

To: Selectboard
From: Charles Safford, Town Manger
Date: November 20, 2009
Re: Capital Budget & Program



Capital Budget: As directed by the Selectboard, the capital budget includes approximately the same amount of tax money in FY'11 as FY'10. In FY'10, the total was \$656,210 and FY'11 the total is \$706,210 (\$110,992 in property taxes and \$545,218 in projected local option taxes). It also includes \$50,000 from the Winter Fund as revenue towards the proposed Quiet Path Bridge Project.

The projects proposed for FY'11 are as follows:

Helen Day Renovations Phase 3 (\$325,000) – This is the final phase of the building renovations. Its major elements include fixing the rotting porch roof / columns and replacing the HVAC system.

Adams Camp Trails (\$10,000) – \$10,000 was approved at the 2009 Annual Meeting for an Adams Camp Trails Master Plan, which has been completed. The focus of that study was the development of a mountain bike trail system on the Adams Camp Parcel that would be integrated into a larger ride center with adjoining properties. This money is to hire the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps to begin to implement the plan by constructing the trail system. The money can either stand alone or be used as a grant match for this purpose.

Miller Brook Bridge (\$15,000) – The Miller Brook Bridge is scheduled to be replaced in 2010 (although the project may be delayed due to right-of-way issues for transmission lines on ANR property). The Town is responsible for a 10% match ($\$1,213,000 \times 10\% = \$121,300$). The Town has spent \$15,000 to date, has \$91,000 set aside and needs an additional \$15,000.

Pave Cape Cod Road from Sinclair Drive To Weeks Hill Road (\$116,000) and Mayo Farm Road (\$88,000). On the Mayo Farm Road we are proposing to widen the road approximately 3 inches on each side to help accommodate safe bike travel. This is what the existing sub-base will allow.

Quiet Path Bridge (\$70,000) – Pedestrians currently have to walk on the Weeks Hill Road to continue on the Quiet Path. The bridge will allow pedestrians to cross on a bridge avoiding conflict with motorist. \$50,000 of this money is to come from the Winter Fund that was bequeathed to the Town for improvements to the Recreation Path or Quiet Path.

Rink Lobby Roof Repair (\$20,000) – The roof is leaking and the sheathing is rotten. The Parks staff has to get onto the roof and to shovel it and it is becoming a safety problem. It

is not likely a new rink is going to be built in the immediate future and we need to keep the building operational.

Gale Center Roof Repair (\$20,000) – The roof has a history of leaking. Earlier this year, the water infiltration from the roof caused damage to the interior of the building (e.g. sheetrock, carpeting) that disrupted operations.

Rec. Path Lighting from Rusty Nail to Cape Cod Road (\$40,000) – The Town Plan recognizes this as the sidewalk connector link between the newly constructed Mountain Road Sidewalk and the proposed Mountain Road Village Sidewalk. It also supports the lighting of this section.

Capital Program: In addition to the one year proposed capital budget, we have also developed a six year capital program for your consideration. The program includes all capital requests other than those associated with Memorial Park and a citizen request to pave Weeks Hill Road between Wade Pasture Road and Edson Hill Road.

The capital program includes \$20,000 to replace the rink lobby roof, \$20,000 to replace the Gale Rec Center Roof and \$40,000 to replace the rink hot water system to keep the existing buildings operational. No money has been budgeted for other work until we see the completion of the Memorial Park Master Plan.

Depot Street Sidewalk Replacement is not budgeted until FY'14. However, due to the number of missing pavers it is no longer feasible to continue replacing them. Unless staff moves up this project in the Capital Program, staff intends to pave over this section of sidewalk next year. It will be interesting to see if the community will accept a paved surface in the Village Center other than Main Street.

There was general agreement on the capital budget and program, except some members felt strongly that the Main Street Power Line Transfer Study should have been included in FY'11 instead of FY'12. However, I am not prepared to recommend a \$50,000 study because the Selectboard has yet to discuss this and agree to this direction. Also, it is not likely there will be funding available in the immediate future for implementation.

Paving: The Selectboard asked to give consideration to “incorporating a line item for annual highway paving in the general fund highway operating budget rather than in the capital budget and program.” For your reference, I have attached a memo I wrote to the Capital Advisory Committee regarding this topic outlining the pros and cons of doing this. I don't recommend doing it this year because of the Selectboard's directive not to increase the tax rate. Moving paving (\$200,000+/-) from the capital budget to the operating budget would increase taxes, unless you lowered capital spending or proportionally decreased other operating expenditures. In future years if there is tax capacity this should be given further consideration.

Reserve Fund: The Selectboard asked to give consideration to using a General Fund capital reserve fund as a method of financing the capital program. A reserve fund is a dedicated fund approved by the voters that is under the direction and control of the legislative body of the municipality. The Equipment Reserve Fund is an example of a reserve fund. For your reference, I have attached a memo to the Capital Advisory Committee outlining the pros and cons of formally establishing a reserve fund. A reserve fund is desirable from a management perspective due to the reasons outlined in the memo; however, the majority of the Capital Advisory Committee did not think the community was ready to give up voting on capital projects. I concur with their assessment.

**Town of Stowe
Draft 5 Year Capital Plan**

Project Expenditures	FY'11	FY'12	FY'13	FY'14	FY'15	FY'16
Adams Camp Trails	\$ 10,000					
Akeley Building Cupola	\$ 250,000					
Miller Brook Bridge	\$ 15,000					
Pave Cape Cod Rd - Sinclair Dr to Weeks Hill Rd	\$ 116,000					
Pave Mayo Farm Road	\$ 88,000					
Quiet Path Bridge	\$ 70,000					
Rink Lobby Roof Repair	\$ 18,000					
Gale Center Roof Repair	\$ 18,000					
Helen Day Porch Rennovations	\$ 80,000					
Rec Path Lighting (Rusty Nail to Cape Cod Rd Design/Construction)	\$ 40,000					
Jaws of Life		\$ 40,000				
Helen Day Rennovations Phase 3		\$ 250,000				
Pave Weeks Hill - Rte 108 to Mayo Farm		\$ 33,000				
Pave Stowe Hollow - Covered Br to Dewey Hill		\$ 65,000				
Pave Stowe Hollow - Upper Hollow Rd to Covered Bridge		\$ 80,500				
Rink Hot Water System		\$ 40,000				
Stafford Parking Lot & Lighting		\$ 26,000				
Pond Street Sidewalks - Depot St to Park St, replace existing		\$ 50,000				
Main Street Power Line Design & ROW		\$ 70,000				
Main Street Sidewalk - North Side (Rte 108 to Hardware Store)			\$ 416,000			
Pave West Hill - Mayo Farm to Rte 100			\$ 84,000			
Pave Brush Hill Rd			\$ 60,000			
Pave South Main St - Rte 108 to Palisades Ln			\$ 40,000			
Mountain Road Village Sidewalk Design			\$ 50,000			
Main Street Sidewalk - South Side				\$ 360,000		
Pave Edson Hill Rd - Rte 108 to Peterson Brook				\$ 80,000		
Pave Pike St				\$ 17,000		
Pave Pond Street				\$ 28,000		
Pave Bridge St				\$ 19,000		
Pave Dump Rd				\$ 15,000		
Pave Lower Sanborn Rd				\$ 25,000		
Pave Moscow Rd - River Rd to 619 Moscow Rd				\$ 40,000		
Pave Section of Rec Path (Beginning to Weeks Hill Rd)				\$ 36,500		
Mountain Road Village Sidewalk Construction					\$ 285,000	
Pave School St - Rte 100 to Pleasant St					\$ 25,000	
Pave Sunset St - Pleasant St to End					\$ 15,000	
Pave Thomas Ln - Rte 100 to Depot St					\$ 30,000	
Pave Worcester Rd					\$ 5,000	
Pave Depot St - Thomas Ln to Pond St					\$ 65,000	
Weeks Hill Sidewalk Extension					\$ 13,000	\$ 30,000
School Street Sidewalk Extension						\$ 175,000
Pave Stowe Hollow Rd (#3190 - #3523)						\$ 160,000
Pave Pleasant St						\$ 45,000
Total Expenditures	\$ 705,000	\$ 654,500	\$ 650,000	\$ 620,500	\$ 438,000	\$ 410,000
Project Revenues						
Quiet Path Bridge Winter Fund (Quite Path Bridge)	\$ 50,000					
Property Taxes	\$ 110,992	\$ 110,992	\$ 110,992	\$ 110,992	\$ 110,992	\$ 110,992
Local Option Taxes	\$ 545,218	\$ 545,218	\$ 545,218	\$ 545,218	\$ 545,218	\$ 545,218
Total Revenues	\$ 706,210	\$ 656,210	\$ 656,210	\$ 656,210	\$ 656,210	\$ 656,210
Revenues Less Expenditures	\$ 1,210	\$ 1,710	\$ 6,210	\$ 35,710	\$ 218,210	\$ 246,210