

**Town of Burlington  Capital Budget Committee****Minutes of the Capital Budget Committee  
Meeting of March 30, 2021**

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1. Chairman Zabolotny called the March 30, 2021 Capital Budget Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Webex meeting.

**Members Present:** Ernest Zabolotny, Adam Senesi, Gary Mercier( @7:20), Gary Kasky, Myrna Saltman, Salvana Shakieb and Mark Woods.

Other attendees: Amy Warfield, Clerk, and Patricia O'Brien, TM member

The purpose of the meeting was to review the expected request for FY 2022 of new voting machine equipment that was deferred last year due to Covid related budget concerns.

Amy Warfield described the previous and currently planned request for 8 voting machines, one for each of seven precincts and a spare, to replace the existing machines which date back to 2007 with some ancillary additions that occurred when the Town added an additional precinct. There has already been some experience with machine failures during elections where the backup equipment was required to be put into service and more such difficulties can be expected as the equipment ages. As the technology for such equipment improves it has become increasingly difficult to find replacement parts to allow continued reliance on the existing equipment. The primary area of concern is the condition and reliability of the optical scanning components.

Competing bids from manufactures have been received and both are priced below the requested allowance of \$50,000 for the new voting machines and ancillary equipment for ballot storage and handling. It was also noted that the cost per machine was similar to that experienced for the existing machines so it appears there has been no significant cost escalation of equipment.

No other issues related to this capital purchase were raised and Amy Warfield explained that any future equipment purchases were likely to be related to information technology and would be made under IT department requests.

A number of questions were asked regarding the voting process and the actual vote counts to which Mrs. Warfield provided an impromptu short course of the voting process, staff functions, issue resolution and steps taken to ensure safe, secure, and fair to all vote for which results are rapidly available and verifiable.

**Adjourn**

The Capital Budget Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.