

**Finance Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 1, 2024, 5:15 pm
Bellingham Municipal Center
Arcand Meeting Room**

Finance Committee Members Present: J. Allam (Chairman), J. Collamati (Vice-Chairman), K. Keppler, J. Kuzmeskas, J. McCarthy, B. Boyd

Finance Committee Members Absent: All members present

Meeting Commenced: J. Allam called the meeting to order at 5:24 pm.

K. Keppler made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2024, Finance Committee Meeting, as submitted. J. Kuzmeskas seconded. Approved 5/0.

Public Hearing – Chief Miller and Captain Provost were present at tonight’s meeting to discuss the Capital Requests, as listed:

This request is to replace the 1995 E-1 Pumper that is in poor condition, with a new Pierce Pumper, in the amount of \$1,100,000 from Borrowing. The current industry standard for First Line pumper replacement is a 15-year service life. The NFPA sets the criteria for fire apparatus in order to maximize firefighter capabilities and minimize the risk of injury.

Photos of the 1995 Pumper were shared with Committee members to show the current conditions and issues that the truck is currently experiencing.

K. Keppler made a motion to recommend \$1.1 Million from Borrowing for the purchase of a new Pierce Pumper Truck. J. Kuzmeskas seconded. Recommended 6/0.

Chief Miller provided information on the request for a mini-split system to be installed in dorms and living quarters at Fire Headquarters. This system would replace the existing failed heating and cooling system. The old systems required use of temporary portable units to supplement temperature in dorms and dayrooms when in use.

The new system would have one unit installed for dorms and the second unit installed for the dayroom/kitchen area.

J. Collamati made a motion to recommend \$23,247 from Free Cash for the purchase and installation of a mini-split system at Fire headquarters. K. Keppler seconded. Recommended 6/0.

Public Hearing – Chief Fitzgerald and Lt. Russell were present to discuss a Capital Request for the purchase of 2 police vehicles, as listed:

The Police Department is requesting the purchase of 2 new police vehicles that would replace a 2016 and 2017 that are currently on the fleet and have over 110,000 miles each. The older vehicles can be traded or given to another department if requested.

The 2 new vehicles being requested are 2025 V-6 Ford Explorers with gas engines. Some of the equipment will be transferred from the old vehicles to the new ones, except for the computers which will need replacement devices installed in each of the 2 new vehicles. The vehicles being purchased would be provided to the Department in approximately 6 months from the date they are ordered.

K. Keppler made a motion to recommend \$142,000 from Free Cash, for the purchase of 2 new police vehicles as presented. Seconded by B. Boyd. Recommended 6/0.

New Business, Emails, Correspondence, Bills:

The next Finance Committee Meeting will take place on Monday, April 8, 2024.

J. Kuzmeskas made a motion to adjourn at 5:58 pm. Seconded by B. Boyd. Recommended 6/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina M. Griffin
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