

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

6/8/2023 - Minutes

I. Roll Call

Vice-President Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:02PM and lead the Committee and other guests present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

Vice-President Simmons

Councilor Prescott

Councilor Donovan

Craig Cameron

Councilor Gould

John Porter

Members Absent:

Chris Shamp

Staff Present:

Town Manager Michael Borg

Assistant Town Manager Antonio Morabito

Clerk of the Council Kerrin Billinghoff

NADP Police Chief Rick McQuade

Treasurer/Tax Collector Chris Sweet

Parks and Recreation Director Steven Carvalho

Brian Brousseau NAFD

Residents Present:

John Donohue of Donald Tenant Circle

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED:

- May 24, 2023 Finance Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
- Measure 2023-051- FY24 General Fund Annual Appropriation
- Measure 2023-052- FY24 OPEB Funding
- Measure 2023-053- FY24 Quinquennial Evaluation
- Measure 2023-054- FY24 Capital Stabilization Fund Transfer
- Measure 2023-055- FY24 Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Transfer
- Measure 2023-056 -FY24 Betterment Stabilization Fund Transfer
- Measure 2023-057- FY24 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation
- Measure 2023-058-FY 24 Sewer Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation
- Measure 2023-059- FY24 Water Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation
- Measure 2023-060- FY24 Comcast PEG Access Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation
- Measure 2023-061- FY24 Verizon PEG Access Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation
- Measure 2023-062- FY24 General Fund Capital Improvement Plan Utilization of FY23 Free Cash
- Measure 2023-063-FY24 General Fund Capital Projects for Approval
- Measure 2023-064-FY24 Ambulance Receipt Reserve Account Transfer - CIP
- Measure 2023-065- FY24 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Utilization of Retained Earnings for CIP
- Measure 2023-066-FY24 General Fund Capital Improvement Plan for Borrowing
- Measure 2023-067-FY23 Sewer Enterprise Fund Capital Projects for Borrowing
- Measure 2023-068 -FY23 Water Enterprise Fund Capital Projects for Borrowing
- Measure 2023-069- FY24 Revolving Account Annual Authorization
- Measure 2023-070- FY24 Local Acceptance of Certain Property Exemptions
- Measure 2023-071- FY24 Additional Real Estate Property Tax Exemption of One Hundred Percent (100%)
- Measure 2023-072- FY24 Establish the Amount for Town Manager Line-Item Transfers

II. Pledge Of Allegiance

III. Approval Of Minutes

- a. Approval of Finance Sub-Committee Minutes of May 24, 2023

Approval of Finance Sub-Committee Minutes of May 24, 2023.

Councilor Prescott made a motion to approve the Minutes of May 24, 2023.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0-2.

IV. Town Councilor Community Announcements

Councilor Prescott commented on how far we have come as a community in the last 10 years. Both the Councilor's voice and the Resident's voices have been heard. All aspects of the budget have been addressed, and each and every resident has been touched and enhances by this budget. Councilor Prescott stated that she is so proud of this budget and so proud of all that have helped to make this budget what it is today.

V. Resident And Community Comment

John Donohue was in attendance to address the Committee and show his support for the FY24 Budget. He thought that the intent of the meeting tonight was to just vote the budget up or down, not to make changes at this time.

VI. Old Business

a. FY2024 FINAL BUDGET SUBMITTAL MEASURES

i. Measure 2023-051- FY24 General Fund Annual Appropriation

Measure 2023-051- FY24 General Fund Annual Appropriation

There was discussion about this measure. Councilor Gould and Craig Cameron were in favor of reducing the measure by 1.1 million dollars because of the new insurance program. There was discussion amongst Mr. Cameron, Councilor Gould, the Committee and Town Manager Borg.

Mr. Cameron made a motion to reduce Measure 2023-051 by 1.1 million dollars.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Motion failed 2-4.

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2022-051- FY24 General Fund Annual Appropriation back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1.

ii. Measure 2023-052- FY24 OPEB Funding

Measure 2023-052- FY24 OPEB Funding

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-052- FY24 OPEB Funding back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

iii. Measure 2023-053- FY24 Quinquennial Evaluation

Measure 2023-053- FY24 Quinquennial Evaluation

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-053- FY24 Quinquennial Evaluation

back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

- iv. Measure 2023-054- FY24 Capital Stabilization Fund Transfer

Measure 2023-054- FY24 Capital Stabilization Fund Transfer

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-054- FY24 Capital Stabilization Fund Transfer back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- v. Measure 2023-055- FY24 Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Transfer

Measure 2023-055- FY24 Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Transfer

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-055- FY24 Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Transfer back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- vi. Measure 2023-056 -FY24 Betterment Stabilization Fund Transfer

Measure 2023-056 -FY24 Betterment Stabilization Fund Transfer

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-056 -FY24 Betterment Stabilization Fund Transfer back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- vii. Measure 2023-057- FY24 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Measure 2023-057- FY24 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-057- FY24 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- viii. Measure 2023-058-FY 24 Sewer Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Measure 2023-058-FY 24 Sewer Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-058-FY 24 Sewer Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- ix. Measure 2023-059- FY24 Water Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Measure 2023-059- FY24 Water Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-059- FY24 Water Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- x. Measure 2023-060- FY24 Comcast PEG Access Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Measure 2023-060- FY24 Comcast PEG Access Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-060- FY24 Comcast PEG Access Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xi. Measure 2023-061- FY24 Verizon PEG Access Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Measure 2023-061- FY24 Verizon PEG Access Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-061- FY24 Verizon PEG Access Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xii. Measure 2023-062- FY24 General Fund Capital Improvement Plan Utilization of FY23 Free Cash

Measure 2023-062- FY24 General Fund Capital Improvement Plan Utilization of FY23 Free Cash

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-062- FY24 General Fund Capital Improvement Plan Utilization of FY23 Free Cash back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xiii. Measure 2023-063-FY24 General Fund Capital Projects for Approval

Measure 2023-063-FY24 General Fund Capital Projects for Approval

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-063-FY24 General Fund Capital Projects for Approval back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0-1.

- xiv. Measure 2023-064- FY24 Ambulance Receipt Reserve Account Transfer -CIP

Measure 2023-064-FY24 Ambulance Receipt Reserve Account Transfer - CIP

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-064-FY24 Ambulance Receipt Reserve Account Transfer - CIP back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xv. Measure 2023-065- FY24 Solid Waste Fund Utilization of Retained Earnings

Measure 2023-065- FY24 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Utilization of Retained Earnings for CIP

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-065- FY24 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Utilization of Retained Earnings for CIP back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xvi. Measure 2023-066-FY24 General Fund Capital Improvement Plan and Funding for Borrowing

Measure 2023-066-FY24 General Fund Capital Improvement Plan for Borrowing

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-066-FY24 General Fund Capital Improvement Plan for Borrowing back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xvii. Measure 2023-067 -FY24 Sewer Enterprise Capital Projects for Borrowing

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-067-FY24 Sewer Enterprise Fund Capital Projects for Borrowing back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xviii. Measure 2023-068- FY24 Water Enterprise Capital Project for Borrowing

Measure 2023-068 -FY24 Water Enterprise Fund Capital Projects for Borrowing

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-068 -FY24 Water Enterprise Fund Capital Projects for Borrowing back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xix. Measure 2023-069- FY24 Revolving Accounts Annual Authorization

Measure 2023-069- FY24 Revolving Account Annual Authorization

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-069- FY24 Revolving Account Annual Authorization back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xx. Measure 2023-070- FY24 Local Acceptance of Certain Property Tax Exemptions

Measure 2023-070- FY24 Local Acceptance of Certain Property Exemptions

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-070- FY24 Local Acceptance of Certain Property Exemptions back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0

- xxi. Measure 2023-071- FY24 Additional Real Estate Property Tax Exemptions One Hundred Percent

Measure 2023-071- FY24 Additional Real Estate Property Tax Exemption of One Hundred Percent (100%)

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-071- FY24 Additional Real Estate Property Tax Exemption of One Hundred Percent (100%) back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded

Motion carried 6-0

- xxii. Measure 2023-072- Establish a Maximum Dollar Amount of \$9,999.99 for Town Manager Line Item Transfers

Measure 2023-072- FY24 Establish the Amount for Town Manager Line-Item Transfers

Councilor Prescott made a motion to amend the measure on the floor and amend the amount for Town Manager Line-Item Transfers from \$9,999.99 to \$20,000.00.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

Councilor Prescott moved to refer Measure 2023-072- FY24 Establish the Amount for Town Manager Line-Item Transfers to the amended amount of \$20,000.00 back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan Seconded

Motion carried 6-0.

VII. New Business

- a. Measure 2023-080- To see if the Town Council will vote to accept the increase in the Cost of Living (COLA) base for Retirees from \$14,000 to \$16,000

Measure 2023-080- To see if the Town Council will vote to accept the increase in the Cost of Living (COLA) base for Retirees from \$14,000 to \$16,000

Under Chapter 32, Section 103, the board of any system may increase the maximum base amount on which the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is calculated, in multiples of \$1,000.

The current COLA is 3% of the \$14,000 base, which is \$420 annually for eligible retirees. If

approved, the 3% COLA with a \$16,000 base would increase by \$60 to \$480 annually. The total additional cost to the retirement system for the current pension recipients would be less than \$25,000 per year.

The increase is vital to keep pace with inflation.

The retirement Board voted 4-0 to approve this increase at the April 27, 2023 meeting.

Brian Brousseau was in attendance to explain this measure and the request from the Retirement Board. He explained that FY16 was the last time that the COLA has been increased to \$14,000.00 and stated why the COLA needs to be increased.

There was discussion amongst Mr. Brousseau and the Committee.

Councilor Prescott made a motion to refer back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation Measure 2023-080- To see if the Town Council will vote to accept the increase in the Cost of Living (COLA) base for Retirees from \$14,000 to \$16,000.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

- b. 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

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 and Justification:

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.**
2. **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.**
3. **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.**
4. **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.**
5. **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.

6. 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.

Park and Recreation Director Steve Carvalho was in attendance to answer any questions that the Committee may have had regarding this measure. He explained his vision for the construction of the pickleball courts/basketball courts/ ice rink combination.

There was discussion amongst Mr. Carvalho, the Town Manager, and the Committee.

Councilor Prescott made a motion to refer back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation 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.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

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

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

Purpose and Justification:

Purpose:

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.

2. **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. **ages, backgrounds, and abilities to participate, promoting diversity and inclusivity within our community.**

3. **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.**

4. **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.**

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.

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

Purpose and Justification:

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.**

2. **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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

Councilor Prescott made a motion to refer Measure 2023-084- Approval of Transfer of FY23 Supplemental Free Cash in the amount of \$479,838.00 for CIP Stabilization back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

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

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

Purpose and Justification:

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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

NAPD Chief Rick McQuade was in attendance to explain this request and answer any of the questions that the Committee may have had. There was discussion amongst Town Manager Borg, Chief McQuade, and the Committee.

Councilor Prescott made a motion to refer Measure 2023-085- Re-appropriation of Police Cruiser Capital Funds for the Purchase of Police Motorcycles back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

VIII. Adjournment

Councilor Prescott made a motion to adjourn.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37PM.