

Meeting Minutes
Capital Improvements Program Committee (CIPC)
Public Hearing
November 5, 2025

CIPC/ABC Members in Attendance: CIPC Chairman Fred Van Magness (Member at Large), Mary Phillips (CIPC Clerk and ABC Chairman), and Peter Claypoole (Planning Board Representative)

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm. The minutes of the October 9th CIPC meeting were approved, upon a motion by Peter, seconded by Mary. The minutes of the October 10th tour of the SAU were approved, upon a motion by Peter, seconded by Mary, with Peter abstaining.

Fred opened the Public Hearing concerning the Town, Library, and Schools FY27 CIPC recommendations as outlined in our reports dated October 20, 2025. The Public Hearing began with a presentation by the Police Chief and the Department's contractor, Brian Brewster from Ossipee Mountain Electronics (OME), of new and additional data concerning Police Communications that had not been discussed previously.

In addition to the proposed \$35,000 replacement of two dispatch radio outlined in the report to address communication of officers with the dispatch center, OME submitted a \$96,000 proposal to address a long-standing issue with communication blind spots that can prevent officers communicating with each other.

During the day, police are dispatched in-house during the week, but dispatching is handled by the County nights and weekends. The County's system is a multi-site simulcast system, meaning the system can transmit off multiple sites. All users can hear both sides of a conversation because the information is going over multiple repeaters. The Moultonborough PD system, a digital system, by contrast, is a one-site system, with one repeater on Glidden Road. The Town needs another repeater to ensure officers can properly communicate with each other and the dispatch center. The proposed system would solve at least 95% of the communication blind spot issues and allow simultaneous communications on one channel, avoiding issues with needing to switch channels during emergency situations.

The Fire Department has similar communication blind spot issues and has budgeted \$84,000 in FY31 for a communications study. The proposal submitted by OME could be modified to include the Fire Department, although the Fire Department has the additional issue that it is currently on an analog system.

Fred noted that CR138, the Communications Technology Capital Reserve fund, has a current balance of \$270,000. Fred had proposed dissolving the fund and transferring the balance to the Municipal Buildings Fund but suggested that instead these funds could be used to address the communications issues for both the Police and Fire Departments, with the added costs for the Fire Department still to be determined.

After this discussion, Fred closed the public hearing. He noted that here is a new, lower quotation on the 'whaly' boat.

A discussion of the creation of a Municipal Employee Benefit Pay Fund for the Town was tabled as not a capital item under the CIPC's purview.

The CIPC will present its report to the Board of Selectmen on November 18, 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm upon a motion by Peter, seconded by Mary.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Phillips