

Justin Paré, President
John Simmons, Vice President
Daniel Donovan
Mark Gould, Jr.
Darius Gregory



Kathleen Prescott
Patrick Reynolds
Andrew Shanahan
Andrea Slobogan

Town of North Attleborough

TOWN COUNCIL

43 South Washington Street, North Attleborough, MA 02760

Phone: (508) 699-0100

6/7/2023 - Minutes

I. Pledge Of Allegiance

President Paré called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and lead the Council and the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present:

Justin Paré

John Simmons

Andy Shanahan

Daniel Donovan

Darius Gregory arrived at 7:10PM
Kathleen Prescott

Andrea Slobogan

Members Absent:

Mark Gould

Patrick Reynolds

Staff Present:

Town Manager Mike Borg

Assistant Town Manager Antonio Morabito

Clerk of the Council Kerrin Billinghoff

Town Accountant Linda Catanzariti

Assistant Town Accountant Tammy Baillargeon

Tax Collector/Treasurer Chris Sweet

Invited Guests:

Alex Citrone Girl Scout

Residents Present:

Dick Keltika, North Attleboro Resident

Documents Reviewed:

- Town Council Minutes from the May 22, 2023, Meeting
- Town Manager's Report June 7, 2023
- FY24 Public Hearing Budget Presentation
- Measure 2023-010-Procedure for Naming and Memorializing Bridges Streets, & other **Public Areas in the Town of North Attleborough**
- Measure 2023-086- Confirmation of Appointment of Special Police Officers
- Measure 2023-082- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$250,000.00 to support Mason Filed Pickleball Courts
- Measure 2023-083- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$200,000.00 to support Safety & Security
- Measure 2023-084- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$479,838.00 for CIP Stabilization
- Measure 2023-085- Re-Appropriation of Police Cruiser Capital Funds for Purchase of Police Motorcycles
- Handout from Dick Keltika

II. Approval Of Minutes

- a. Approval of Town Council Minutes of May 22, 2023

Approval of Town Council Minutes of May 22, 2023.

Vice-President Simmons moved to approve the Town Council Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2023.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

III. Town Councilor Community Announcements

1. Condolences go out to John Hallus's Family. He passed away earlier in the week. John was a member of the YMCA Staff and will be greatly missed.
2. There are many openings on the Town Council Sub-Committees, residents are encouraged to apply! You can reach out to JPARE@NATTLEBORO.COM.
3. Congratulations to the NAHS Graduates!
4. Petti Filed Day was on Sunday, June 4, 2023 and over \$8,000.00 was raised for the fields there. It was a great success. We can now all be proud of our fields as a Town.

IV. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Michael Borg gave an overview of the Town Manager Report. Items he reviewed included:

- Emergency Management -Updates
- Communications-Updates
- Operations-Updates
- Budget-Updates
- Personnel-Updates

V. Resident And Community Comment

- Dick Keltika was in attendance and addressed the Town Council to let them know his opposition to the FY24 Budget He presented the Town Manager and the Town Council with a handout addressing his concerns.

VI. Confirmations

- a. Measure 2023-086- Confirmation of Appointment of Special Police Officers

Measure 2023-086- Confirmation of Appointment of Special Police Officers

To confirm appointments made by the Town Manager of Special Police Officers. The following Special Police Officers will begin their term on June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024.

The following "Active" individuals are either retirees of NAPD or the MA State Police or have completed a 345-hour Basic Reserve Police Academy located at the South Suburban Police Institute in Foxboro. Each Special Police Officer has been trained in CPR and has been qualified in the use of their baton, mace, and firearms by the North Attleboro Police Department Firearms Instructors.

Therefore, please confirm the appointments of the following with all of their terms to expire on May 31, 2024:

ACTIVE: Daniel Arrighi, Gary Burns, Christopher Ciccio, David Cullen, David Dawes, Denis Donovan, Kevin Lacasse, Paul Lalancette, Thomas McCafferty, Charles Nicholas, and Richard Rogers.

SUPPORTIVE: Parking Clerk - Kerrin Billinghoff; Animal Control - Felicia Camara; Conservation Agent - Shannon Palmer; Matron - Kathy McGown & Laurel Beaulieu; NAFD - Chief Coleman; Police Chaplin - Father David Costa

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2023-086- Confirmation of Appointment of Special Police Officers as listed on the measure presented.

Councilor Prescott second the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

a. FY2024 Town Annual Budget

FY2024 Town Annual Budget

Vice-President Simmons read the Legal Ad into the Record:

TOWN OF NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH

TOWN COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING

LEGAL NOTICE

JUNE 7, 2023

Councilor Prescott	Yes
President Pare'	Yes
Vice-President Simmons	Yes
Councilor Shanahan	Yes
Councilor Slobogan	Yes

Motion carried 7-0.

Town Manager Borg gave an overview of the FY4 Budget and reviewed the FY24 Budget

FY24 Public Hearing Budget Presentation:

- Budget Knows and unknowns
- Budget Objectives
- Estimated Revenues
- Fund Balances
- Grants and Earmarks
- Leading Revenue Indicators
- Expense Trends and Observations
- CIP Summary
- Budget Summary

Resident Dick Keltika was in attendance to address the Town Council. He expressed his opinion regarding the FY24 Budget and presented the Council members with a handout. Mr. Keltika requested that a Special Public Hearing be held for the Public who were in opposition to the presented budget.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote was taken:

Councilor Donovan	Yes
Councilor Gregory	Yes
Councilor Prescott	Yes
President Pare'	Yes
Vice-President Simmons	Yes
Councilor Shanahan	Yes
Councilor Slobogan	Yes

Motion carried 7-0.

Public Hearing is now closed.

VIII. Sub-Committee Reports

a. Finance

i. Free Cash Strategy Proposal

Free Cash Strategy Proposal

Vice-President Simmons gave an overview from the May 24, 2023 Finance Sub-Committee Meeting.

- Roosevelt School Playground (Free Cash FY24)
 - Estimated that there will be \$150,000.00 left over from the funds that were allocated to the Amvet Playground. Funds could be reallocated to Roosevelt Playground.
 - State Representative Scanlon discussed earmarking \$100,000.00 to Roosevelt Playground, to be confirmed in October/November of 2023.
 - We do not have all of the funds in our possession at this point, so would be beneficial to see what we exactly have and exactly what we need before the project could begin. Waiting would be beneficial.
 - Discussion amongst Committee of time frame for this.
 - Councilor Gould suggested doing this playground this summer, before school begins. He stated that the best time is to do it now.
 - There was discussion amongst Committee, and they felt waiting until all cash was in hand, would be best.

- Capital Stabilization in the amount of \$479,838.00
- Special Education- Capital Stabilization
 - This would be capped at a certain amount per the State.
 - No amount being requested.
 - Discussion amongst Town Manager and the Committee.

- Tax Relief for the Residents in the amount of \$300,000.00
 - Would be an average savings of \$50.00 per year per family per the Town Assessor.
 - Councilor Gould came up with a different number.
 - Savings would be based on property value that is being taxed.

- OPEB
 - Councilor Simmons would like to write a policy/practice and bring this forward to the Town Council.

- North T.V. Proposal, allocating \$60,000.00 to open paywall to Government Channel to offer it at no cost for a year to North Attleboro residents.
- Mason Filed Pickleball Courts in the amount of \$250,000.00.
- Safety and Security in the amount of \$200,000.00.
- High School Softball Field Scoreboard
- Petti Field Scoreboard and lights.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer back to the Full Town Council for further description and discussion the Free Cash Strategy Proposal.

Motion carried 6-0.

b. Economic Growth & Sustainability

Councilor Gregory reported that the Committee met on Measure 2023-009-Allocation of \$100,000.00 of ARPA Funding for the Formation of the North Attleborough Business Initiative and Town Manager Board presented a revised initiative. He will report back to the Full Town Council after they meet again on June 8, 2023 before the Finance Sub-Committee Meeting.

c. By-Law

i. SECOND READING, DISCUSSION and VOTE:

1. Measure 2023-010- Procedure for Naming and Memorializing Bridges, Streets, and other Public Areas in Town

Measure 2023-010-Procedure for Naming and Memorializing Bridges Streets, & other Public Areas in the Town of North Attleborough

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to waive the reading of the By-Laws in its entirety. **Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.**

Motion carried 7-0.

Vice-President Simmons read the measure into the record.

The purpose of this measure is to consider creating a bylaw that would establish the process and procedures by which a street, bridge, or other public area can be memorialized or dedicated by the Town through the Town Council. The intent of this bylaw is not to replace the process or procedure that exists in the Planning Board for subdivision street naming.

This bylaw would include the following:

1. Process by which an individual or entity can submit to the Town a street, bridge, or other public place a recommendation for memorialization or dedication.

2. Identification and notification of abutters must be identified for any road, street, way, or bridge.

3. The submitted recommendation would include a first choice name and a second choice name.

4. Recommended names and name changes must be submitted to Fire Department for written approval of the names chosen and their sign-off on the form.

5. Requesting party must contact all abutters to get their concurrence. **Acceptance by a two-thirds majority of the abutters, as identified by the Assessor's Office, would be needed to proceed with the name change.**

6. **Determination of the appropriate fee involved with this request. Included in any dedication or name change is the cost of signage and installation related to such signage.**

7. Requesting party would submit the completed abutter sign-off forms, the name

change form, and a certified list of abutters to the Town Council for consideration at time of the Town Council's choosing. The Town Council would schedule a public hearing for the requested name change and notify the applicant and the abutters.

8. Hold a public hearing on the proposed memorialization and/or road name change.

9. Town Council, by majority vote, makes an order to change the name of the road. The new name will be included in the measure. The Clerk of Council will then file a copy of this order with the Bristol County Registry of Deeds/Land Court.

10. Once approved, public safety will be notified of the name change.

11. Following the memorialization, name change approval, DPW will be directed to install the appropriate street signs specifying the new name at or near each point where the road joins another road or way. In the case of a private road, abutters pay for the sign, but the DPW can install it.

There was discussion amongst Councilor Donovan, Councilor Shanahan and the rest of the Council regarding this Procedure and what the By-Law Sub-Committee had decided on. After many meetings and discussions with the Town Attorney, the DPW Director, and the Town Clerk, they finally came up with a Procedure "Naming of Town Assets".

Bylaw: NAMING OF TOWN ASSETS

Section 1. Authority

The naming or renaming of all town assets except as otherwise referred to in this bylaw shall be done by majority vote of the Town Council in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw and the Charter of the Town of North Attleborough.

Section 2. Advisory Committee

Upon receipt of an application for memorialization, the Town Council President shall create an ad hoc advisory committee [Charter Article II sec.2-9]. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to make recommendations to the Town Council for the naming of public assets. This may include memorializing and officially recognizing those persons or groups whose exemplary accomplishments have reflected credit and honor upon the Town of North Attleborough, in accordance with certain criteria established and set forth in writing by this bylaw.

The Advisory Committee shall consist of the chairs of the following boards/commissions or their designees:

- Board of Public Works
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Conservation Commission

Section 3. Rules

1. No Town assets shall be named or renamed except in accordance with this bylaw, with the following exceptions:
 1. School property is solely under the jurisdiction of the School

Committee [MGL Ch.43 sec.33].

2. Richards Memorial Library is solely under the jurisdiction of the Library Board of Trustees [MGL Ch.78 sec.11].

2. Assets that are major physical assets of the Town, such as buildings, recreational facilities, parks, water bodies, and conservation land shall be named only after the town entity with jurisdiction over the asset shall approve a name; and Town Council, by majority vote, ratifies the naming.

3. All other Town assets that are portions of a larger whole, such as: interior spaces of buildings; features within parks, conservation land, and recreational areas; driveways or parking lots; or furniture or other small fixtures of any description shall be named after the town entity with jurisdiction over the asset concurs in such naming by majority vote.

Section 4. PROCESS

1. Any town board, commission, or resident may propose that a Town asset be named or re-named. Said proposal shall be submitted to the Town Manager's Office in writing.

1. Proposals should include substantial documentation to support the rationale for selecting the name, and to the extent possible should reflect a broad level of community backing, including from any boards or committees that have any connection to the asset that is **proposed to be named/renamed.**

2. Upon receipt, the Town Manager's Office shall forward the proposal to **the Town Council President.**

3. Upon receipt of the proposal, the Town Council President shall appoint the members of the Advisory Committee.

4. **The Advisory Committee shall refer requests to the town entity with jurisdiction over the asset to confirm their support before the proposal is reviewed by the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will take no further action without the support of the town entity with jurisdiction over the asset.**

5. **To ensure that the Advisory Committee is fully aware of the public's interest in a naming or renaming proposal for Major assets, a public hearing shall be held by the Advisory Committee before deliberations and a vote on a proposed recommendation can occur.** Public notice of such a hearing shall be posted at least fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing. Other assets do not require a public hearing and can be deliberated at a regular meeting of **the Advisory Committee. Regular meeting agendas must be posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.**

6. Prior to the public hearing or meeting, as applicable, **the Advisory Committee shall solicit input from relevant town boards and commissions, surrounding property owners, residents, affected parties, groups or individuals that the Advisory Committee believes may contribute meaningful input.** The Town entity having care, custody, management, and control of the town asset, and the Veterans Agent when applicable, shall be invited to attend the hearing and to participate in the deliberations of **the Advisory Committee on an ex officio basis but shall not participate in the vote of the Advisory Committee.**

7. Within thirty (30) days of the closing of the public hearing or conclusion of the regular meeting, **the Advisory Committee shall make its recommendation to the Town Council President.**

1. Recommendations for a major asset (as defined in Sec.3(b) of this bylaw) will be submitted to the Town Council for final confirmation by majority vote.

2. Recommendations for all other assets shall be referred to the town

entity with jurisdiction over the asset for final concurrence.

Section 5. CRITERIA

In deciding the appropriateness of any naming or renaming proposal, the Advisory Committee shall consider the following criteria, and any other criteria similar to the criteria listed below:

1. The significant public value of the public asset
2. The public interest to be served
3. Any historic events, people or places associated with the public asset
4. Any outstanding individual associated with the public asset
5. Any major gift associated with the public asset and whether such gift included a condition as to the naming of the asset
6. Whether a naming agreement or other documentation is appropriate or necessary
7. With respect to a re-naming proposal, whether any agreement or documentation regarding the current name exists
8. The appropriateness of a new name, taking into consideration historical significance of the public asset or its current name
9. Any costs associated with the naming or renaming
10. Any other assets named, or currently being considered for naming, by the Committee
11. Compliance with state laws, town bylaws, regulations or policies

At the last By-Law Sub-Committee, the vote was 4-0 to vote this back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2023-010-Procedure for Naming and Memorializing Bridges Streets, & other Public Areas in the Town of North Attleborough.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

d. Rules

Nothing to report at this time.

e. School Committee Representative

Nothing to report at this time.

f. Communication, Public Participation, & Engagement

Nothing to report at this time.

g. Local Emergency Planning

Nothing to report at this time.

IX. Old Business

- a. None at this time.

X. New Business

- a. Measure 2023-082- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$250,000.00 to support Mason Field Pickleball Courts/Skating Rink

Purpose:

The purpose of funding pickleball courts is to provide a dedicated recreational space that promotes physical activity, social interaction, and community engagement. By investing in pickleball courts, we aim to create opportunities for individuals of all ages and skill levels to participate in a popular and inclusive sport, enhancing the overall well-being and quality of life within our community.

Justification:

1. Addressing the Growing Demand: Pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports in the United States, with a broad appeal across different age groups and skill levels. By funding pickleball courts, we respond to the increasing demand within our community for accessible and well-maintained facilities that cater to this growing interest. Providing adequate infrastructure for pickleball enthusiasts demonstrates **our commitment to meeting the recreational needs of our residents.**

1. Promoting Physical Fitness and Health: Pickleball is a low-impact sport that offers numerous physical health benefits. By investing in pickleball courts, we encourage active lifestyles and provide opportunities for residents to engage in regular exercise. Regular participation in pickleball can improve cardiovascular health, increase flexibility and balance, and promote overall well-being. These benefits contribute to a healthier community and reduce the risk of sedentary **lifestyles and associated health issues.**

1. Fostering Social Interaction and Community Cohesion: Pickleball is a social sport that encourages friendly competition, teamwork, and camaraderie. By funding pickleball courts, we create a gathering place where individuals can come together, build connections, and foster a sense of community. The sport's inclusive nature allows people of different ages, backgrounds, and abilities to participate, promoting **diversity and inclusivity within our community.**

1. Enhancing Quality of Life and Recreation Options: Accessible and well-maintained pickleball courts contribute to the overall quality of life within our community. By providing residents with a dedicated space for pickleball, we expand the range of recreational opportunities available to them. This investment enriches the leisure options and encourages active engagement, ultimately enhancing the overall **satisfaction and happiness of our community members.**

1. Economic and Tourism Benefits: Establishing pickleball courts can attract enthusiasts from neighboring communities, generating economic benefits for local businesses, restaurants, and hotels. Tournaments and events held at the courts can draw participants and visitors, boosting tourism and stimulating the local economy. By investing in pickleball infrastructure, we support both community recreation and potential economic growth.

1. Multi-purpose Utility: Pickleball courts can be designed to accommodate other sports such as basketball and ice skating, allowing for flexible usage and maximizing the utility of the facility. This versatility ensures that the investment in pickleball courts benefits a broader range of individuals within the community, further justifying the funding.

In conclusion, funding pickleball courts serves the purpose of addressing the growing demand for a popular and inclusive sport, promoting physical fitness and health, fostering social interaction, enhancing the quality of life, generating economic benefits, and offering multi-purpose utility. These investments contribute to a vibrant and active community while providing residents with valuable recreational opportunities.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer 2023-082- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$250,000.00 to support Mason Filed Pickleball Courts to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

- b. Measure 2023-083- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$200,000.00 to support Safety and Security

Purpose: The purpose of funding safety and security measures is to ensure the well-being and protection of both the community members and the staff who utilize Town Hall. By implementing robust safety and security measures, we aim to create a secure environment that fosters trust, encourages public participation, and promotes efficient operations within the Town Hall.

Justification:

1. Protecting Public Safety: Town Hall serves as a hub for various community activities, including town meetings, public hearings, and events. By investing in

safety and security measures, we prioritize the protection of the public attending these gatherings. Enhanced safety measures, such as security personnel, surveillance cameras, and access control systems, will help deter potential threats, identify and respond to emergencies promptly, and prevent incidents that may endanger individuals' safety.

1. Safeguarding Public Officials and Staff: Town Hall houses elected officials, employees, and staff who play crucial roles in serving the community. Ensuring their safety is essential to maintaining a functional and efficient government. Implementing safety and security measures creates a safe working environment that enables officials and staff to focus on their duties without concerns for their personal safety.

1. Mitigating Potential Risks: Every public space faces potential risks. Investing in safety and security measures will help mitigate these risks and safeguard the valuable assets, documents, and equipment within Town Hall. By protecting these assets, we can avoid significant financial losses, prevent disruptions in public services, and maintain the integrity of the Town Hall as a vital community institution.

1. Promoting Public Trust and Confidence: A safe and secure Town Hall sends a strong message to the community, demonstrating the government's commitment to public safety and well-being. By proactively addressing security concerns, we build trust and confidence among residents, encouraging increased public engagement, participation in town meetings, and collaboration with local authorities. This, in turn, leads to a more inclusive, transparent, and responsive local governance system.

2. In conclusion, funding safety and security measures in Town Hall serves the purpose of protecting public safety, safeguarding public officials and staff, mitigating risks, and promoting public trust. These investments are essential for creating a secure environment that fosters community engagement, efficient operations, and the overall well-being of everyone utilizing the Town Hall.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2023-083- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$200,000.00 to support Safety & Security to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

- c. Measure 2023-084- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$479,838.00 for CIP Stabilization

Purpose:

The purpose of transferring \$479,838 into the capital improvement stabilization account is to ensure the availability of a dedicated funding source for future Town projects aimed at improving infrastructure, public facilities, and community services. By allocating these funds into the account, we secure the necessary financial resources to support critical capital improvement initiatives, enhance the overall quality of life for residents, and promote sustainable growth and development within the Town.

Justification:

1. Planning for Long-Term Infrastructure Needs: The transfer of funds into the capital improvement stabilization account enables the Town to plan for and address long-term infrastructure needs. Infrastructure, including critical equipment and public buildings, requires regular maintenance, repair, and sometimes major upgrades. By accumulating funds in the stabilization account, we establish a financial reserve specifically designated for infrastructure projects, ensuring that the Town can effectively manage and prioritize these critical needs in a proactive and strategic manner.

1. Ensuring Financial Stability: Transferring funds into the capital improvement stabilization account demonstrates responsible financial management and provides stability for the Town's budget. By setting aside resources for future projects, we minimize the reliance on borrowing or unexpected budgetary strains, ensuring the availability of funds to support necessary capital improvements. This approach reduces the burden on taxpayers and fosters confidence in the Town's financial management practices.

1. Leveraging Opportunities for Grant Funding: Many capital improvement projects are eligible for state, federal, or private grants that can provide additional financial support. By establishing a capital improvement stabilization account, the Town can leverage these opportunities more effectively. Having funds readily available allows the Town to meet matching fund requirements, increasing the chances of securing grants and maximizing the resources available for capital projects. This strategic

approach enhances the Town's ability to undertake more substantial projects and make a greater impact on community development.

1. Enhancing Quality of Life and Public Services: The capital improvement stabilization account serves as an investment in the Town's future, enabling the implementation of projects that enhance the quality of life for residents and improve public services. Funds from the account can be allocated towards the

construction or renovation of a number of projects and amenities that promote community engagement, social well-being, and cultural enrichment. These improvements contribute to a more vibrant, inclusive, and attractive Town, **benefiting residents and attracting businesses and new investments.**

1. **Supporting Economic Development:** Well-maintained infrastructure and public facilities play a crucial role in attracting businesses, stimulating economic growth, and enhancing property values within the Town. By investing in capital improvement projects, we create an environment that encourages private sector investments, job creation, and economic development. These projects can include revitalizing our downtown area, improving transportation systems, and upgrading utility infrastructure, among others, fostering a thriving and sustainable local economy.

1. Resiliency and Future Preparedness: Setting aside funds in the capital improvement stabilization account also allows the Town to prepare for unforeseen emergencies, natural disasters, or unexpected events that may require immediate infrastructure repairs or upgrades. Having readily available resources ensures the Town's ability to respond effectively and swiftly, minimizing disruptions and **facilitating a faster recovery.**

In conclusion, transferring \$479,838 into the capital improvement stabilization account serves the purpose of planning for long-term infrastructure needs, ensuring financial stability, leveraging grant opportunities, enhancing the quality of life and public services, supporting economic development, and fostering resiliency and future preparedness. This allocation of funds demonstrates a forward-thinking approach to community development, positioning the Town for sustainable growth and improving the overall well-being of its residents.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2023-085- Re-Appropriation of Police Cruiser Capital Funds for Purchase of Police Motorcycles to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

- d. Measure 2023-085- Re-appropriation of Police Cruiser Capital Funds for the Purchase of Police Motorcycles

Purpose: The purpose of this request is to re-appropriate existing funding and replacing aging police motorcycles is to ensure the safety and effectiveness of law enforcement

operations within Town. By allocating resources towards acquiring new motorcycles, we aim to enhance the capabilities of our police force, improve response times, and maintain a high level of public safety and security.

Justification:

1. Officer Safety: The primary justification for funding and replacing aging police motorcycles is to prioritize officer safety. The current motorcycles were purchased in 2005, and as motorcycles age, they may become less reliable, leading to increased maintenance issues and potential safety hazards. By investing in new motorcycles, we provide officers with modern, well-maintained vehicles equipped with the latest safety features, ensuring their well-being during patrols, pursuits, and emergency responses.

1. Enhanced Mobility and Response Times: New police motorcycles offer improved mobility and agility, enabling officers to navigate through congested areas, narrow streets, and difficult terrains more effectively. This enhanced maneuverability translates into quicker response times to emergencies, accidents, and crime scenes. By investing in modern motorcycles, we enable our police force to provide prompt assistance and enhance public safety in a more efficient manner.

1. Community Policing and Public Perception: The appearance and condition of police vehicles significantly impact public perception and trust in law enforcement. Aging motorcycles may present an image of outdated or insufficient resources, potentially undermining community trust and confidence in the police force. By replacing aging motorcycles, we demonstrate our commitment to maintaining a professional and effective police presence, fostering positive community relations, and improving overall public perception of law enforcement.

1. Reliability and Reduced Maintenance Costs: Aging motorcycles are more prone to mechanical breakdowns and require frequent and costly repairs. The associated maintenance costs can strain the budget and divert resources that could be allocated to other critical areas. By funding the replacement of aging motorcycles, we ensure the availability of reliable

vehicles with reduced maintenance requirements, leading to lower long-term operational costs and better utilization of limited resources.

1. Technological Advancements: New police motorcycles often come equipped with advanced technology and features that improve officer efficiency and effectiveness. These advancements can include integrated communication systems, GPS tracking, enhanced lighting and sirens, and improved fuel efficiency.

By investing in modern motorcycles, we provide our officers with the tools they need to perform their duties more effectively, leading to increased productivity and better outcomes in law enforcement operations.

1. Long-Term Cost Savings: While funding the replacement of aging police motorcycles requires an initial investment, it can lead to long-term cost savings. Newer motorcycles often have improved fuel efficiency, reducing ongoing fuel expenses. Additionally, their enhanced reliability and reduced maintenance needs result in lower repair and maintenance costs over time. Considering the long-term benefits and cost savings, investing in new motorcycles becomes a financially prudent decision.

In summary, funding and replacing aging police motorcycles serve the purpose of prioritizing officer safety, enhancing mobility and response times, improving community policing efforts, reducing maintenance costs, incorporating technological advancements, and achieving long-term cost savings. By making this investment, we demonstrate our commitment to the safety and well-being of our officers, while also ensuring effective law enforcement operations and maintaining public trust in the police force.

Therefore, I respectfully request that the Town Council vote to re-appropriate \$72,495 from the following accounts:

M2020-034 Cruiser Replacement	\$20,128.67
M2021-065 Cruiser Replacement	\$52,366.33

Both M2023-034 and M2021-065 are funded by Free Cash from their respective years as indicated in the measure number.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2023-085- Re-Appropriation of Police Cruiser Capital Funds for Purchase of Police Motorcycles to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

XI. Adjournment

Vice-President John Simmons made a motion to adjourn at 8:29PM.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0