



Town of Nantucket Capital Program Committee November 9, 2023

Attending Members:	Peter Kaizer, Vice Chair, Christy Kickham, Jill Vieth, Barry Rector, Brooke Mohr
Staff:	Susan Carmel, Assistant Finance Director, David Gray, Sewer Director
Absent	Stephen Welch, Howard Matz

The Capital Program Committee discussed fiscal year 2025 capital requests, focusing on sewer and stormwater projects. Key items included the \$10 million Baxter Road sewer design and construction, the \$47 million Somerset needs area, and the \$12 million Consuit sewer redesign. The committee also considered a \$1.5 million SCADA and PLC upgrade for security reasons. Additionally, they discussed a \$1.2 million new 10-wheel dump truck and a \$1.5 million wheeled excavator. The committee emphasized the importance of addressing PFAS contamination, with a \$2.5 million pilot project and a \$10 million future investment planned. Stormwater management initiatives, including flow meters and pre-treatment systems, were also highlighted. The Capital Program Committee discussed various infrastructure projects and challenges. David Gray highlighted significant spending on permitting and equipment, including a muck master machine and stormwater management tools. Flooding issues along Cliff Road and Madaket Road were noted, with ongoing projects to address these. The committee considered acquiring a F350 utility truck and ground penetrating radar to improve efficiency and safety. They also discussed the need for better stormwater management, including potential fees and regulations. The meeting concluded with a reminder of the next meeting date and a motion to adjourn.

Action Items

- [] Evaluate accelerating the SCADA and PLC security upgrades to a 1-2 year timeline instead of 5 years.
 - [] Coordinate with the Land Bank on the Somerset needs area project and potential property acquisitions.
 - [] Develop a naming convention to differentiate sewer and stormwater CMOM projects in the budget.
 - [] Investigate opportunities to combine or fast-track stormwater capital projects to address immediate needs.
 - [] Provide updates on the PFAs (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) investigation and potential treatment solutions.
- Motion to adjourn made at the end of the meeting.

- Second to the motion to adjourn.
- All in favor vote for adjournment, indicated by "aye".

Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Requests Overview

- Peter Kaizer opens the meeting, noting the absence of public comments and the focus on fiscal year 2025 capital requests.
- Announcement is made of the meeting being audio and video recorded
- Motion to accept the agenda passes unanimously.
- David Gray, director of the sewer department, is introduced to discuss the requests.
- David Gray mentions the Baxter Road sewer design and construction, emphasizing the need for coastal resiliency and risk assessment.
- The project has been on the list for years, and its progress depends on winter erosion.

Baxter Road Sewer Design and Construction

- David Gray explains the challenges of the Baxter Road project, including conflicts with residents and significant permitting needs.
- The project involves a lot of construction services and may require installing pumps on existing properties.
- Brooke Mohr inquires about the feasibility of doing the work in chunks, and David Gray confirms that the contingency and coastal resiliency work are already underway.
- Christy Kickham asks about the big roadblocks, and David Gray mentions neighbor disputes and significant permitting for a wetland area.

Airport Pump Station Upgrade

- David Gray discusses the airport pump station upgrade, which is going out to bid for a complete renovation.
- The project is expected to be completed by 2026, and the \$100,000 allocation may not be needed in 2025.
- The CMOM program, which has been ongoing for six years, is highlighted as a continuation of infrastructure updates and repairs.
- Peter Kaizer and David Gray discuss the impact of COVID years on project timelines and the need to catch up on repairs.

Somerset Needs Area and Coastal Erosion

- David Gray outlines the Somerset needs area project, which involves significant planning and collaboration with the land bank.
- The project includes sewer, stormwater, and roadway improvements, with a preliminary roadway design already in place.
- The coastal erosion project involves engineering work to take beds offline and fill them to provide a cushion against erosion.
- David Gray mentions the need for additional beds and the potential to expand the facility if necessary.

Surfside Maintenance and Administration Facility

- David Gray discusses the need for a new maintenance and administration facility to house equipment and provide climate-controlled storage.
- The project is estimated to cost \$13 million, with \$2.5 million already appropriated.
- The facility would include a significant meeting room, proper showers, and additional storage space.
- Peter Kaizer supports the project, emphasizing the importance of protecting town investments.

Sewer Extension in Hummock Pond Area North

- David Gray explains the sewer extension project in the Hummock Pond area, which includes high nitrogen sensitivity and poor soils.
- The project involves design and planning, with construction expected to start in 2027.
- The Somerset needs area must be completed before the Hummock Pond North project can begin.
- David Gray mentions the potential for coordinating with a bike path project in the area.

Purchase of New 10-Wheel Dump Truck

- David Gray discusses the need for a new 10-wheel dump truck with a plow and sander to assist the DPW with major routes.
- The truck will be used for construction work and snow plowing, replacing an existing truck that is 10-12 years old.
- The truck will be electric, which is a significant upgrade from the current diesel-powered models.
- Peter Kaizer supports the purchase, noting the importance of having a reliable truck for snow removal.

New Loader and Backhoe

- David Gray introduces the need for a new wheeled excavator to replace a small cat that lacks lifting capacity.
- The new excavator will be more versatile and able to handle a variety of tasks, including setting manholes.
- The project is estimated to cost \$1.5 million and will add to the fleet, providing additional capabilities.
- Peter Kaizer supports the purchase, emphasizing the need for efficient equipment to handle construction and maintenance tasks.

Programmable Logic Controllers and SCADA Upgrades

- David Gray discusses the critical need for upgrading programmable logic controllers (PLCs) and SCADA systems for security and safety.

- The project is driven by homeland security concerns about the vulnerability of remote maintenance systems.
- David Gray mentions the need to bring the technology up to date to meet security standards.
- Peter Kaizer supports the project, noting the importance of securing remote systems against potential threats.

PFAS Treatment and Management

- David Gray provides an update on the town's efforts to address PFAS contamination, including testing and pilot programs.
- The town is working with CDM Smith to understand the sources and impacts of PFAS, with high loads coming from landfill leachate and carpet cleaners.
- The town is exploring various technologies to treat and destroy PFAS, with a focus on finding a solution that serves multiple needs.
- Peter Kaizer and Christy Kickham express concern about the ongoing impact of PFAS and the need for a comprehensive solution.

Stormwater Management and Implementation

- David Gray outlines the stormwater management plan, which includes developing regulations and implementing the plan.
- The stormwater department is still in its infancy, with a new stormwater manager expected to be hired soon.
- The department is working closely with the land bank and DPW on various stormwater projects, including flow meters and bio swales.
- David Gray emphasizes the importance of addressing stormwater issues to protect the town's infrastructure and environment.

Impact of Wetland Projects and Stormwater Management

- David Gray discusses the significant investment in permitting and equipment for the wetland project, mentioning the muck master machine and the impact on Consult Springs.
- Peter Kaizer notes the improved views from Orange Street due to tree removal, highlighting the visibility of water impact during high tides or storms.
- David Gray mentions the issue of ducks falling into storm drains and plans to install chicken wire to prevent future incidents.
- The conversation shifts to the need for new software and equipment for stormwater management, including small jet or back combination machines and easement machines.

Challenges with Flooding and Infrastructure

- David Gray explains the flooding issues along Cliff Road due to development and the loss of wetlands, mentioning specific areas like Pilgrim Road and Madaket Road.

- Peter Kaizer inquires about the frequency of resident complaints and safety hazards related to flooding.
- David Gray details the unique challenges of each project, such as the need for infiltrators and the impact of development on natural wetlands.
- The discussion includes the importance of redesigning and cleaning out catch basins and pipes to address flooding issues.

Specific Projects and Solutions

- David Gray highlights specific projects like 42 Hummock Pond Road, where infiltrators have broken due to soil erosion, causing flooding.
- Peter Kaizer and David Gray discuss the ongoing efforts to fix catch basins and the integration of stormwater management with sewer projects.
- The conversation touches on the need for a stormwater manager's vehicle to handle field services, funded by the Enterprise Fund.
- David Gray mentions the high cost of incidents with Dig Safe and the potential benefits of ground penetrating radar for real-time mapping of utilities.

GIS and Future Plans

- David Gray discusses the improvements coming to the town's GIS system, including shape files for water and sewer systems.
- Peter Kaizer and David Gray emphasize the importance of accurate GIS data for public access and project planning.
- The conversation includes the potential for reducing costs by using ground penetrating radar to avoid unmarked utilities.
- David Gray mentions the installation of radar sites at the facility to track water vapors and wind patterns, funded by grants from the wind farm.

Final Remarks and Next Steps

- David Gray invites committee members to visit ongoing projects and job sites for a better understanding of the work being done.
- Peter Kaizer and other committee members express appreciation for David Gray's detailed explanations and efforts to address infrastructure issues.
- The meeting concludes with a reminder of the next meeting date and a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Barry Rector, seconded by Jill Vieth. Motion approved by the committee.