



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, including back up information, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to the requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: 1/21/21 Date of Meeting: 2/11/21
Submitted by: Sarita Croce Time Required: 15
Department: DPW/WWTP Background Info. Supplied: Yes No
Speakers: Sarita Croce

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment: Recognition/Resignation/Retirement:
Public Hearing: Old Business:
New Business: Consent Agenda:
Nonpublic: Other:

TITLE OF ITEM

Request withdrawal of \$63,000 from Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase of a replacement grinder to cut-up wipes and rags.

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

The current method of handling wipes and rags is a grinder. The grinder is currently failing and needs to be replaced. The estimated cost for the grinder is \$63,000. We are requesting permission to use the remaining funds from the truck purchase.

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA: Warrant Article:
Charter Article: Town Meeting:
Other: N/A:

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector: Grant Requirements:
Easel: Joint Meeting:
Special Seating: Other:
Laptop: None:

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Sarita Croce Address: 36 Mast Road, Merrimack NH
Phone Number: 603-420-1620 Email Address: scroce@merrimacknh.gov

APPROVAL

Town Manager: Yes No Chair/Vice Chair: Yes No



TOWN OF MERRIMACK, NH
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

36 MAST ROAD – P.O. BOX 235 – MERRIMACK, NH 03054
PHONE: 603-883-8196 – FAX: 603-886-1513 – WWW.MERRIMACKNH.GOV

To: Kyle Fox
Public Works Director

From: Sarita Croce
Assistant Public Works Director/Wastewater

Cc: Derek Connell
Maintenance Manager

Date: January 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Request to Purchase a Replacement Grinder for Main Pump Station

The Phase III upgrade includes the installation of a screener to remove wipes and rags from sewage in the Main Pump Station. The current method of handling these wipes and rags is a grinder. The grinder is currently failing and needs to be replaced. The estimated cost for the grinder including installation is \$63,000 which is the remaining. The Town budgeted \$440,000 for the purchase of the vacuum truck. The cost for the truck is \$377,129 which is \$62,871 under budget. We are requesting permission to use the remaining funds from the truck purchase to purchase the grinder.

The grinder in the main pump station grinds liquid-borne solids in sewage with a straight-through open channel design. The open channel design allows for unobstructed flow of sewage which prevents a back-up. While the grinder will not be as effective as the screener, it is currently the only protection we have to prevent plugging and damage of downstream pumps and pipes.

The current grinder is severely rusted. The teeth and basket are beyond repair. The current unit is hydraulically controlled which means a light oil is used to move the gear box on top of the grinder. It also has an electric pump which moves the light oil. Based on the current schedule the screenings building will be completed in 1.5 to 2 years. During the past year, the Town has replaced the hydraulic hoses multiple times and had to repair the gear box which stopped functioning. We will need the grinder to handle the rags and wipes during the construction period. The grinder will also be need when the new screen is being maintained. During the scheduled preventive maintenance activities, the sewage flow will be diverted to the grinder channel.

Hydraulically controlled grinders are no longer preferred. The proposed new grinder will not be hydraulically controlled which will eliminate any chance oil leaks. The new grinder will be electrically controlled. The controls will be placed in the current electrically room and will be maintained during and after the upgrade. The electrically controlled grinder will be easier to maintain and have less potential for failure.

Below is a picture of the current grinder in the Main Pump Station and a new grinder. Please note, the new grinder is the updated model of what the Main Pump Station currently has. .



The Town has obtained an estimated cost to replace the current grinder with an identical unit. The cost for equipment and installation is \$62,083. The WWTP plans to obtain competitive bids for this purchase. We are respectfully requesting permission to proceed with this purchase.