

FY 2027 Budget Questions & Answers

Finance Committee

Dept. Number, Name + Account	Questioner's Name/Question	Response
Capital - DPW	Fryer: For each of the requested vehicle/equipment replacements requested, please answer the following. 1) How many years beyond expected life is the vehicle? 2) What is the impact if the vehicle is unavailable? 3) What is the maintenance history and costs for the vehicle, as much as is available? 4) What is the main driving factor necessitating replacement this fiscal year? 5) What is the lead time to get a replacement if the request is approved?	Lori Halverson: 2000 544H John Deere Front End Loader Replacement 1.) This is 11 years beyond its expected life 2.) This piece of equipment is used daily for Highway and Parks operations as it's used to load the dump trucks with materials such as salt, sand, snow, loam, gravel, ect. 3.) While we do not have a complete repair history for this equipment, as it continues to age the frequency and cost of repairs have increased, and replacement parts are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. 4.) This machine is stationed at the Town's salt shed during winter storms and is responsible for loading each vehicle, placing it in one of the harshest operating environments for much of its service life. At 25 years old, the unit has become increasingly difficult to maintain, with parts harder to obtain and repair costs continuing to rise. 5.) Lead time when quote was obtained in September 2025 was 4 - 6 months 2004 6 Wheel Dump Truck w/ Plow 1.) This vehicle is 10 years beyond its expected life 2.) This vehicle is a key piece of equipment for our operations from hauling materials to plowing snow. 3.) While we do not have a complete repair history for this equipment, as it continues to age the frequency and cost of repairs have increased, and replacement parts are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain.

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		4.) The truck is 21 years old and operates in some of the harshest conditions, regularly spreading and hauling salt. Recent replacement orders have taken nearly three years for delivery, forcing the Town to invest in increasingly expensive repairs to keep vehicles well beyond their expected service life in operation. 5.) Unfortunately, the lead time for a completed truck is unknown at this point. Recently the lead times for the cab and chassis have improved and they can be delivered in about 5 months but the backlog at the upfitter is extremely long and unpredictable – We have not received the truck we ordered in April, 2023, nor the two trucks ordered in April 2024. 2013 Wacker Neuson 9503 Wheeled Excavator 1.) This piece of equipment is at its expected life and is on the schedule for replacement 2.) The wheeled excavator is a highly versatile piece of equipment due to its wide range of attachments. In addition to excavation work, it is used for roadside mowing, drainage and culvert projects, maintenance of beaver obstructions, handling and placing logs, and a variety of other maintenance and construction tasks that support daily DPW operations. 3.) Although we do not have a complete history of repair costs, this unit has experienced extensive downtime over the past year, totaling more than 60 days out of service. It is now facing significant upcoming repairs, including replacement of couplers, and its hydraulic pumps have required rebuilding every 300 operating hours. We have also encountered ongoing electrical and wiring issues, which are costly to diagnose and repair.

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		Compounding these problems, this specific model has not been manufactured since 2013, making replacement parts increasingly difficult to obtain, with many now subject to lengthy delays due to international shipping and customs. 4.) Many of the reasons have been listed in the answers above 5.) At the time we obtained the quote in September 2025 the lead time for a similar piece of equipment was 4 - 6 months.
Capital – Fire dept	Fryer: For each of the requested vehicle/equipment replacements requested, please answer the following. 1) How many years beyond expected life is the vehicle? 2) What is the impact if the vehicle is unavailable? 3) What is the maintenance history and costs for the vehicle, as much as is available? 4) What is the main driving factor necessitating replacement this fiscal year? 5) What is the lead time to get a replacement if the request is approved?	Chief Denehy: 1) The vehicle is 10 years old and at the end of its expected life. 2) The current deputy vehicle is not adequate for the position and the vehicle cannot transport the necessary equipment for the position. 3) We just started tracking vehicle maintenance with a new software. The brakes and tires have been replaced. There is routine maintenance performed. The vehicle is deteriorating and significant rust. 4) This is a scheduled replacement and the lead time for this vehicle is up to seven months, plus two months to outfit. We are trying to replace the vehicle before it's no longer road worthy so the Deputy can respond to incidents in a safe and timely manner. 5) Please see above
Capital – Ambulance enterprise	Fryer: For each of the requested vehicle/equipment replacements requested, please answer the following. 1. How many years beyond expected life is the vehicle? 2. What is the impact if the vehicle is unavailable?	Chief Denehy: We are not requesting an ambulance at the 2026 Annual Town Meeting. We will most likely be looking to purchase another ambulance at the March 2027 Annual Town Meeting. The ambulance that was authorized at the April 2024 Annual Town Meeting is expected to arrive in January 2027. It takes almost three full years to get the ambulance once funding is approved.

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	3. What is the maintenance history and costs for the vehicle, as much as is available? 4. What is the main driving factor necessitating replacement this fiscal year? 5. What is the lead time to get a replacement if the request is approved?	
Capital - Patten Road sidewalk	Fryer: How much foot traffic per day is there along Patten Road and what is impact of not constructing a sidewalk?	Starratt: This project was advanced by Engineering in support of the Pedestrian Safety Committee who requested the sidewalk for Academy students. I am not aware of any pedestrian data in this area. This project is in the late stages of design (\$137K) and will be completed this winter. If not constructed, students will continue to walk in the road between Palermo Street and Rooks Way or seek alternative modes of transportation. (Paul Starratt, P.E.)
Capital – Frost/Roudenbush tennis court	Fryer: How much use does the current tennis court get? How much expected increase in use is expected if this renovation project goes ahead?	Fox: Empirical usage data has not been collected for the existing courts, and no formal programming is currently conducted there, as Parks and Recreation utilizes Stony Brook for tennis lessons. Observed use of the courts is generally sporadic throughout the day, often limited to a single individual using the backboard for practice. The availability of newer tennis facilities elsewhere in Town, combined with the poor condition of these courts, has likely contributed to reduced usage. The current courts are also smaller than current safety regulations, possibly contributing to lower usage (run-out areas are sub-standard). If the renovation project proceeds, the courts would be striped for both tennis and pickleball, which is expected to significantly increase utilization. Parks and Recreation has documented strong demand for pickleball at the Greystone and Jack Walsh facilities, and has

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		indicated that adding pickleball courts at this location would support new programming opportunities and potential revenue generation for the Department.