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TOWN OF CHARLTON
Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting
Wednesday, March 15, 2023, 6:30pm
Selectmen's Meeting Room/Meeting Room 1
Town Hall, 37 Main St., Charlton, MA
ZOOM Webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87489442885>;
Passcode: 061416; Phone Access +1-646-558-8656

Present: Chairman – Stephen Koronis, Vice-Chairman – Patsy Rydlak, Clerk – Barbara Zurawski, Member – William Borowski, Town Administrator – Andrew Golas and Student Selectperson – Harry Kennan. Absent: Member – David M. Singer

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Koronis called the meeting to order at 6:30pm with the pledge of allegiance.

II. Consent Agenda / Warrant Approval as Needed

- a. Minutes of Regular Meeting – February 28, 2023 – 6:30pm. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to approve the minutes of February 28, 2023 as submitted, seconded by Ms. Zurawski, unanimous.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum

- Selectman Zurawski read the announcements.

IV. Appointments/Resignation:

1. Appointment – Cultural Council. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a talent bank form from Kathleen Hylka seeking to be appointed to the Cultural Council. The members of the Cultural Council have approved the request. He would recommend the board appoint Ms. Hylka with a term expiration date of June 30, 2026. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to make the appointment, seconded by Ms. Zurawski, unanimous.**
2. Appointment – Election Workers. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a request from the Town Clerk's office to appoint the following as Election Workers until December 31, 2023:
Greg Brunell
Nancy Mills-Chalk
LouEllen Corkum
Gerald Doble
Laura Ferguson
Sue Gelb
Bill Guy
Joe Haebler
Joan Houle
Joseph Francis Mahaney
Judy Maskell
Margaret O'Connor
Sylvia Stepien
Lois Sugrue
William Sugrue

He would recommend the board make the appointments. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to make the appointments, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.**

3. Appointment – Registrar of Voters. Mr. Golas stated that per M.G.L. c. 51 – Voters, when a Registrar of Voters term is about to expire, we must notify the Chairman of either the Democratic Town Committee or Republican Town Committee of this and ask them for a list or a recommendation of appointment for someone to fill the next term. The appointments are made by the Board of Selectmen. We contacted the Democratic Town Committee Chairman, Henry Weiland and their recommendation is for the Board to re-appoint Lisa Redmond as a Registrar of Voters (Dem) until April 1, 2026. He would recommend the board make the appointment. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to make the appointment, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.**
4. Appointment – Per Diem Dispatchers. Mr. Golas stated that the Board is being asked to appoint Robert Campbell as a Per Diem Dispatcher for the Charlton Police Department. He would recommend the board make the appointment. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to make the appointment, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.**
5. Appointment – Traffic Constables. Mr. Golas stated that the Board is being asked to appoint the following as Traffic Constables pending obtaining medical clearance, appropriate training and background checks:
Kevin Arena
Tracy Richardson
Denis LeBoeuf
Robert Campbell
Paul Legendre
Jacob Maldonado
Brian Garney
Daniel Crowley
Jeff Mora
He would recommend the board make the appointments as requested. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to make the appointments, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.**
6. Resignation – Assistant Treasurer/Collector. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a letter from Mary Markowski, Assistant Treasurer/Collector resigning her position with the town effective March 16, 2023. She has been offered the position of Treasurer/Collector in the Town of Hubbarston. It has been a pleasure working with her and he wishes her the very best in this new position. The Board should accept her resignation. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to accept the resignation with regret, seconded by Ms. Zurawski, unanimous.**
7. Resignation – Reserve Police Officer. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a notice from Jordan Ryan resigning as a Charlton Reserve Police Officer effective February 23, 2023 due to his new place of employment not allowing him to work for multiple police agencies. He would recommend the board accept his resignation. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to accept his resignation, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.**
8. Resignation – Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a notice from Ryan Avery resigning from the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate due to moving out of town. The Board should accept his resignation. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to accept his resignation, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.**

V. Scheduled Appointments:

6:40pm – Cultural Council – Update for the 2023 Art Show. Mr. Golas stated that the Cultural Council has

asked to be scheduled for the board's meeting to provide an update on the 2023 Art Show. Christine Grondalski entered the meeting via Zoom. She said the Cultural Council has engaged in a partnership with the Charlton Public Library and they will be running the art show at the Library during the month of May. This is a change from holding the art show during the Old Home Day celebration. The exhibit will run from May 8 – 19. A reception will be held on May 11 from 6 – 7 in Dexter Hall. Art work drop off is May 6th. James Pervier asked if the Cultural Council has applied for any grants to help cover the entertainment expense for Old Home Day. Ms. Grondalski said they had one applicant that they were able to partially fund and a notice was sent to the Chairman of the Old Home Day Committee.

6:45pm – Old Home Day Committee. Mr. Golas stated at the Board's last meeting, an announcement was made that the Old Home Day Committee changed the date of Old Home Day to Sunday, September 3, 2023 with a rain date for Monday, September 4, 2023. As Old Home Day has always been held on Labor Day itself for over the past one hundred years, we were asked to invite them to discuss the change and whether the Board of Selectmen must approve the change since the committee is appointed by the Board. Kathleen Walker, Chairman of the Old Home Day committee came forward. She explained the change in dates for Old Home Day. Last year they were rained out and the vendors count on this event to make money. The committee talked about a rain date in January and in February they voted unanimously to have it on Sunday with a rain date on Monday. Pastor Craig Bellisario came forward. He reached out to all the clergy in Charlton to see what they had to say and none had any concerns. There was only one that he hasn't been able to reach yet and will continue to do so. Danielle LeBoeuf came forward to talk about the road race. She said the Children's fun run is sponsored by the Charlton PTO and they would like to have it the same day as the events on the common. For the adult race, they would like to do it the same day as the events on the common. Gerry Doble came forward to discuss the Alumni dinner and reunion. He said they have the option to have it Saturday, Sunday or Monday and the Senior Center would be available. There will be golf carts available to get everyone where they need. Mike Lally came forward to talk about tradition. He wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day. So much work goes into this event by the volunteers. There was a lot of discussion with the changes to the event. Jim Pervier said the fireworks are scheduled for Saturday with a rain date on Sunday. Chairman Koronis asked if they reached out to the vendors and are they ok with the Sunday and a rain date for Monday? It was stated that they did send information out and haven't heard any issues from any of them. They are grateful that they have the options. Chairman Koronis said he has two concerns. All the volunteers might not be available for the whole weekend and there are two other big fairs going on that weekend. The committee agreed to try it on a Sunday with a rain date of Monday and will review after the event. Ms. Zurawski said she is a stickler for tradition but has no doubt the people that made that decision to move that to a Sunday are the people who actually run this. Ms. Rydlak agrees. Discussion of road race and police details. The road race has not been confirmed yet to happen on Sunday. The intention is to do it the same day as Old Home Day and that's what they are working towards. Judy Maskell was present to speak on the Charlton Alumni Association. Changing the date for Old Home Day would hinder on their event. They were never contacted about this. She would like to have everything stay the way it always has been. This year will be 50 years since the class of 1973 graduated from Charlton High School. Jim Pervier thinks we can work out the parking situation for the Alumni. Marilyn McKissick came forward and said that she remembers coming to Old Home Day at the age of 5. She has been here every year. This is a tradition. She asked how many years have we been doing this? This is a Charlton tradition and she has talked to a lot of people about this and they all feel the same way. Chairman Koronis said you can't put a monetary value on tradition. **Motion by Ms. Rydlak to have Old Home Day on Sunday with a rain date on Monday, seconded by Mr. Borowski.** Richard Piehl from Family Circle Drive came forward and said the board should hold off on voting on this for a few weeks to see if everyone can work together. Chairman Koronis would like to hold on this until we have two more answers. **It was recommended to add to the motion to make it contingent upon dinner and the race. Ms. Rydlak amended her motion. Mr.**

Borowski amended his second. Motion passes unanimous.

VI. New Business:

1. One Day Special Alcoholic Beverage License request – St. Joseph’s Church – Mary Martha Guild. Mr. Golas stated that attached is an application submitted by St. Joseph’s Church – Mary Martha Guild for a Special Alcoholic Beverages License to serve wine and malt beverages to be used on Saturday, April 1, 2023 and Saturday, November 11, 2023, 5:00pm – 11:00pm, 10 H. Putnam Road Ext. for a meat raffle. The application was forwarded to the Police Chief, Building Commissioner and Fire Chief and all approved. Per the Board’s policy, if the special alcoholic beverage license is approved, the dates on the license should be for the day before the event to allow the alcohol to be delivered, the day of the event and the day after the event to allow any alcohol left over to be picked up. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to approve the Special Alcoholic Beverage License as submitted by St. Joseph’s Church – Mary Martha Guild with the dates on the license to be March 31, 2023 – April 2, 203 and November 10, 2023 – November 12, 2023, seconded by Ms. Zurawski, unanimous.**

2. One Day Special Alcoholic Beverage License request – St. Joseph’s Council 11379 Knights of Columbus. Mr. Golas stated that attached is an application submitted by St. Joseph’s Council 11379 Knights of Columbus for a Special Alcoholic Beverages License to serve wine and malt beverages to be used on Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 6:00pm – 9:30pm, 10 H. Putnam Road Ext. for a St. Patrick’s Day dinner. The application was forwarded to the Police Chief, Building Commissioner and Fire Chief and all approved. Per the Board’s policy, if the special alcoholic beverage license is approved, the dates on the license should be for the day before the event to allow the alcohol to be delivered, the day of the event and the day after the event to allow any alcohol left over to be picked up. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to approve the Special Alcoholic Beverage License as submitted by St. Joseph’s Council 11379 Knights of Columbus with the dates on the license to be March 17, 2023 – March 19, 2023, seconded by Ms. Zurawski, unanimous.**

3. Request from Council on Aging to declare 40 chairs as surplus. Mr. Golas stated that Shari Russell, Director of Council on Aging is asking the Board to declare 40 chairs they have that were donated to them many years ago from the Fire Department as surplus. They no longer have any need or room for them. He would recommend the board declare them as surplus. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to declare the 40 chairs as surplus, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.**

VII. Old Business:

1. Discussion of School Feasibility Study and Possible Funding. Mr. Golas stated that Selectmen Borowski asked that this item be placed on the agenda to discuss the School Feasibility Study and possible funding. In order for the Shepherd Hill renovation/Replacement Project to remain in the MSBA program, the funding source of the required feasibility study must be authorized by the member towns prior to June 30, 2023. The Shepherd Hill School Building Committee has recommended a total budget of \$1 Million for the feasibility phase. Charlton’s share would be approximately 53% and is reimbursable under the MSBA program.

Courses of action the Board may consider include:

1. Capital Exclusion -- One year tax assessment which would require a Ballot Vote at the annual election and acceptance by Town Meeting. A \$500,000 Capital Exclusion would be estimated at \$0.21 per \$1,000 for 1 year (\$82.70 on Year for average SF House).

2. Reserve Funding Sources – Charlton has \$600,779 in available Free Cash and \$238,908 in unallocated ARPA Funds. The Selectmen may consider a combination of these funding sources.

The Finance Committee has taken these options under consideration and have recommended petitioning the Town for a Capital Exclusion. What are the wishes of the Board?

2. Discussion of Charlton Fire Substation Feasibility Study. Mr. Golas stated that the Fire Department Substation Committee evaluated proposals for architect to conduct a feasibility study for the development of a

Substation at the entry of Charlton Middle School. \$50,000 in ARPA funding has been allocated to conduct a study. The Substation Committee chose Context Architecture as its preferred architect. Upon service fee negotiations, it was determined that the total cost to perform the Space Needs Assessment, Site Evaluation, Pre-Schematic Design, Project Cost Estimation and implementation plan would be \$171,000. In order to stay within the approved funding amount, the feasibility study has been cut into two parts with the Space Needs Assessment, Site Evaluation and Response Time Analysis falling under Phase 1. The Site Development, Pre-Schematic Design, Project Cost Estimation and implementation plan would be Phase 2 contingent on further appropriation. The Committee has requested the Board of Selectmen consider supporting a Free Cash transfer in the amount of \$130,000 to fund Phase 2 of the feasibility study. The Finance Committee recommends the \$130,000 transfer. Mr. Borowski said we need to decide if we are going to fund and how and we have to make a decision by June 30th. He stated for the people watching that this is their vote, they can approve or not. He asked the board if there was general agreement that we should proceed with the study and the answer was yes. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to place on the Annual Town Meeting warrant an article that fully funds the Shepherd Hill/MSBA feasibility study from a combination of free cash and the rest of the ARPA money, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous. Motion by Mr. Borowski to fund for the Fire Substation Feasibility Study the \$130,000 extra via free cash and putting it on as a separate town meeting article, seconded by Ms. Zurawski, unanimous.**

3. Annual Town Meeting Warrant requests – Close ATM Warrant. Mr. Golas stated that the board is scheduled to close the Annual Town Meeting warrant tonight. Below is the list of articles for the board’s consideration to be included in the warrant that have been submitted:

- ARTICLE 1. ELECTION
- ARTICLE 2. TOWN REPORTS
- ARTICLE 3. LITIGATION
- ARTICLE 4. APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR UNPAID BILLS OF A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR
- ARTICLE 5. INTER/INTRA DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFERS FOR FY23
- ARTICLE 6. TOWN BUDGET
- ARTICLE 7. WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET (ENTERPRISE FUND)
- ARTICLE 8. SEWER DEPARTMENT BUDGET (ENTERPRISE FUND)
- ARTICLE 9. CAPITAL ITEMS AND RELATED CONTRACTS
- ARTICLE 10. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO AND FROM STABILIZATION FUND ACCOUNT
- ARTICLE 11. CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE
- ARTICLE 12. REVOLVING FUNDS
- ARTICLE 13. CONSERVATION FUND
- ARTICLE 14. ACQUISITION OF PERMANENT ACCESS EASEMENT TO GLEN ECHO LAKE DAM
- ARTICLE 15. ACCEPT M.G.L. C. 40, SEC. 58 – MUNICIPAL CHARGES LIEN
- ARTICLE 16. RESCIND CH. 155 – LICENSES & PERMITS, ARTICLE II – FINGERPRINTING, SECTIONS 155-6 THROUGH 155-13
- ARTICLE 17. GENERAL BYLAW AMENDMENT – CH. 160 – PEDDLING & SOLICITING
- ARTICLE 18. ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT – AMEND SECTION 2 OF THE ZONING BYLAW
- ARTICLE 19. ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT – AMEND SECTION 6 OF THE ZONING BYLAW

He would recommend the board approve the draft list of articles as presented and close the Annual Town Meeting warrant tonight. **Mr. Borowski asked if we should move Article 9 in front of Article 6 and made a motion to do so, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.** Chairman Koronis has a question regarding Article 13 and it was asked to invite the Conservation Commission to the next meeting. **Motion by Mr.**

Borowski to close the warrant, seconded by Ms. Rydlak, unanimous.

VIII. BOS Committee Reports

IX. BOS Policy Review

XI. Student Selectperson Report – Mr. Kennan reviewed his report. (attached)

XII. Town Administrator Report – Mr. Golas reviewed his report. (attached)

XIII. Other Business (unknown at time of posting)

Fire Chief Contract – Two BOS members needed. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to have Ms. Rydlak and Ms. Zurawski be the members, seconded by Ms. Zurawski, unanimous.**

XIV. Next Meeting Announcement:

BOS Special Meeting w/Government Study Committee – March 21, 2023, 6pm, Meeting Room 1

BOS Regular Meeting - March 28, 2023 – 6:30pm – Meeting Room 1

XV. Adjourn/Executive Session – **Motion by Mr. Borowski to adjourn at 8:13pm, seconded by Ms. Zurawski, unanimous.**

Submitted by:

Mary C. Devlin

Executive Assistant

Accepted by:



Stephen G. Koronis, Chairman



Barbara Zurawski, Clerk



Halsy Rydlak, Vice-Chairman

David M. Singer, Member (absent)

William Borowski, Member

Shepherd Hill - Student Representative Report

Harry Kennan

March 15, 2023

The **Shepherd Hill Show Choir** participated in the 2023 Andover New England Show Choir Showdown this past Friday and Saturday, and while they did not win, they represented our school well and ought to be proud of themselves for their hard work.

Shepherd Hill Sophomores will be taking the **English MCAS** on March 28th and 29th; we wish them the best of luck in this endeavor.

Those signed up to participate in **Spring Sports** in the following months attended a mandatory informational open house this Monday, March 13th; we look forward to seeing how are teams play out during the final season of the school year.

Student Council is hosting a **Dodgeball Tournament** on Thursday, March 16th at 6:00 P.M.; teams must consist of seven people and the cost is \$3 per person.

Tri-M and the National Honor Society are holding a **Musical Bingo Night** on Thursday, March 23rd at 6:00 P.M.! Half of the proceeds will go to the winner (which could be up to \$150!) and the other half go to music charities.

The next fundraiser for the Class of 2024 is... my own plays! All profits go directly to the class fund; I do not benefit financially from this. "CLAY," a fictionalized account of the career three-time failed presidential candidate Henry Clay, can be bought for \$10; "Tim for mayor," a humorous spoof of modern politics, can also be bought for \$10; and "The Harry Kennan Fun Pack," which includes both plays, can be bought for \$15. These will be available until Friday, March 24th.



Town of Charlton

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Andrew M. Golas, Town Administrator

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Andrew Golas, Town Administrator
DATE: March 13, 2023
SUBJECT: Town Administrator's Report – for Selectmen's meeting of 3/15/2023

Government Study Committee Meeting – Reminder - The Government Study Committee has been working diligently on reviewing and preparing recommendations on potential changes to municipal governance. With the impending retirement of DPW Director Gerry Foskett, the Committee would like to meet with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the future structure of the department in preparation of hiring a successor. The Committee has invited the Board to their March 21st meeting at 6:00 PM in Meeting Room 1 to discuss this with the Selectmen.

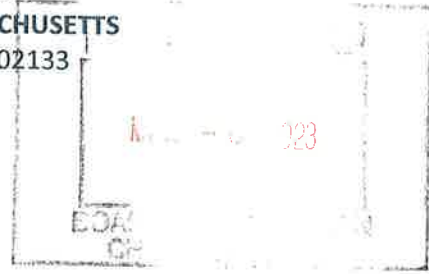
FY24 Chapter 90 – We have received notification from the Governor's Office that Charlton's Chapter 90 apportionment for FY24 will be \$619,550.41. The letter is attached for your review.

MBI Municipal Digital Equity Planning Program – In recognition of available funding in technology investments from the federal level, we have submitted an expression of interest to participate in the Municipal Digital Equity Planning Program through the Mass Broadband Institute. As part of the Digital Equity Charrette, consultants will organize and facilitate an intensive workshop engaging municipal officials, community groups, and other stakeholders to gather information on the needs of residents and the digital equity issues facing the municipality. The Town of Charlton has been accepted into the program and will be working with CMRPC through this process. We will be looking for members of the community to serve on a steering committee for this process.

FY24 Capital Advocacy Letter – As we have officially entered peak budget season, I have filed a letter with each of our legislators outlaying the Town's capital priorities and highlights to areas in the state budget which are impactful to Charlton. In this year's letter I highlighted the formula struggles we have seen with the distribution of Chapter 70 funding and the impact that it has had on our school assessment. We hope that our legislative partners take our position into consideration as opportunities arise in the budget process.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
 STATE HOUSE BOSTON, MA 02133
 (617) 725-4000



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 Maura
 TR 1/1/23

MAURA T. HEALEY
 GOVERNOR

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 28, 2023

Andrew Golas
 Charlton Town Administrator
 37 Main Street
 Charlton, MA 01507

Dear Administrator Golas,

We are pleased to announce that under the new administration of Governor Maura Healey and Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, a total of \$400 million for Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 has been filed for the MassDOT Chapter 90 Program to support local infrastructure across the Commonwealth's 351 cities and towns over the next two years.

While transition and planning are underway, this filing demonstrates the Administration's continued support in strengthening municipal partnerships and providing financial resources that support transportation improvements at the local level.

This letter certifies that, contingent upon legislative approval of the \$200 million annual bond authorization, Charlton's Chapter 90 apportionment for Fiscal Year 2024 is \$619,550.41.

Once the bill is enacted, this apportionment will automatically be incorporated into your existing Chapter 90 contract with MassDOT with no further action needed by the municipality. Apportionments for all communities are available online at www.mass.gov/chapter-90-program. Please note that while the bill enacting these funds has been filed, the funds are not available for municipal use until final legislative approval is obtained.

The Chapter 90 Program is an integral part of maintaining and enhancing your community's infrastructure and is an essential component of our state-local partnership. We look forward to working with you in the coming year to continue the success of this program.

Sincerely,

GOVERNOR MAURA T. HEALEY

LT. GOVERNOR KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL



Town of Charlton

OFFICE OF THE
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Andrew M. Golas, Town Administrator

March 6, 2023

Hon. Senator Ryan Fattman
State House
24 Beacon St.
Room 213-A
Boston, MA, 02133

Re: Capital Advocacy Letter

Dear Senator Fattman,

Thank you for the opportunity to lay out the growing capital needs of the Town of Charlton. The Town has made many strides in recent years to stabilize many of the Town's financial liabilities as the Town continues to grow. Unfortunately, a great demand for capital improvements still remains which projects to be a significant burden on the taxpayers of Charlton.

Attached to this outline is the full capital needs list for the town. Assistance in addressing any of these items would be of immense benefit to the community and would be greatly appreciated.

Minimum Chapter 70 Aid Increase

Prior to outlining the capital needs of the community, I would like to outline an issue impacting our budget outlook as it relates to planned capital expenditures. The Town of Charlton, as part of the Dudley – Charlton Regional School District (DCRSD), is facing unprecedented operational budget demands through the assessment formula. A budget line that is approximately 50% of total expenditures looks to increase by \$2.2 Million (15%) over FY23. The Town and District have been grappling with a 14% Out of District Placement increase set by OSD, increases in transportation costs related to fuel and driver salaries, inflated utility prices as well as overall contractual increases for staff.

Despite Governor Healey proposing “historic investments in local aid”, DCRSD is projected to only receive a \$200,000 increase in Chapter 70 Funding, a 0.8% increase, over FY23. The investment in local aid is only being realized inside the 495 corridor and are not reaching the areas of greatest need. The inequities in the Chapter 70 formula must be corrected to better assist towns facing declining enrollment but increased operational costs. While a complete overhaul of the Chapter 70 Formula is not on the table this year, we hope for your advocacy in increasing the minimum student aid to hold harmless districts from \$30 per student to \$100 per student.

Fire Sub-Station Building Design – \$500,000

The Town of Charlton has been moving for years to build a new Fire Station to address the inadequate facilities that the Town currently has. The Town extensively tried to pass a \$28.5 Million debt exclusion for the construction of a Public Safety Building which ultimately didn't pass.

Currently, there are many deficiencies with the existing Fire Department facilities. Some of the challenges include:

- Limited Parking at the current Headquarters
- Property leases for the storage of equipment
- Tight space for turnout gear storage
- Limited facilities to decontaminate protective gear from cancer agents

Since 2014, the department has seen a ten percent increase in calls for service year over year. And since 1986, the Department has grown from 3 full time firefighters to 21 full time Union firefighter/EMTs.

The Town currently houses four pieces of apparatus in our "Station 2" which has multiple structurally deficient issues. These include being built in a flood plain, lack of restroom facilities and regular mold issues. "Station 3" houses the Town's \$1.2 Million tower truck and is essentially a Quonset Hut located on leased land.

Since the failure of the Public Safety Debt Exclusion, a Fire Station Building Committee was reformed to establish plans for a fire station only building with the goal of seeking construction approval at Town Meeting. It is estimated that the project cost of that project was approximately \$19 Million. Ultimately, Town Meeting did not endorse further studies into the Fire Station Replacement.

The Town is in a position that it must do something to address the structural deficient issues at Station 2, however, the only recommended course of action is full demolition and replacement. The 43 square miles covered by the department justify the need for a second station located strategically apart from headquarters.

Preliminary estimates suggest the cost of this course of action would be approximately \$10 Million. The town has leveraged \$50,000 in ARPA funds towards feasibility for this project

We are asking that the Legislature consider dedicating funding to assist in the design phase of this project to improve the likelihood of passage.

Sewer Headworks Replacement - \$1.7 Million

The town is looking into extensive upgrades to the Town's Wastewater infrastructure through sewer plant upgrades. We have engaged a feasibility study to look at ways to address our

ammonia loads to meet the requirements of the NPDES permit and expand process capacity to handle the new growth along Route 20. The study has recommended two major upgrades, Headworks improvements and secondary process improvements.

It is estimated that the Headworks upgrade will cost approximately \$1.7 Million. The town has committed ARPA funds towards the engineering of this to make the project shovel ready. Without any outside funding support, this cost will be born directly from the sewer users and delays will inhibit future growth along Rt. 20. Furthermore the natural growth of the sewer usage will continue to exceed the limits of the NPES permit without significant upgrade. The Board of Selectmen have committed to supporting any means necessary to make these upgrades possible.

The Town is thankful to the legislature for including \$1,000,000 in funding towards this project in Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2022, AN ACT RELATIVE TO MASSACHUSETTS' TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES AND CLIMATE, however, this funding has been held in limbo and has not been issued under this bond authorization. We ask for your assistance in releasing the funds authorized under the Bond and securing additional funds to improve our sewer infrastructure.

Police Station Facility Upgrades - \$100,000

The Town of Charlton continues to pursue necessary upgrades to our police station following the failed passage of the Public Safety Building Debt Exclusion. Despite continual investments in the existing facilities, a laundry list of items still remains to be complete. This includes electrical and HVAC upgrades, parking lot expansion, garage door replacement and infrastructure to support the K9 program. We ask for some assistance in keeping these investments on track.

Thank you very much for the consideration of our requests. I have included a tentative capital plan for the community to show the full list of capital demands that we face over the next few years.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Andrew M. Golas
Town Administrator

Cc: Stephen Koronis, Chairman, Charlton Board of Selectmen
Henry Camosse, Jr, Charlton Finance Committee
Ashley Obrzut, Charlton Finance Director

Enclosure: Draft Capital Plan Dated 3-6-2023

Department	Project Number	Request Title	Project Total	To Date	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	Total
		Range Paving/Repairs	\$27,500.00		\$27,500.00					\$27,500.00
		Windows	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00				\$25,000.00
		Plate Readers	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00					\$25,000.00
		Cruiser Technology	\$75,000.00		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$75,000.00
		Tactical Gear/ASHER	\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00					\$50,000.00
		3 Cruisers/year	\$1,050,000.00		\$210,000.00	\$210,000.00	\$210,000.00	\$210,000.00	\$210,000.00	\$1,050,000.00
		Total Police	\$3,116,500.00	\$0.00	\$631,500.00	\$1,060,000.00	\$475,000.00	\$475,000.00	\$475,000.00	\$3,116,500.00
		Computer Network Replacements	\$400,000.00		\$75,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$400,000.00
		Total Technology	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$400,000.00
		Total Departments	\$24,797,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,527,000.00	\$13,635,500.00	\$6,455,000.00	\$620,000.00	\$560,000.00	\$24,797,500.00