Agenda Summary
October 21, 2026

Agenda Item No. B-2
FY'28 Preliminary Capital Project Updates Discussion

Summary: This time has been set aside for the Manager with staff support to provide the Selectboard with a status update on major capital projects for all municipal funds and anticipate future General Fund Capital Projects to be potentially introduced for consideration in FY'28.

Significant General Fund capital projects are underway, and status updates for each include the following:

- **Depot Street / Park Place Reconstruction**: This includes the water main replacement (approved Water Fund appropriations in FY25), roadway, sidewalk, and lighting reconstruction, along with stormwater and miscellaneous streetscape improvements. It will also include similar improvements along Park Place providing a positive and enhanced drainage outlet for Memorial Park and Stowe Elementary School. Dufresne Group Consulting Engineers has been hired to work with staff for project design and permitting, and a project presentation is scheduled for the 11/4 Selectboard Agenda.
- **Memorial Park –** The enhanced drainage outlet for Memorial Park and Stowe Elementary School as part of the Depot Street Project is an important first step. Engineering Ventures and Arrowwood Consulting, Wetland Scientist, has been retained to work with staff and evaluate potential achievable aspects of the Master Plan. They presented their findings to the Selectboard on 10/14. This was classified as a "Bold Move" and "Short-term Priority" in the current draft of the updated Stowe Town Plan.
- **Parker Barn –** The project is underway with the new foundation construction recently completed. Contractor is anticipated to substantially complete the structural elements this year and the work to be complete exterior finishes in spring 2027.
- **Inclusionary Zoning Consultant –** A consultant has been hired and is currently working with the Planning Commission to make recommendations to the Selectboard.
- **Stowe Library/Current Building HVAC –** Mechanical Engineer has performed preliminary site visit and has started conceptual design.
- **Public Safety Building Stormwater System Modifications –** This project is designed, permitted and under contract for construction in 2027.
- **Akeley Theater Curtains and Memorial Room Sunshades –** Ordered with an anticipated delivery date of Winter 2026/2027.
- **Relocate Sprinkler in Public Safety Server Room** – This work is contracted and underway with a November 2026 anticipated completion.

Staff anticipates introducing to the Selectboard the following major capital projects, which is defined as a project costing over $100,000 with the understanding that the year of implementation will depend on available funding and prioritization:

- Permitting, Easements and Construction of the Depot St and Park Place Reconstruction

- Bridge to replace failed Moss Glenn Falls Rd Culvert
- Nebraska Valley Rd Stream Bank Stabilization
- Culvert replacement on Moscow Rd at Barrows Brook (Grant funded with Local Match)
- 3-Acre Stormwater Permits Impact fees and treatment practice construction.
- Replacement of the Library Elevator and front walkway (potentially partially funded)

Town Plan & Other Policy Impact: The current draft of the Stowe Town Plan (2026) includes the following implementation task: *Annually revise and maintain a capital budget and program that schedules capital improvements in relation to anticipated growth, local development objectives, and available financing and considers the cost/benefit of energy efficient projects*.

Fiscal & Staff Impact: The Town currently has $2,764,537 Capital Fund balance with $2,903,349 committed to approved projects. The anticipated collection of Local Option Rooms, Meals, and Alcohol Taxes for FY'27 is $1,500,000, less Debt payments for Arena of $350,000 and $199,023 for the underground utility lines. This leaves $812,165 of an uncommitted fund surplus by end of FY'27. For FY'28 staff anticipate budgeting $1,700,000 for Local Option Rooms, Meals, and Alcohol Taxes. Less arena ($350,000) and underground utility lines ($196,475) debt service, the available fund balance for FY'28 is $1,965,691.

It should be noted that the Public Safety Building debt is scheduled to retire at the end of FY'29. This will potentially free up $360,000 per year of debt capacity without increasing taxes.

Recommendation: This time has been set aside for initial discussion purposes to answer questions and to receive initial feedback from the Selectboard prior to advancing the proposed FY'28 Capital Budget at your 12/17 meeting. No formal action is required at this time.