

# ***CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE***

## ***Lunenburg, Massachusetts***

**Marion M. Benson, Chair**  
**Carl Sund, Mbr.**  
**Michael Mackin, Mbr.**  
**Colleen Shapiro, Mbr.**  
**Elaine Murphy, Mbr.**



**17 Main Street**  
**P.O. Box 135**  
**Lunenburg, MA 01462**

Minutes  
November 4, 2010

Meeting Posted: Yes  
Place: Ritter Memorial Building, 960 Massachusetts Avenue  
Time: 10:00 AM

Present: Marion M. Benson, Chair, Ernie Sund, Michael Mackin, Colleen Shapiro (arrived 10:35), Elaine Murphy, Kerry Speidel (arrived 10:35)

General Discussion: Chair reviewed the previous meeting concerning the police cruisers' schedule for this year.

Appointment - Fire Department: Presenting were Chief Glenny and Ken Jones. Request is for re-outfit engine 2, build body and skid unit for forestry truck. The intended use is fighting brush and wild fires. Also used for service calls such as downed wires and basement pump outs. A trailer hitch will be outfitted. The vehicle is a 1988 body. The intent is to remove the present body and outfit the vehicle with a lighter body. They also intend to remove present pump and tank. The cab and chassis would be used, and when they need replacing, they could remove the flatbed and skid unit and place on a new cab and chassis. This procedure is cost effective and efficient; allowing more uses. The Department would attempt to sell or trade the present body and skid unit. Questions were asked concerning future replacement, cost saving, and efficiency. Cost - \$50,000.00. New truck - \$150,000.00.

Fire Department request was also for vehicle mounted radios for the DPW and Portables for the Police Dept. Explained was these radios are needed for communications in both departments. The purchase of these radios will complete the Town-wide radio projects. Funding of these radios will eliminate the need for a \$2,000.00 request in FY15. DPW will receive 10 radios. Presently they do not have any at all and communication in emergencies is difficult. Approximately 20 units are needed for the Police Department. Older radios on the UHF frequency will be utilized as a Town-wide system. The Chief explained the new microwave system, which promotes low maintenance. He also explained, in depth, the regional dispatch process. He is looking at Rutland and described the present operation at that site. In response to a question, he explained the Town would still be responsible for inter-town communication using the same equipment. Other areas noted were Worcester and Devens.

Appointment- Police Department: Chief Bourgeois addressed the Committee regarding the future needs and tools to best serve the community and protect the officers. He spoke about on-board cameras, Tasers, license plate recognition systems and GPS systems.

First request discussed was for 14 bulletproof vests. There are 28 officers that need these replacement vests. The 14 vests noted are half of the need. The other 14 come from a grant and this request is the matching fund for the replacement grant expiring September 30, 2012. The vests have a lifespan of four to five years and are labeled Level 2, Threat Level A. Cost is 9,800.00.

Second request related to the purchase of patrol cars. The request is for three Crown Victoria Police Interceptors. In a memo dated August 24, 2010 the Chief described the situation with Police packages. Mainly, Ford Motor Company plans to discontinue the production of the Crown Victoria Police Interceptor by August 2011. There are new police packages that will be offered, but some of them will not be available until 2012 and some of the designs do not fulfill the needs of the department, such as a model with a front wheel drive. After careful research, the Department is requesting the purchase of three Crown Vics. One important reason is the cruiser package is set up by Lieutenant Marino and the Town has a large inventory of parts.

The request to purchase is being placed on the Town Warrant for the Fall Town Meeting on November 30, 2010. Police Departments that fail to place an order by March 2011 will not be able to purchase the Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptors. The major concern is that if these cars are not purchased, then the Police Fleet pursuit rated vehicles will not be made available for at least two years.

The purchase of the three vehicles will bring the department into 2013. They will replace the three vehicles over 100,000 miles. The cost will be \$105,000.00 including the retro-fitting.

Discussion continued with Chief Bourgeois and Lieutenant Marino answering all questions, including that there would be no request of vehicle until 2013 Annual Town Meeting.

Following Chief Bourgeois' and Lieutenant Marino's departure, the Committee chose to discuss the merits of the request. Motion was made by Ernie Sund, Seconded by Elaine Murphy, recommending support by the Committee to purchase three Crown Victoria Police Interceptor vehicles at the Fall Town Meeting at the cost of \$105,000.00 including retro-fitting.

Next Meeting will be November 18, 2010, 10:00 AM, Ritter Memorial Building, Planning Board meeting room.

The School Department will be invited to present.

Adjournment 12:35 PM. Motion, Elaine Murphy, Second, Ernie Sund. Motion passed.