



Town of Nantucket Capital Program Committee October 23, 2025

Attending Members:	Jill Vieth, Chair, Howard Matz, Vice Chair, Peter Kaizer, Caroline Baltzer, Christy Kickham
Staff:	Susan Carmel, Deputy Finance Director, Andrew Patnode, DPW Director, Chris Lowe, Solid Waste Manager, Nic Torres, Central Fleet Manager, Charlie Polachi, Parks and Recreation Manager
Absent	Dawn Hill, Liza Hatton

The 10/23/25 Capital Program Committee meeting discussed several key infrastructure and equipment updates. The Ford E-Transit van will be replaced with an electric version to reduce downtime. A new F350 truck is needed for in-town snow and ice removal. A new forestry truck and chipper are required due to the current truck's limitations. A new hook truck is essential for moving large equipment. A new F550 dump truck is needed for reliability. A new facilities truck is required for better maintenance. The Tom Nevers Park and fields are to be improved with new fencing, a new playground, and additional sports facilities. A second scale at the solid waste facility is proposed to improve traffic flow and efficiency.

Action Items

- Advance the second-scale solid waste project: proceed with engineering, permitting and design (Sanborn Head feasibility used) and plan site work (retaining wall, drainage, scale house) using remaining appropriation.
- Revisit Our Island Home vehicle priority in coordination with Our Island Home staff to determine whether their requested replacement truck should be reprioritized or avoided by using shared fleet resources
- Provide a consolidated fleet spreadsheet showing all vehicles with purchase dates, expected useful life estimates, and service history to support capital replacement decisions

Ford E-Transit Van Replacement

- Jill Vieth opens the meeting and calls it to order, confirming the agenda and approval.
- Motion to approve the agenda made by Peter Kaizer, seconded by Howard Matz.
- Roll call vote: Peter aye, Howard aye, Christy aye, Jill aye.
- Motion passes unanimously.
- Drew Patnode introduces the central fleet, parks, and solid waste managers.
- Nic Torres discusses the replacement of the Ford E-Transit van with a new electric van to reduce downtime and meet green community standards.

- Christy Kickham inquires about the service and maintenance schedule for the new EV vehicles.
- Nic Torres explains the service plan is based on hours rather than miles and mentions the involvement of a master technician from Belvidersport for on-site and off-site repairs.

Ford F350 for Sign Department

- Nic Torres introduces the Ford F350 for the sign department, which is needed for in-town snow and ice removal.
- Nic Torres explains the current Ford F350 is not suitable due to suspension issues and the need for a lift gate for moving street signs.
- The Ford F350 is part of the replacement schedule and is crucial for daily operations.
- The vehicle is not electric and is necessary for the weight capacity required for the tasks.

Forestry Bucket Truck

- Nic Torres discusses the need for a new forestry truck and chipper due to the current truck's inability to handle the load and frequent electrical issues.
- Drew Patnode adds that the current truck is critical for operations and cannot be easily replaced by other local equipment.
- Peter Kaizer inquires about the training and certification required for operating the chipper, and Nic Torres confirms that the crew is trained and the capacity is limited.
- The lifespan of the tree truck is discussed, with an estimate of 8-10 years due to exposure to saltwater and other environmental factors.

Hook Truck

- Nic Torres introduces the hook truck, which is the only hook truck in the fleet and is used for moving cans, dumpsters, and other large equipment.
- The current hook truck is a 17-year-old vehicle with significant wear and tear, leading to high repair costs.
- The importance of the hook truck for daily operations is emphasized, and the need for a replacement is discussed.
- The cost and scope of repairs are escalating, and the truck is not being replaced with another vehicle in the fleet.

F-550 Dump Truck

- Nic Torres discusses the need to replace the F550 dump truck, which is part of the snow and ice fleet and is unreliable due to computer module failures.
- The truck is critical for daily operations, and its failure affects multiple other trucks in the fleet.
- The lifespan of the F550 is estimated to be 8-10 years, and the truck is being replaced with a new one.
- The cost of the new truck is discussed, and the importance of having a reliable vehicle for daily operations is emphasized.

Facilities Truck

- Nic Torres discusses the need to replace the 2005 hand-me-down facilities truck, which is not suitable for the current operations.
- The current truck is not suitable for moving larger equipment and is used for various tasks, including moving cans and dumpsters.
- The lifespan of the facilities truck is estimated to be 8-10 years, and the truck is being replaced with a new one.
- The cost of the new truck is discussed, and the importance of having a reliable vehicle for daily operations is emphasized.

Tom Nevers Debris Removal Phase 2

- Charlie Polachi discusses the Tom Nevers Debris Removal Phase 2 project, which involves removing debris from the beach and replacing the soil.
- The project involves multiple federal permitting agencies and requires extensive planning and design.
- The project is expected to take 60 days to complete, and the cost is estimated to be \$2 million.
- The project is critical for maintaining the beach and preventing erosion issues.

Tom Nevers Softball Fencing

- Charlie Polachi discusses the need for fencing around the Tom Evers softball fields to prevent damage from e-bikes and improve safety.
- The current fields are unprotected and require fencing to prevent damage from e-bikes and other activities.
- The project involves installing a six-foot fence and adding cameras and signage to control access.
- The project is expected to be completed in the winter, and the cost is estimated to be \$1.7 million.

Winter Park Improvements

- Charlie Polachi discusses the need to improve the Winter Park area, including adding a new playground and basketball court.
- The current playground is 23 years old and in need of replacement, and the new playground will be larger and more diverse.
- The new playground will be located near the existing playground and will be fenced in for safety.
- The project is expected to be completed in the winter, and the cost is estimated to be \$1.5 million.

Tom Nevers Park and Fields Improvements

- Charlie Polachi discusses the need to improve the Tom Never Park and fields, including adding new tennis and pickleball courts and a new bike path.
- The current fields are in need of improvement, and the new project will make the area more attractive to residents and visitors.
- The project involves adding new fencing, lines, and portable nets for various sports.
- The project is expected to be completed in the winter, and the cost is estimated to be \$1.2 million.

Solid Waste Scale

- Chris Lowe discusses the need for a second scale at the solid waste facility to improve traffic flow and reduce waiting times.
 - The new scale will be a modular unit with a foundation and a retaining wall, and will be used for both incoming and outgoing material.
 - The project involves extensive site work, including utility work and traffic pattern changes.
 - The project is expected to be completed in the winter, and the cost is estimated to be \$1.7 million.
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- Motion to adjourn made by Peter Kaizer, seconded by Caroline Baltzer.
 - Roll call vote: Peter aye, Howard aye, Caroline aye, Christy aye, Jill aye.