



MEMO TO: Mayor Vandernail and the Board of Trustees
FROM: Jeffrey L. Durbin, Town Manager
DATE: August 28, 2018
SUBJECT: Public Works Equipment Purchase

MATTER BEFORE BOARD:

Approval of expenditures for purchase of

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of Resolution 2018-09-01.

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.

Given the goals established in the Downtown Strategic Plan, especially for increased pedestrian mobility, safety, and quality of experience, we have been investigating our operational practices and resources accordingly. Public Works staff is proposing acquisition of a new Bobcat side by side utility vehicle in the amount of \$55,000. This resource would facilitate the following:

- Safer travel on our trails for trash collection and maintenance activities.
- Better snow management on our trails and sidewalks as this equipment can utilize the same attachments as our skid steer (and we currently use pickup truck plows which are too large and cumbersome for our sidewalks and trails). It also has a bed for sand application.
- Improved snow removal operations in areas within limited access.
- Ability to use broom to sweep sidewalks and trails.

While this is more expensive side by side than recreational versions many may have experience operating, it is important to note that this is a heavy-duty vehicle and is designed to make use of the same attachments as our skid steer (plow blade, broom, snow blower, and bucket). Also, it includes an enclosed cabin which is important for winter snow management and street sweeping operations.

The Town of Winter Park currently has two of these units.

We have evaluated other available heavy-duty models summarized as follows:

- Kubota offers a model that is less expensive than the Bobcat. However, this would not allow interchangeable use of attachments. Further, the attachment mechanisms are not as efficient as Bobcat.
- John Deere offers a model, but it does not include a cabin. This is the model you often see at football games hauling away injured players.
- Toro offers a model similar to the John Deere model. However, this also does not include a cabin and is geared toward turf management (i.e. golf courses).

I support and recommend purchase of the Bobcat as requested by Public Works staff.

The 2018 Budget includes appropriations in the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund for these purchases. However, pursuant to recent financial planning discussions, I would propose a lease/purchase approach for this acquisition.

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-09-01 authorizing the manager to purchase new equipment from the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund.