Town of Swanzey, New Hampshire

Capital Improvement Program Committee (CIPC)

Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2025

Swanzey, NH

Note: Draft minutes are subject to review, correction, and approval by the Board. Review and approval of minutes generally take place at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

CALL TO ORDER

CIPC was called to order by Chair Steven Bittel at 1:05 pm.

Members present: Chair Steven Bittel, Vice Chair Bruce Bohannon, Selectmen's Representative James Tempesta, Pat Ambrosio, Larry Crowder, Mark Scalera and Planning Board Representative Michael York.

Others present: Recording Secretary Beverly Bernard, Town Administrator Lori Rautiola, Department of Public Works (DPW) Director Joe DiRusso, David Hoitt representing Stratton Free Library, and resident Liz Traynor.

MINUTES

Bohannon **motioned** to accept the minutes from November 6, 2025. Second made by Crowder with no further discussion. All were in favor, ***motion passed.***

CURRENT BUSINESS

Review Town Hall numbers

The members reviewed funding requests for Town Hall and for Roads. Agreed unanimously to budget Town Hall with $200,000 in 2026 and $150,000 in 2027. DiRusso also discussed budget for Road Rehab and Reconstruction, and it was agreed upon unanimously to budget $400,000 for 2026 and 2027.

There was a brief discussion regarding possible foundation work for the Goldenrod Grange. DiRusso said whatever is decided the expenditure should do a complete restoration job of the foundation and not a patchwork fix.

Stratton Free Library

Discussion was held regarding moving some numbers around while keeping the same $15,000 total for 2026. Hoitt said $4,000 is sufficient for repairing brickwork. He said the budget could reflect a change for Weatherization to $10,000 and Water Intrusion to $8,000 for 2026 and 2027 change Weatherization to $10,000 and Water Intrusion to $7,500.

He noted a new Computer request for $14,700. This is for desktops, laptops, and other technical equipment and includes installation. Currently the cash contribution is $15,000 yearly. Discussion about spreading the computer costs was held. A new line item was added for Computers increasing the annual contribution from $15,000 to $27,000 for 2026 by adding

$12,000 to the total for computers. $12,000 in 2026 and $3,000 in 2027 for Computers. Grant/fundraising was increased from $5,000 to $8,000.

Discussion and motion to pass 2026 CIP Budget.
Bohannon asked whether *Emergency Management* has been addressed for the new fire station. Bittel said they have a quote and that it is not included in the budget.

Fire Truck – Tempesta said he is concerned about the lack of research around the expensive purchase of a new fire engine (budget is $750,000). Bittel agreed that more research is needed and pointed out that getting a good used engine means waiting for the right opportunity and buying a new engine requires a major lag in delivery due to customization. He said it is a timing issue. He suggested that the Board of Selectmen present a Warrant Article to the voters and if it passes, the bonding can be set aside until the Board feels they have a properly researched decision. Tempesta said he would like to see more information brought to the Board of Selectmen. He said it is a big expense to the Town. It was noted the Combo cab is the larger truck and a good concept assuming a rescue vehicle can be dispensed with. Bittel pointed out that If the Warrant Article passes, the funding will be available, but there is no need to authorize the purchase. Authorization from 2026 could carry over to future years.

Bittel asked if anyone had further issues or questions to raise regarding the Capital budget and no one did.

Motion was made by York to pass the 2026 CIP Budget as amended. There was a second by Crowder and no further discussion. All were in favor. ***Motion passed.***

Presentation to BOS ~5:30 PM, Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT
Bohannon **motioned** to adjourn, and York seconded the motion without further discussion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beverly Bernard, Recording Secretary

DRAFT