



Town of Nantucket Capital Program Committee November 20, 2025

Attending Members:	Jill Vieth, Chair, Howard Matz, Vice Chair, Peter Kaizer, Caroline Baltzer, Christy Kickham, Liza Hatton
Staff:	Brian Turbitt, Finance Director, Susan Carmel, Deputy Finance Director, Elizabeth Hallet, Superintendent of Schools, Martin Anguelov, School Chief Financial Officer Stephanie Hoban, Educational Technology Director, Mark Willet, Water Director, David Gray, Sewer Director, Andrew Shapero, Environmental Contamination Administrator
Absent	Dawn Hill

The 11/20/25 Capital Program Committee meeting discussed the proposal to upgrade 73 outdated network switches in the district to improve internet speed and security, with a total cost of \$603,000. The committee also considered an access point upgrade for \$157,750. Additionally, the PFAS sampling project in the wastewater treatment facility was reviewed, with \$900,000 spent on initial studies and a \$400,000 budget for the pilot planning project. Concerns were raised about the RORI scoring system, particularly regarding the treatment of new versus recurring requests.

- Motion to approve the agenda is made by Liza Hatton and seconded by Christy Kickham
- Roll call vote: Liza aye, Christy aye, Jill aye, Howard aye, Peter aye.
- Motion passed unanimously
- Jill Vieth opens the meeting for public comment

Network Switch Upgrade Proposal

- Stephanie Hoban presents a request to upgrade 73 network switches in the district, replacing them with 54 Baraki switches to support new access points.
- The current switches are outdated, with many ending support by 2023, affecting internet speed and security patches.
- The total cost for the switch upgrade is \$214,000, with additional \$28,457 for licensing and \$360,000 for professional services, totaling \$603,000.
- Discussion on the necessity of the upgrade for future-proofing and security, with concerns about the cost and the need for detailed cost breakdowns.

Access Point Upgrade and Wi-Fi Coverage

- Stephanie Hoban requests an upgrade of access points, including 110 new access points and 110 licenses, with a total cost of \$157,750.
- The new access points will ensure seamless network operation across the district, addressing the current bifurcation in the network.
- Jill Vieth inquires about the impact on Wi-Fi coverage in the LGI room, which will be addressed in the updated proposal.
- Discussion on the need for a secure and efficient network, with the new system requiring individual codes for cell phone access.

Discussion on Cost Breakdown and Installation Services

- Jill Vieth questions the high cost of professional services, which includes cabling, switch configuration, and installation.
- Stephanie Hoban explains the complexity of the installation process, including the need for proper labeling and future-proofing.
- The total cost of the project is confirmed to be \$603,000, with a discrepancy in the professional services cost noted.
- The need for a detailed cost breakdown and the number of professionals involved in the installation is discussed.

PFAS Sampling and Treatment in Wastewater

- Andrew Shapero explains the importance of sampling PFAS in the wastewater and landfill leachate to identify the primary sources.
- The goal is to concentrate PFAS in foam for efficient removal and destruction, with a focus on the landfill leachate.
- The project has spent \$900,000 on sampling and analysis, with a \$400,000 budget for the pilot planning project.
- The need for a suitable technology to treat PFAS on-site is emphasized, with a focus on commercially available and proven technologies.

Debate on the Appropriateness of PFAS Project

- Howard Matz questions the appropriateness of the PFAS project, suggesting it may be speculative and not proven.
- Brian E. Turbitt and David Gray argue that the project is necessary due to the lack of regulations and the urgency of addressing PFAS.
- The discussion includes the potential for future grants and the need for a proven technology to meet future regulatory requirements.
- The importance of the project for Nantucket's environmental protection is emphasized, with a focus on the need for a cost-effective solution.

Cost Scoring and RORI Adjustments

- Brian E. Turbitt highlights an issue with the RORI scoring, where new projects are disproportionately penalized.
- The suggestion is made to score new projects at zero and recurring projects at 100 to maintain consistency.
- The need for a consistent approach to RORI scoring is discussed, with a focus on the impact on project rankings.
- The decision is made to keep the current RORI scoring method to avoid significant deviations from previous rankings.

Parking and Playground Projects

- Discussion on various projects in the parking area, including the Jetties playground replacement and the rain garden.
- The Jetties playground is being moved to FY 28, along with the rain garden.
- The need for efficient coordination between different projects in the parking area is emphasized.
- The importance of addressing the issues in the parking lot, including puddling and efficiency, is discussed.

Final Remarks and Next Steps

- The next meeting is scheduled for December 4, with a focus on reviewing the RORIs and discussing any new information.
- The need for a detailed list of all requests and their updates is emphasized.
- The importance of addressing the cost scoring issue in the RORI is reiterated.
- The meeting concludes with a reminder to review the updated documents and prepare for the next meeting.
- Motion to adjourn; moved by Peter Kaizer; seconded by Caroline Baltzer
- Roll call vote: Peter aye, Liza aye, Christy aye, Caroline aye, Howard aye, Jill aye.
- Motion passed unanimously.