

SUNAPEE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FACTS

DID YOU KNOW:

- THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HAS A 1989 CATERPILLAR 120G MOTOR GRADER THAT HAS ALMOST 18,000 HOURS OF USE ON IT? THE GRADER WAS SCHEDULED TO BE REPLACED IN 2011 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOWN'S VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE PLAN BUT WAS NEVER PROPOSED AS WARRANT ARTICLE UNTIL 2014.
- IN MARCH 2014, A \$291,100* WARRANT ARTICLE WAS PROPOSED FOR THE 10-YEAR LEASE PURCHASE OF A NEW GRADER, AND WAS DEFEATED? THE TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST TO TAXPAYERS FOR THE LEASE PURCHASE WAS \$35,000 +/-.
- IN APRIL 2014, CATERPILLAR CONDUCTED A DETAILED INSPECTION AND LABORATORY ANALYSIS OF THE GRADER AND ALL ITS FLUIDS? AS A RESULT OF THEIR INSPECTION, CATERPILLAR RECOMMEND SIGNIFICANT REPAIRS TOTALING \$76,461.63. THE TRADE VALUE OF THE GRADER AT THAT TIME WAS ONLY ESTIMATED TO BE \$20,000.
- IN MARCH 2015, A \$260,000* WARRANT ARTICLE WAS PROPOSED FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW MOTOR GRADER, AND WAS DEFEATED. THE MONEY TO PURCHASE THE GRADER WOULD HAVE COME FROM AN EXISTING BALANCE THAT IS IN THE VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND AND FROM THE HYDROELECTRIC REVENUE FUND. THIS WOULD HAVE RESULTED WITH NO IMPACT TO THE TOWN'S TAX RATE.
- IN MARCH 2016, A WARRANT ARTICLE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW MOTOR GRADER WILL BE PROPOSED (FUNDING OPTIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN). THE TOTAL PURCHASE PRICE OF THE NEW GRADER IS ESTIMATED TO BE \$250,000+/-*.
- THE 2014 OPERATING BUDGET, 2015 DEFAULT BUDGET, AND UPCOMING 2016 OPERATING BUDGETS HAD AND/OR WILL INCLUDE A LINE ITEM TO RENT A GRADER, OR TO MAKE REPAIRS TO OUR EXISTING GRADER IF NECESSARY, IN THE EVENT THAT THE TOWN'S GRADER HAS A CATASTROPHIC OR MAJOR FAILURE? THE TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THIS LINE ITEM FROM 2014 THROUGH 2016 IS \$136,000, WHICH IS MORE THAN HALF THE COST OF A NEW GRADER.

SUMMARY: *GRADER PRICES HAVE DECREASED OVER THE LAST 3-YEARS DUE TO CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS. IF A 2016 WARRANT ARTICLE FOR A NEW GRADER PASSES, WE WILL CONTINUE TO USE OUR EXISTING GRADER ON A LIMITED BASIS UNTIL WE TAKE POSSESSION OF THE NEW GRADER (SEPTEMBER 2016 +/-), AND THE LINE ITEM FOR THE RENTAL OF A GRADER WILL BE ELIMINATED IN 2017.

PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU NEED ANY FURTHER
INFORMATION BEFORE YOU VOTE IN MARCH.

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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR SUGGESTIONS.

