 2,000 tons of waste annually, of which over 70% is recycled.

Recycling Center Manager Scott Bradford introduced himself and said the department has three full-time employees (himself included) and two part-time employees. He said "we want to get the most money possible for the product" and in 20 years he's never had a load of recyclables rejected. He said they also work to keep

everybody up-to-date on what's recyclable, what's not, and why. He noted the help from the Highway and Fire Department saves the Recycling Center a lot of money.

Mr. MacLean said, "Scott's a good yankee, too."

Mr. Patten said he's always impressed with the condition of the Center every time he visits. Mr. MacLean said the Recycling Center is the recipient of many compliments. He said Mr. Bradford is very good at managing the money he has to run the facility and consistently comes in under budget.

Mr. MacLean noted revenues are down because the recycling market has been going down.

Mr. Bradford said before the 2009 recession, "we were making money hand over fist" but that changed after the recession, and a lot of towns aren't recycling anymore because they aren't making money from it. Mr. Bradford said China took everything for years, and now they aren't taking mixed paper, so the domestic markets are flooded. The Town is still making money from recycling, except from mixed paper - it used to go for \$60-\$80 a ton, and now it's costing us \$80 a ton. Chair Patten said that rate is still cheaper than what it would cost us if it just went into a dumpster, and Mr. Bradford confirmed.

Ms. Hatcher asked Mr. Bradford if he was participating in any associations that are taking about the larger trends in Recycling. Mr. Bradford said he was, mostly through Casella, from which he receives frequent updates.

Ms. Hatcher said we should be looking forward to what innovation may be coming. Mr. Bradford agreed, and said he has a great idea, but it would be expensive upfront cost: a plastic-to-oil converter. The converter takes *all* plastic, even plastic that can't be recycled, and converts it back into crude oil, or heating oil. Ms. Hatcher noted investors would be needed, and Mr. Bradford added that a lot of permitting would be required as well. Mr. Hanson asked if a project like that could be done regionally, and Mr. Bradford said yes, that would be better than doing it locally, but he didn't know what the turnaround on the payback would be. Ms. Hatcher said "there's no innovation happening at the beginning of the chain," and the responsibility falls on us, the end user, to figure out what to do with single-use plastics. Mr. Bradford agreed, and said it should be happening "from the bottom up."

Mr. MacLean noted the budget has a 1.7% increase, mostly driven by merit increases, overtime, call-in, and other HR expenses.

Mr. Clark asked how the new scale at the Recycling Center was working. Mr. Bradford said it was working great. The group joked about using the scale to weigh vehicles to determine if they were safe to use the Main Street Bridge.

Chair Ward reminded everyone to get their new stickers for the Recycling Center. He then asked what happens to the 'Pay as You Throw' (PAYT) bags. Mr. Bradford said they either go to landfill or to the incinerator in Penacook, if they need fuel.

Mr. Bradford said he's done research about the tag system versus the bag system, and the tag system poses some difficult challenges and has some significant inefficiencies.

Ms. Hatcher asked if biodegradable bags were an option. Mr. Bradford explained that, unfortunately, regardless of material, "nothing degrades in a landfill." He also said that 'biodegradable' is very broad term, and things labeled 'compostable' are typically only compostable in very specific conditions.

#### *Building and Grounds, Streetlights, Parks, and Cemeteries*

Mr. MacLean said that Buildings and Grounds is responsible for keeping "Our Town" beautiful and clean by maintaining and cleaning the Town House, Police Station, Library, and Cemeteries and Parks, and other projects that involve general maintenance, painting, landscaping, mowing, etc.

- Thirty-seven (37) acres of town-owned land, parks, and cemetery lawns to mow and maintain
- Supports winter operations

- Coordinates all aspects of Town street lighting

Buildings and Grounds has two full-time employees, and three part-time/seasonal laborers. Superintendent Mr. Dave Croumie said that our custodian is also a Master Electrician, so he can often take care of electrical work in-house.

Mr. MacLean noted that Mr. Croumie handles the difficult Mountain Road plow route, and may be called to handle a variety of tasks across town in a single day.

Mr. MacLean noted the 11.83% jump, as streetlights have been consolidated into the Buildings and Grounds budget. "Otherwise, it's level funded, year-over-year."

The Parks budget is down 2.82%, due to reallocation of salary expenses after year one of the Recreation/Buildings and Grounds seasonal employee consolidation.

Cemetery is down 17.92%, also due to the reallocation of salary expenses.

Mr. MacLean said both the Rec Department and the Building and Grounds had a lot of seasonal employees, and, after discussions of last year, efforts were made to consolidate. It required more cooperation and coordination between the departments, but overall it went well and resulted in savings because they didn't need to hire as many seasonal staff.

Ms. Hatcher said she didn't know there were only two full-time people in Buildings & Grounds, and she is always impressed by how everything looks – "It's a lot to take care of, and it looks so good." She asked if the Buildings & Grounds staff coordinates with the Parks Committee. Mr. MacLean confirmed, and said the Parks Committee does an "outstanding job," and does it all on a shoestring budget.

Mr. Hanson asked, if there are issues with streetlights, is Mr. MacLean the one to call? Mr. MacLean said the Town cooperates with Eversource to take care of lights, and he encouraged residents to call Administration to report streetlight outages or issues. Mr. Croumie said the change to LED's saves the Town almost \$2,000 a month in streetlight energy costs.

#### *Overview of FY20/21 Project Priorities*

- Main St. Bridge and US 202 Retaining Wall
- Town House Rehabilitation Project Completion
  - Nearing the end of that project – roof and floors are completed, painting and brickwork are in process now. There will be more brickwork completed in the spring and the bathrooms will also be fixed.
- Overseer's Row Improvements / Union St. WPTIF Improvements
  - Drainage issues need to be addressed, but will be offset by TIF funding. Plan development is being done now.
- Cheney Ave. Lift Station
  - Cheney Ave Lift Station needs significant repairs. Estimate for repair at CIP was \$730,000, "which caused us to tap the breaks."
- EPA Discharge Permit
  - New requirements relating to lead for water we're discharging from the facility, which has very restrictive limits, so there will be a lot of work needed to make sure those requirements are led.
- Lagoon Closure
  - Draft RFQ for lagoon closure process will be happening soon. System upgrades and process improvements at the WWTP. Glass at the Recycling Center will be used for the clean fill for the lagoons.
- WWTF Dewatering/Sludge and Related System Upgrades
- Pavement Management Program (year 3)

- Will be a very large priority this spring.
- DPW Garage Rehabilitation
  - DPW is working on cleaning the garage and moving things out. Mr. Bartlett has been working on draft language, and soon we will be selecting a construction firm and are hoping for construction beginning late spring/early summer.
- Continued LED Lighting Conversion
  - Goal is to continue conversion in Town buildings and property. We have cut electricity usage by half by switching the streetlights to LEDs, and would like to see if we can take advantage of some of the Eversource rebates available.
- Continued Asset Management Development
  - GIS has been valuable for asset management. Most recent iteration has been Road Program integration with GIS, which would enable us to make educated decisions about treatment options and pavement priorities should be. The plan is to apply that management to buildings and related infrastructure, water & sewer system, and stormwater system.

Mr. Bradford said PAYT is up 11.83% due to the landfill getting full-to-capacity about seven years sooner than expected. The landfill is leased by Bethlehem to Casella, and our contract is up in October of 2020. The cost is anticipated to go up \$10-\$15 per ton.

Ms. Sliver asked if we know where we going to go next for Landfill. Mr. Bradford said they're starting to haul to upstate New York, but Casella is looking in other towns in the state. So far they've been turned down.

Ms. Hatcher asked is our volume for PAYT is up. Mr. Bradford said it's been very consistent. The Town averages 545 tons a year, over the past 15 years. Before the PAYT Program, it was about 1,200 tons a year. Currently we average about 65% recycled every month.

Ms. Hatcher said "we may not have been talking about this enough" in recent years, and there might be opportunity to educate new residents about our recycling goals.

Mr. Taylor said there should be a spotlight on the Recycling Center that could be in the newspaper and shared across social media.

Ms. Sliver said people should be educated on bringing less into their homes that can't be recycled.

Mr. Patten said Peterborough has one of the highest rates of recycling in the State. Mr. Bradford confirmed.

Going back to the EDA Discharge Permit, Mr. Clark asked what the source of lead in the water was. Mr. Brown replied that pipes, solder, and lead joints in the water mains are all sources of lead.

Mr. Taylor said it was important to mention that, regarding allowed lead levels, "it's more restrictive going into the river than it is going to your faucet."

Mr. MacLean said the 10% increase in Landfill Monitoring Enterprise Fund is due to price increase in the coming year for our contractor GeoInsight.

#### FY21 CIP & Warrant Article Requests

- Highway
  - \$390,000 for Replacement of Snowblower
  - \$400,000 to capital reserve for third year of Roadway Management Program
  - \$20,000 for Sidewalk Improvements
    - Previously offset from Downtown TIF, now we're moving outside of that and reviewing improvements needed in other area of town.
  - \$20,000 for Stormwater Separation
    - There was a need for better understanding of stormwater pipes, which notoriously get installed where needed and necessarily tracked very well.
  - \$270,000 for Fly Pond Dam and Summer St. Stabilization Project

- o \$10,000 to Winter Operations Expendable Trust

Regarding the Fly Pond Dam & Summer Street Stabilization, the dam is privately owned, but connected to a public roadway. Mr. MacLean said it expected it to be \$150,000, and bids came back at ~ \$270,000. Chief Walker worked with FEMA to find a Hazard Mitigation grant (which are federal funds administered through the State) to fund 75% of that project.

Chief Walker said we should know by the end of this month if we will receive the grant, but the grant application was received very favorably as the Town has already done all the preliminary work. If everything goes favorably, we'll be receiving approvals to go through with the work around this time next year. If the grant comes through, the landowner will share the remaining costs with the Town.

Chair Patten asked if Fly Pond has any effect on the water table for the Summer Street Well.

Mr. Bartlett said no, it's a relatively shallow pond.

Mr. Clark asked for confirmation that this wouldn't be going ahead while the bridge is down.

Chief Walker said, "as luck would have it," the performance period for the grant goes beyond when the work on the Bridge is projected to be done, as do the dam and wetlands permit, so it would not start until after the Bridge was done.

#### *Snowblower Replacement*

Mr. MacLean said costs are very expensive to maintain the current snowblower, which breaks down consistently, and the last repair bill was around \$5,000.

Mr. Rose explained that, because it was produced in 1987, parts supply for this machine can no longer be found, so parts must be made-to-order as they are needed.

Mr. MacLean said the proposal is for a front-end loaded snowblower.

Proposing \$390,000 for the attachment and a new loader. We have a loader currently, which we would keep, and could be used in conjunction with the new one for snow removal operations.

Mr. Rose said the front-loaded snowblower is almost 10,000 pounds, and our current loader cannot support that, hence the need for a new, bigger loader. He said current snow removal takes about "7-8 hours with ten trucks, and we don't want to make that harder on ourselves."

Larue is the manufacturer for the loader-mounted snowblower that's being looked at, but they are hard to come by – the nearest seller for Larue is in Maine. The other option is an RPM Tech 220, which has similar capability to what we have now (3000 tons an hour). Mr. Rose said they went up to Concord to look at their machine, and "Concord loves it," and it's a lot quieter, and operation is a lot more user-friendly; "It's a long way from 1987."

Mr. MacLean said \$390,000 is the high end, and as they hone the estimate, if at all possible they will come in with a lower estimate.

Mr. Ward if the old machine was worth anything at municipal auction. Mr. Rose said it's worth its scrap value.

Mr. MacLean said it costs about \$15,000-\$17,000 every time we pick up snow, and it's a 10-hour pick-up operation. In the absence of a snow blower, the snow would have to be loaded manually, and would be roughly \$45,000 per pick-up.

Mr. Parkhurst said the loader could be used year-round, which is much more cost effective than buying a snow blower. Mr. Rose agreed.

Mr. Taylor asked how long it would take to change the attachment on the loader. Mr. Rose said it's all done via Bluetooth, so it's very fast.

Mr. Clark asked if they had looked at the maintenance record for Concord. He was concerned it might be too lightweight, and said they may want to go up a size. Mr. Rose said they have a model 217, and the 220 model

is a step above that. Every loader that's been looked at has been rated for 15,000 or 16,000-pound pick up, so the 10,000-pound attachment would be very manageable.

Mr. Parkhurst asked for confirmation that the \$390,000 was both for the loader and the snowblower attachment, and Mr. MacLean confirmed.

Chair Ward asked if the plan was to bond it, or could we dip into the unanticipated funds. Mr. Smith said \$170,000 would come out of the Capital Reserve and the remainder would be taken out...So there would be no bonds, no leases.

#### *Roadway Management Plan*

Mr. MacLean explained that the Roadway Management Plan was the practice of planning for pavement maintenance and rehabilitation with the goal of maximizing the value and life of a pavement network. The Town roads were assessed and given a conditional index rating (1-100). The average rating was 70.54. "The goal is to make the right repair at the right time to save money." It was brought to Town Meeting, and the Town is currently in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of funding for ten-year program to catch up, and the work done in the last couple years has brought the rating up almost five points. Mr. MacLean said the funds have enabled them to do far more for the roads than they would have otherwise.

Mr. Hanson said he thought it was one of the best things that's been done.

Mr. Mabbs-Zeno asked what the final goal for the road rating is. Mr. MacLean said the goal is for a rating of 80-83, but "we're trending above that" currently.

Chair Ward said he appreciates Mr. MacLean's response time and customer service.

As the time was approaching 8:00 PM, Mr. Bartlett recommended tabling the IT, GIS and PEG Budget to next meeting. The Budget Committee and Select Board agreed with the recommendation.

Mr. Hanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM. Mr. Mabbs-Zeno seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Alison Kreutz, Department Assistant

PETERBOROUGH  
SELECT BOARD:



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Tyler Ward



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Karen Hatcher



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Bill Taylor

**ACTION ITEM PENDING LIST**

1.

