

January 9, 2022

To the Members of the Select Board:

We the members of the Exeter Facilities Advisory Committee write today regarding the following CIP items. Over the past year, we have met multiple times with the respective Departments to discuss these projects. We offer these recommendations as the result of our discussions and deliberations.

By unanimous votes of 5-0, we support funding for the following items:

- \$1,250,000 for the acquisition of the 10 Hampton Rd property for the Parks & Recreation Department
- \$100,000 for the Raynes Farm Barn Improvements (assuming \$100,000 LCHIP grant and \$50,000 from the Conservation fund, for a total of \$250,000 for barn restoration)
- \$45,000 for a town-wide Facilities Condition Assessment and Facility Asset Management software to be managed by the DPW.

We believe that the acquisition of the 10 Hampton Road property for the Parks & Recreation Department not only helps address the Department's near-term needs in a more affordable manner, but it also enables the Town to consider re-use options for the Department's current 30-32 Court Street site more quickly than initially projected.

Our support for the Raynes Farm project is explained in a letter we sent to the Select Board on August 24, 2021. It is attached for your convenience.

The Facilities Condition Assessment is a high priority for our Committee since it is critical to the Town's ability to anticipate and plan for the Town's facility needs. In November, we circulated to the BRC, through the Town Manager's Office, a more detailed justification for this project. That document is attached for your convenience.

We recommend conditional approval of one other CIP item. Regarding the Public Works Garage, we are in favor of allocating \$50,000 for continued planning of the DPW complex, but with the condition that it be used first and foremost for a third-party operational analysis. We recommend a study similar to those conducted by CPSM for the police and fire departments. The information in those reports provided the proper foundation for the ongoing public safety complex feasibility study. We recommend following this model for the DPW complex. Any funds unused by the operational study should be used for site survey work.

A representative from our Committee will be happy to answer any questions the Select Board Members might have about these recommendations at your Bond & Budget Hearing scheduled for January 18, 2021.

Thank you for your consideration,
The Exeter Facilities Advisory Committee

Kris Weeks, Chair
Peter Lennon, Vice Chair
Rob Corson
Mark Leighton
Amanda Kelly