



MEMO TO: Mayor Vandernail and the Board of Trustees
FROM: Allen Nordin, Public Works Director, CWP
DATE: May 16, 2018
SUBJECT: Public Works Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Purchases

MATTER BEFORE BOARD:

Approval of expenditures for purchase of new heavy-duty equipment to include a snow and ice plow/sand truck, a new medium duty utility/dump/plow work truck and a new skid loader with attachments.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of Resolution 2018-05-12.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining the public streets and walks in a safe condition for multimodal travel by keeping them reasonably clear of snow and ice and the placement of traction sand where necessary. Our heavy equipment and work trucks are a key component of these operations.

While we recognize the significant cost of this equipment and work to maintain our fleet to avoid expensive replacements, our fleet is aging and maintenance costs are rapidly increasing and we are experiencing reductions in reliability of mission critical equipment. These vehicles are mission critical and therefore we believe new equipment to be in the best interest of our operations.

The snow and ice plow/sand truck is a 2002 model and along with wear and tear that comes with the age of the vehicle, it is experiencing electrical problems affecting reliability. Our crews hope to repurpose this equipment for non-mission critical operations.

The work truck would replace a 2001 model. The new work truck will be equipped with a dump bed and sander which will enhance our snow management operations along our trails and sidewalks.

The skid loader would replace our 2005 model which is undersized for many of the demands we place on the machine. Further, the attachments will include a blower which we need for snow management operations in Rendezvous and some of our trails.

During this quest for new replacement equipment, staff has taken a different approach from how we have solicited bids for equipment in the past by reaching out to multiple vendors, specifically make and model which may be different than what we have in our inventory today. In the past, the thought that staying with same name brand equipment offered some benefits related to parts inventory, however, as makes and models evolve over time (13-18 years) we no longer feel the need to be one-brand loyal. Our current philosophy dictates identifying the most effective equipment for the job while maintaining cost effectiveness.

The 2018 Budget includes appropriations in the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund for these purchases.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Do nothing – no new purchases
2. Investigate the availability of used equipment purchase rather than new.
3. Approve the purchase of the equipment as outlined above.

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-05-12 authorizing the manager to purchase new heavy equipment from the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund for an amount NTE \$425,000.