

BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

MAY 30, 2023

A meeting of the Budget Review Committee was held Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chairman, presided.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance.

Members of Committee present: Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Chairman  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien  
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire  
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly  
Alderman June M. Caron  
Alderman Ernest Jette  
Alderman John Sullivan

Members not in Attendance:

Also in Attendance: Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director  
Daniel Hudson, City Engineer  
Jon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets  
Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks/Recreation  
David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater  
Mike Rush, Fleet Manager  
Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Management DPW Finance & Administration  
John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO REMOVE FROM THE TABLE R-23-125  
MOTION CARRIED**

**R-23-125**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.  
Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF  
NASHUA GENERAL, ENTERPRISE, SPECIAL REVENUE AND GRANT FUNDS**

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS OF THE PROPOSED FY23 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA

<u>Dept. #</u>		<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Appropriations</u>
	<b><u>Public Works and Engineering</u></b>		
160	Administration and Engineering	193	193
161	Street Department	202	202

177	Parks and Recreation	197	198
168	Solid Waste Fund	207	208
169	Wastewater User Fund	214	215

Chairman Dowd

This evening we are going to be reviewing Public Works and Engineering and that's departments 160, 161, 177, 168 and 169. All starts on page 193. Would you like to bring your people up? Director Fauteux?

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

Good evening Chairman Dowd and members of the Budget Committee. My name is Lisa Fauteux. I serve as Director of Public Works. Joining me this evening is Carolyn O'Connor, our Senior Financial and Administration Manager; John Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets; Dave Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater; Dan Hudson, City Engineer; and Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation; and Mike Rush our Fleet Manager. Jeff Lafleur could not be here this evening so I'll be presenting the Solid Waste budget.

So we're here to present the budgets for the Division of Public Works. Our increase from fiscal year 23 is 4% for our general fund departments which include Administration, and Engineering, Streets, and Parks and Recreation. The total Fiscal Year '24 DPW budget before you tonight is \$51,265,562. \$25 million or 52% of that is Wastewater; \$11.8 million or 24% is Solid Waste; \$8.1 million or 14% is Streets; \$4.1 million or 7% is Parks and Recreation; and \$1.8 million or 3% is Administration and Engineering. We will present the changes in each of our budgets and of course answer questions. So with your permission Alderman Dowd, we can start with Administration and Engineering.

Chairman Dowd

We'll start with Department 160 Administration Engineering. Revenues on 193/Appropriations on 193.

Alderman O'Brien

Mr. Chairman can I just do a little clerky duties? When you've got to speak, please identify with your name into the microphone so when they do transcribe it can get recorded appropriately. You might have to repeat it every time you speak but thank you very much.

Chairman Dowd

And also when you speak, bring the microphones close because they can't pick up if it's too far away.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Dan Hudson City Engineer. I'm speaking to Administration and Engineering. The proposed budget is largely the same as last year with a few changes. Notable changes would be to salaries and wages. Those are contractual adjustments. Professional Services we've increased slightly and that's to allow for increases in contracted services like unanticipated engineering and those sorts of things. Enables us to quickly engage someone should we need to. Property Services has changed. That's due to janitorial services for the new facility primarily. I think those are the changes. I'd be happy to address any particular questions.

Chairman Dowd

Okay, are there any questions for Administration and Engineering? Alderman Caron.

Alderman Caron

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So as I've gone through this budget, we see the Department's proposal and then we see what the Mayor is recommending which is exactly the same. So what I would like to know is, and that question will be asked to all of you, is there anything within your budget that you proposed a line item that is more or less than what the Mayor proposed? So let's say you put in \$2,000 for supplies but he only gave you \$1,000. Is there anything within this line within your budget that you wanted something but didn't get it? It gives us a better perspective on how to deal with the

deliberations when we make our final decision as to what the budget will be. So for me, it's important to know if there were things you wanted that you didn't get. Not that you'd get it but we certainly would like to know.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Sure. I appreciate the question. I think Director Fauteux can better address it.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

So would you like me to address all of the cuts that we made or do you want to go department to department?

Alderman Caron

No, you can do it by department.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

So we were given a 4% directive. We have 4%. I do appreciate that. I think we all need to do our part in order to keep the tax rate affordable and I think that the Mayor is trying to do that. I did appreciate the opportunity to be able to choose where the cuts should be made. So in in this Department, we cut \$35,000 from the staffing budget. So we didn't cut any positions. It was just a position that is vacant.

Alderman Caron

Okay. So meaning you're not looking to fill that position within this fiscal year?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

That's correct or at least not fill it in the beginning maybe later on.

Alderman Caron

Okay, alright. Thank you. I appreciate that because that gives us something to work with.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

Sure.

Alderman Caron

Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions for Administration Engineering? Alderman Sullivan.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Director Fauteux to your question around full time employees. I noticed in this - and I'm going to ask this like my colleague Alderman Caron asks about she asks about the budget. I asked about employees and you spoke to it a little bit. In our budget book, it says you have 21 full time employees in this Department. Is that the cut that you just mentioned is that reflected so you had 22 now you have 21?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

So the position is unfunded. We didn't cut the position necessarily but it's unfunded for this year. It's really not a particular position in this case Alderman Sullivan. It's just more out of the salary line, salary and wages line.

Chairman Dowd

Follow up?

Alderman Sullivan

Okay, so sorry, go ahead.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

I'm just gonna tell you - I thought your next question was going to be which positions are vacant? Was that your question?

Alderman Sullivan

Yes.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

I read your mind. I'm going to let the Superintendent – I know the answer to that but I'm going to let Engineer Hudson answer that.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Sure. Thank you. There's two currently two vacancies in Engineering. We have a vacancy which became vacant on March 25<sup>th</sup> for the DPW Permits Coordinator position. Now it's due to an internal transfer from Engineering to another department.

The other vacancy we have is one Senior Staff Engineer position that was vacated on 5/6 of this year. So fairly recent vacancies that we hope to fill in the future.

Chairman Dowd

All set Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

Follow up please. It's to the line item under janitorial services line 54200. I see that I went from zero to \$30,000. Understanding you have a new building but you had a building this year where you currently either are or were a year ago Fiscal Year '23 you didn't pay any janitorial fees for that building?

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

We had captured that before under contracted services and now we've moved it to janitorial services. It's more appropriate.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. Thank you.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

It was much less.

Alderman Sullivan

Alright got it. So it's a new line item essentially?

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

Yes.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay great. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Sullivan

Yes.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you. Sometimes it's been the tradition when a position doesn't get filled but you think you might rehire at some futuristic point to put into that position. Did you cover that position with \$1 or just to keep that line item particularly open so that that can be done - save yourself the headache and coming up with a new line in the future?

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

With the current system within the financial services of Lawson, we don't have to do that to have the \$1.

Alderman O'Brien

Okay.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

It would be different if we abolished a position but we're just unfunding it.

Alderman O'Brien

Okay.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? Yes, Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

Yes thank you. So I see in your objectives for Fiscal Year '24 the completion of the West Hall Street Corridor Study. What is the status of that now? How far along is that?

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

We're just getting started. So this week actually traffic counts are occurring. They're gonna count vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists. We delayed the start of the study so that we could capture counts when pedestrians and bicycles were active in the corridor. We signed the contract, you know, earlier this year in the winter but we haven't proceeded yet. Waiting on those. So we're gonna collect that data and then we'll enter into a public process where we, you know, seek input from residents along the corridor, and go through various review of possible improvements along the corridor, come up with some concepts for improvements being short term, long term, that sort of thing. So I guess what I'd say is we're under contract but we're just beginning because we're awaiting the data to start.

Chairman Dowd

All set or follow up?

Alderman Jette

What time do you count the bicyclists because I want to make sure I get out there and get counted?

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Well that's a great question. I mean we don't count 24/7 so I mean it's usually count about a three-hour window about the am peak hour/pm peak hour. I don't recall offhand if we're doing Saturday in this case so it will be kind of consistent with the vehicular peaks.

Alderman Jette

Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman Sullivan.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. Also while under your Fiscal Year '23 highlights, you mentioned an assessment of 185 miles of sidewalk. I'm curious to find out what that assessment said.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

So very good question. It said that - don't quote me on the numbers - but about half of our sidewalks are in ok condition and the other half are not. The process that we went through we work collaboratively with Nashua Regional Planning Commission. They provided some staff during last summer as did Public Works – went and walked all the sidewalks in Nashua and captured condition, ratings, and whatnot in a GIS based platform. So now we have a current map of all the sidewalks in the City and we have some sense of what the conditions of them are. The remaining steps of that effort are to start a prioritization process. This study is going to help identify what budgetary need might be. We know there's a need for funding sidewalk repairs and replacements in addition to those sorts of things. So that's what that was and we'll have more information to share soon.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Sullivan

Yes.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? All right. We'll move onto Street Department.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

Thank you. So on page 202 of the budget manual, begin with the revenue stream. We're not really a profit generating entity but if we put out old retired out-of-service vehicles to auction, we may see some revenue there.

Also the snow tow. Again not a money-making proposition but has a potential. This is more just to self-sustain and carry the snow tow through the season. So due to the last season in a historical use, we were able to reduce that area from 335 to 285.

Moving on to appropriations - 51 salaries and wages. Those are all contractual changes as with line 52 the fringe benefits.

54 Property Services was a modest reduction of \$939.

55 Other Services stayed flat, level-funded.

Supplies and materials - that was a significant increase of \$80,197.

71 Equipment - that was a \$25,000 increase. I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Chairman Dowd

Okay. Questions for the Street Department? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

Thank you. So the other night we talked - the discussion came up about snow removal from the sidewalks and we're talking about increasing the special account to cover unusual storms when you have extra snow to remove. So I imagine it's very difficult for you to try to budget for snow removal because you never know how much snow we're going to get. But I'm assuming that the personnel that we have in the Department is a fixed number for the year, right? They're there all year round and when you have snow removal, it's those same people that are doing that.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

That's correct.

Alderman Jette

So I don't know how you would answer but I guess the question that came up was, you know, whether we can do a better job removing snow from sidewalks especially in school areas. It came up that there was one school that was mentioned in particular Elm Street, for example, where some kids had a near miss because snow had not been removed from the sidewalk. So how do you think we can deal with that? How can we do a better job removing snow from the school areas? Because I don't see it as just a problem of an unusual storm. It seems like every storm the sidewalks are the last things. We do the streets first and then the sidewalks.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

That is correct.

Alderman Jette

Do you have any suggestions or any ideas? Since we're talking about the budget, do you have enough people to take care of that problem?

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

So that's a multifaceted question. I'm also aware of the situation on Elm Street you speak of. That particular piece of sidewalk was something that we don't normally clear. So number one priority after we get done removing snow from the streets is the sidewalks. That is where the guys go first. Even though they have a designated range where they work - routes, they go to the school zones first and we do 1,000 feet in all directions from the schools. Then they go into their primary runs. So that is our priority and we will keep doing sidewalks right around the clock until another storm comes in. So some storms you have five days to keep going. Other times it's back to back storms. You might get a day or two, an extended event. So there are fatigue factors, manpower issues, you know, guys going home after 16 hours or 30 hours. So it depends on the event really.

That being said if you always do what you always did, you always get what you always got, right? So we're always entertaining discussion and looking at technology and ways to achieve more. But doing what we do now, we say we do 50 miles of sidewalk. Loved to do more if we could and we make every effort to do that. So just know that our guys are out there. These are the same guys that are running the trucks. So if they're out in the truck for 30 hours, we're calling out the overtime to get right out of the truck and go right into sidewalk tractor. So does that answer your question at least part one?

Alderman Jette

It gives me more information than I had.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

I'd like to just add to that. So the same people who are plowing as Superintendent said are also having to pick up trash sometimes the next day, they're exhausted. So sometimes there's a bit of a break. They need a break before they can get into a sidewalk tractor because they're just really, really tired.

The other thing is some of the - I think we do actually a really good job plowing the school sidewalks. There are some that are a challenge - Locke Street, Kinsley, West Hollis and that's because there are so many obstructions in the sidewalk that we can't get a sidewalk tractor through there. So we have to manually remove the snow with equipment. So that takes a little bit longer to do, you know, as well. So those are just some of the challenges that we're dealing with. We do 50 miles. I think we do that very well. I think we're at capacity with 50 miles. I don't think we could do any more than that just from what the Superintendent said, there's fatigue. If there's a back-to-back snowstorm, we were challenged to do even the 50 miles of sidewalks. So it's a tough job but I think I think we do a relatively good job. If we were going to do additional, we'd have to hire a contractor and that's proven very, very difficult. You'll see in the Street Department budget we cut \$25,000 out of snowplow contractors this year and put it in a guard rail line because we can't find contractors. It's very difficult. There are contractors around that have sidewalk tractors that are, you know, waiting to plow snow for us so it's a real challenge. We certainly could try to put out a contract but I am not hopeful that we would get any bidders.

Chairman Dowd

All set? Follow up?

Alderman Jette

So without hiring a contractor, you'd have to hire extra personnel who may be having - they wouldn't have anything to do other times and it's difficult to have to staff for a time when you need more people and then to keep them busy when there isn't a snowstorm.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

Right.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

That's correct.

Alderman Jette

So that's why you're talking about a contractor who could come in.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

Right.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

And it's been proposed that you do it during the storm. Can't do it. We wing to the right so a lot of the sidewalks are getting buried as we go around. So you really do have to wait till the storm's done.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Jette

Yes.



Chairman Dowd

Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you. Mr. Ibarra it probably would help out the Aldermen if they understood CFR 90 which is the DOT regulations and how much time that these guys can spend in a truck. I know probably I'm not gonna say we violate. I know the City of Nashua is 100% legal and everything else but sometimes, you know, the feds have a standard of how much a driver can actually drive before he needs a break. Do want to explain that and that could delay the sidewalks and everything.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

So that's a great question but I don't have the set hours. We're not federally mandated. We're kind of exempt as a municipality.

Alderman O'Brien

Well that's good then so that allows you - but still I imagine you take safety into account.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

Oh sure. They get downtime. They get breaks, and they chow, whatever they need. If you're tired, you get rested up.

Chairman Dowd

So question. You're short right now CDL drivers, correct?

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

Correct. We're actively interviewing. We brought two on the last DPW, had two just before that, so we are actively interviewing and hiring.

Chairman Dowd

So people with CDL are also our bus system is short because school bus companies are hiring at a much higher rate. I just saw in the paper today there's a small town north of Concord paying \$35 an hour for them to start.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

A bus that might be federal money or are you talking school buses?

Chairman Dowd

It was City. It didn't say what they were doing. It just said they needed CDL and drivers, truck drivers.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

So if I may? My experience through this interviewing, that's one of my questions. Why do you want to work for the City of Nashua? What are you making now? What are your perks, benefits because I want to sell the position. I want to get them on board. So the last guy had he was at \$28 an hour, no vacation the first year, no benefits. So our package alone with the health benefits, the pension, we were within two dollars or \$24.87 for truck drivers. So we're close and the benefits outweigh.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman O'Brien did you have a follow up?

Alderman O'Brien

Yeah I just wanted - looking at their snow towing violations. Just to give you the let the cat out of the bag, eventually this Aldermanic Board is going to wrangle overnight parking whether it happens or not, it's going to come to the whim of the Board their vote at the time. Are you prepared to handle that because I would imagine with more vehicles on the street that you'll be able to have that or what I'm saying is probably best as we get close start watching like in my Committee on Infrastructure too which I want to call you guys in and have you have an input on this so we will be better prepared when that does come.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

Yeah I'd just like to speak to that. That's a sensitive subject for me. I get very concerned when we talk about overnight parking on streets, especially where it's really not needed because it's it impedes our ability to pick up trash and plow streets. So I would ask that that's considered very carefully.

Alderman O'Brien

Oh there's a whole wait. I mean we're not even close yet and it's because the legitimate questions that you just brought up. Absolutely.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman O'Brien

Yes.

Chairman Dowd

Alderwoman Kelly.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. So I had a couple of questions. I appreciate how hard you work in the winter. I know there's a ton and my family is all CDL. They work for Asplundh so I know what those safety concerns are. I think that what I was interested in was around the radius of the schools because I think the crux of the issue here is not necessarily whether you're working hard, you are working very hard, but it's how do we keep the safety up? Because I've almost coming to the City Hall people are walking on Kinsley because there's no way and the radius for walkers is two miles and you said you start with 1,000. So when do we get to the two miles where the kids are walking from Elm Street? I know it's a staffing thing but I think maybe this isn't the forum but the conversation around how do we increase the safety for people especially around the schools it's not easy. I know you said it's multifaceted but.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

It is and it's duly noted. We can make every effort. We can't predict the weather and I can't predict how many tractors I'm going to be able to run at any given storm. Sometimes on those events, I'll get one or two guys that want to stay. Sometimes I'll get eight tractors out the door. You have to offer it and they have the ability to say yes or no depending on how they're feeling. I've got to run with what I have. Always open to suggestion. Somebody comes up with an idea.

Alderwoman Kelly

I don't know if I'm going to solve it right now but I think that's been, you know, around the horseshoe as someone who was downtown every day and, you know, walk from my office I saw what it was like.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

So being a Superintendent, I can suggest that we work further away from the schools when we're there.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Kelly

No. I have a couple more if I could. Thank you. I would appreciate continuing that conversation at some point.

The other question I had you started to talk about it then you didn't necessarily give any detail was that your supplies and materials are up \$80,000. Is that salts was more expensive? Where's that coming from?

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

Salt was more expensive, yes. We reallocated some funding to stay within the 4%. If you want to dive right into it, repairs of vehicles and maintenance.

Alderman Kelly

You're looking at 24, yes?

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

I got out of the shop without my glasses so bear with me.

Alderman Kelly

I was looking for a summation.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

Okay, so roughly \$30,000 there. That's 54600. Traffic signal controls - that's \$20,000 more. That's buying components for the cabinets and cameras for engineering program detection cameras.

Chairman Dowd

Follow up?

Alderman Kelly

If I could? Is the extra maintenance because we have an aging fleet or just because things are costing more?

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

Things are costing more and through our CERF Program, we've managed to upgrade a good portion of the fleet. But that is as you know, an ongoing program trying to stay ahead of it but we've reduced our backline units. The vehicle parts are increased dramatically if you can even get some. If there's anything that my Fleet Manager would like to add to that, he's along for the ride tonight.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Kelly

Yes.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman Caron, did you have a question?

Alderman Caron

Typical question. Is there any line item here that you were looking to increase but got reduced? I see I made notes on how much you've improved increased on some of these maintenance.

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department

So this is my seventh season, I believe. I'm comfortable with what I have here but we did leave two and a half drivers underfunded this year. Now last year, we had a mason and a driver not funded. Not abolished so they're sitting on the side. We can reinstate them in the future. Then as you go through operations, you figure out what works and where we can cut or hold back. So this year, it's two and a half drivers.

Alderman Caron

Okay. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions for Streets?

Alderman Jette

I don't mean to insert myself where I shouldn't be. It looked like the Fleet Manager was about to say something when you went to Alderman Caron. I don't mean to put him on the spot. I didn't know if you had something you wanted to add?

Mike Rush, Fleet Manager

I was just going to comment that parts and supplies have gone up because of - there was still some stuff that was shorted. It was hard to get chips and stuff like that. That drove the market up considerably in the beginning of the year. It's kind of stabilized now and actually it's starting to calm down a little bit in some areas. The reason for the increase on that 54600 line is because of the parts increase from, I think, is just coming out of COVID driving up the prices. The price of diesel fuel, the price of manufacturing has gone up so that's kind of where that increase in parts and supplies has come from.

Chairman Dowd

I think you'll see when police and fire come in, theirs have gone up too. Same reason.

Mike Rush, Fleet Manager

Yeah, it seems to be across the board.

Chairman Dowd

Any other question? All right. Now we'll go on to Parks and Rec. Parks and Rec is Revenue 197, Appropriations on 198.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Good evening everyone. There's an increase in miscellaneous revenue that's due to a new cell phone tower that's going to be installed over Holman Stadium this September.

51 Salaries and Wages - that's going to increase due to contractual increases and an increase in what we pay our seasonal staff at our pools - our lifeguards.

52 is a contractual increase.

53 has not increased. That's going to stay the same.

54 - We recently went out and put out to bid a portable toilet contract throughout the park system. We have several what's over 40. I forget the exact number portable toilets that go out on a seasonal basis. The cost of that went from \$89 a month to \$110. So that's part of the increase. The other increase is just cost, and materials, and supplies.

Chairman Dowd

Okay. Questions?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

I'm not done yet. Sorry Alderman Dowd.

55 - We recently installed a central irrigation system and 15 of our biggest water users. 15 of our biggest parks. These locations where the irrigation system in don't have fiber. There's no WIFI. To be able to control this through your iPhone, through my desktop, you need a cellular component and its \$1,200 a month. So that is part of the increase. I believe in the savings and water that we should be able to gain from this, and just the labor savings. Now when we have a rain event, we can shut the system off right from our computer. We don't have to go to 15 different locations, turn it off, turn it on, very convenient, and very efficient. Very happy with the way that's working.

The other increase is due to just dues and memberships. A lot of the staff - we have a pesticide license. We have to take recertification trainings through that and renew our license every three years with 12 credits.

61 is just due to increases is due to cost supplies. Just a general increase in those costs.

71 - that's for equipment. We have about \$738,000 in equipment in the Parks and Rec Department that does not meet the threshold for CERF. Last year, it was worked out that we were able to get some money through the escrow process and moving forward, I'd like to make sure that this is in our budget permanently so that we can stay current with the equipment that we have. If you look at the equipment we have now, a lot of it's antiquated, it's dated, it's old. It decreases our efficiency tremendously when these things break down and we have to replace them. So with that, I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Chairman Dowd

Questions for Parks and Rec? Alderman Sullivan.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did have some questions around your Fiscal Year '24 objectives. First a comment. The second one there is St. Andrews Park playground installation. Being from Ward 9 obviously, I just want to say thank you for that. That's just a great step forward for that neighborhood and I appreciate that.

My question comes around the Stone House of Greeley Park. Are those funds in building and grounds maintenance? Is that where those renovations would be funded from?

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

Those would come under a capital item. The design and review right now has already been funded that portion of it.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. So that isn't – sorry follow up please?

Chairman Dowd

Go ahead.

Alderman Sullivan

Those capital expenditures that's in a completely separate budget that doesn't sit here?

Chairman Dowd

Yes on another page.

Alderman Sullivan

Oh it is.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

But that Stone House has already been funded so it's not captured in this book. It was funded I think last year.

Chairman Dowd

It's not a FY24 expenditure.

Alderman Sullivan

Oh it's not. It's already been funded in a previous fiscal year and now they're just doing it this year?

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

Correct.

Alderman Sullivan

One more please. One more question.

Chairman Dowd

Sure, go ahead.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

I want to make sure that I'm clear for you Alderman Sullivan. The renovations have not been funded. Right now we're just we're doing the design. So we will at some point based on whatever the cost is going to be need to fund the actual renovation of the Stone House. I wanted to make sure you understood that.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. So what's been funded is the study on what needs to be done, right? That's been funded.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

And hopefully the architecture work that needs to be done.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. Then once that feedback comes back, then you would need to fund the actual work.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

That's correct.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay.

Chairman Dowd

So typically, the architect is going to determine what they think needs to be done. It has to go to a construction company to price the work.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. One more please?

Chairman Dowd

Sure.

Alderman Sullivan

I noticed - I lost my place but there was mentioned somewhere - oh yeah, here it is. Secure funding to renovate Holman Stadium improvements. I was going through the trust funds and I noticed that there was \$78,000 in the Holman Stadium Trust Fund and I didn't know if either that was funded in this budget or if those funds would be used to fund that objective.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

If only that would work. We estimate that the Holman renovations will be somewhere around between \$6 and \$9 million.

Alderman Sullivan

Oh wow. Okay. All right.

Chairman Dowd

If you noticed when you were there, there's a lot of cracks in the foundations around the stands.

Alderman Sullivan

I was so overcome with how green the grass was that I didn't look. Next time I'm there.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

You made the Superintendent's night by saying that.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Thank you, Alderman Sullivan.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Conant this might be a better question for Miss O'Connor. The other night we did have a conversation on the Los Amigos Park which I think is outstanding. I understand through Mr. Sullivan in Community Development that they were able to get some grant funding. Mr. Sullivan said that perhaps maybe some of those fundings or like and everything can be applied to other parks structure as well. So looking at that, is that a tappable resource that we have done in the past or look to do in the future and if not if it's a new idea, maybe we should take a peek into it and see that we can coordinate with Director Sullivan and see if we could get some funding to assist with your budget.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

Referring to CDBG funds?

Alderman O'Brien

Yeah.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

We have. In fact, we're using some for Sandy Pond right now to put in the new dock.

Alderman O'Brien

Good.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? Alderman Caron.

Alderman Caron

I have several questions if you don't mind. Do you have any vacancies within your Department?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

We have two currently. Just two recently retired individuals. So we should replace and fill those positions fairly quickly.

Alderman Caron

Okay. The other thing - your pool staff. Were you able to hire enough lifeguards for the three pools?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Yes this year.

Alderman Caron

Okay.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Last year, we were a little short. I hear the numbers. I forget the exact numbers but we have a pretty healthy number of lifeguards this year.

Alderman Caron

Okay. There should be at least 24.

Unknown Speaker

Yeah and we're averaging 26.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

I think we them but it's a challenge.

Alderman Caron

What are you paying them?

Unknown Speaker

Any anywhere between – so there's different – there are pool coordinators and other things but anywhere between it's, I believe, \$15 and \$20.

Alderman Caron

Okay. I have one more. In looking through this, I know we have basketball and baseball games. Where is the account that you pay your officials in here? How do you pay your officials - your umpires and your referees?

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

Under Wages Game Officials under 51 Salaries and Wages, 51420.

Alderman Caron



Yeah, I see it. Unfortunately, it's too small for us old people.

Finally my last question. Is there anything that you were looking to appropriate that you didn't get?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Yes. We were looking to appropriate more money in the tree maintenance account. We get several requests for hazardous tree removal along the roadways. In talking to the Legal Department, they had told us that the City if we find a hazardous tree and are notified of a hazardous tree look into it and deem it hazardous within the right of way, we are responsible for taking down that tree. Currently right now, we have \$10,000 in this line item. You'll see that as of 3/31 it was already \$3,000 over. We were looking for an additional \$10,000.

Chairman Dowd

Yeah, there's a number of trees around the city that..

Alderman Caron

Yes.

Chairman Dowd

...some of them are dead. Some of them are hanging over and ready to fall. You just had one I talked earlier you had one fall on Tinker Road. You guys had to go out and clean it up. So that also comes out of that account and it's not enough. It's very expensive to remove a tree.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

I just want to speak to that. So \$10,000 does very little in the way of tree removal. Risk has budgeted money in their budget for tree removal. So I'm confident that at least we'll have some money to deal with the most hazardous tree. I feel comfortable, you know, cutting the \$10,000. It wouldn't do a lot for us anyway.

Chairman Dowd

If a tree is in danger of falling across power lines, Eversource has the right and does cut down the trees without asking. They don't have to ask. They can cut them down and they're a little behind right now because there's some that need to come down there. They're marked but that's not our expense. That's their expense but there are others that if they're not going to hit a power line, Eversource could care less.

Alderman Caron

That's true. That's true. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Anyone else? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

Thank you. So I'm curious. You mentioned another cell phone tower at Holman. So this would be a third?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Yes. Well currently right now, there's one but I think it has multiple - I don't know what you want to call them satellites on top of it.

Alderman Jette

Okay. So you're challenging my powers of observation. I was there the other night and I saw two.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Oh yeah there is two.

Alderman Jette

Two towers with...

Chairman Dowd

They had different arrays on them. One belongs to one company, one belongs to another company. Both companies are paying.

Alderman Jette

Right but now we're going to put a third?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Yeah and that's going to be in left field.

Alderman Jette

Okay. So there are that many companies that that need...

Chairman Dowd

Oh yeah. Don't you get all those ads?

Alderman Jette

I'm sorry.

Chairman Dowd

AT&T. There's a bunch of them. Anyway.

Alderman Jette

Okay.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions?

Alderman Jette

Yes if I could. So I know the Silver Knights are a great asset for the City but it is a profit making company. We're not the only city that hosts a team in that league. Can you assure us that we're getting an appropriate - our arrangement with the Silver Knights is appropriate for the market that we're getting as much as we should get from their use of the stadium?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation.

I think the Silver Knights are a great partner. Just recently, they purchased a walk-in freezer. It was about a \$45,000 investment. Had some conversations with Mr. Creedon. I've been impressed and I feel that they are a good partner if that answers your question. I mean could it be something grander? Maybe but the facility is not there yet. I think with the state that the current facility is in, we should be very happy that we have someone there to be perfectly honest with you.

Alderman Jette

Okay. My question wasn't about the quality of the Creedon family. It was more in comparison to other parks that are hosting a team in that league. Are they paying as much to us as other teams are paying to other places?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation.

I'm not familiar with what other municipalities charge. I know we charge about I believe it's about \$1,000 a game. So that's something I guess I can look into Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

Yeah. It would seem like for the future, it would seem like a good piece of knowledge to have.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation.

Absolutely.

Chairman Dowd

All set?

Alderman Jette

Yes, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

I have a question goes back to Nick Caggiano.

Alderman Caron

Are you looking at me?

Chairman Dowd

A former position in your at that years ago, supposedly we had money to paint those poles and they're still not painted. They're all rusted. The light poles at Holman and I thought we had the funds lined up to paint those.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

I don't know that we - I think we did look at that at one time. That was a long time ago but those poles really need to be replaced.

Chairman Dowd

That is a bigger expense.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

That is a bigger expense but they need to be replaced. I think we found Alderman Dowd that it wasn't worth investing the money to have them painted.

Chairman Dowd

So we looked into what a replacement costs would be for those poles?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

We have. I don't have that number. Do you have those?

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation.

We have. I'm very familiar. \$790,000 Alderman Dowd.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

Part of the \$6 to \$9 million I was referring to.

Chairman Dowd

So there's a jump of bucks.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation.

So those will be LED lights just like the lights that we installed that Labine. So it would be nice to have the same thing at Holman.

Chairman Dowd

Yeah.

Alderman Jette

Could we put a cell tower on each one of those poles?

Chairman Dowd

If you put in a good model up, yeah. I think if they can handle them weight wise because the ones that hold cells right now are much stronger. Alderwoman Kelly.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I actually just wanted to ask around the Holman just came from there. It's such a treasure in our City. I love it. Love taking my kids there. So the \$6 to \$9 million that's not in this budget, is that correct?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

No, it's not.

Alderwoman Kelly

And do you have a plan for how you might fund it?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

I do not.

Alderwoman Kelly

Is there any opportunity with it being a historic place for us to potentially get grant money or federal funding that kind of thing?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

So I actually have been talking with our grant writer Pamela Davies about that and also soccer fields. So she's looking into that. We haven't found anything right now. That doesn't mean that there won't be something in the future.

Alderwoman Kelly

Okay. Great.

Chairman Dowd

As of this evening, it's now on the Heritage Trail and it's the stadium where integrated baseball started in 1946. So it may be eligible for something. Any other questions? Thank you.

Bryan Conant, Superintendent Parks and Recreation.

Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

All right. We'll move on to Solid Waste Fund. It's on page 207.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

As I mentioned, Superintendent Lafleur is on vacation. So for revenue, really the only change there is our cover revenue, material revenue and that is because we've been bringing in more material as we have to fill the setbacks for our Phase III Landfill. Other than that, the revenue is the same.

I also noticed that our transfer from the general fund is not in here and that's \$6,450,353 this year.

On line 54 Property Services, we have an increase in janitorial services. That is the portion of solid waste which is \$8,640. We have a reduction in our AVL of \$616.

Our vehicle repairs and maintenance is \$14,279. An increase as our Fleet Manager mentioned due to the increase in parts and we're having long lead times. I know Mike is being creative and trying to fabricate stuff at times to get us by. So we have a very talented welder right now so they're being very creative.

55 Other Contracted Services - we've added \$50,000 to that for groundwater testing that we're going to need to do for our permit. Things like PFAS and other contaminants that DES will be requiring us to test for.

61 Supplies and Materials - we've added \$53,885 in our diesel line. This is historical data and projected increases in diesel costs with diesel fuel. Those are really the only increases. I can entertain any questions.

Chairman Dowd

Questions on landfill? Alderman Sullivan.

Alderman Sullivan

Yes, thank you. Could you please - I was just looking at line item 81 Capital Outlay Improvements. Just could you please talk more about that? Just explain that a little just because specifically capital improvements goes from \$7 million down to \$700,000. Everything else - well vehicles goes down. Could you just talk around that a little bit more please?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

Sure. So in Fiscal Year '23 we had our GPS system that we put on our compactor which is great. That really helps us to understand the compaction rate better and save space. The landfill Phase III zigzag design and construction - that was a design that we wanted to implement that was going to help us to get additional airspace out of our Phase III landfill. It turned out that the cost was much higher than we anticipated so we're only doing a portion of that zigzag. So I believe its \$1.5 million of that \$5 million that we'll be doing of the zigzag.

The other thing is the soil wall. So the soil wall is something that we are required to build from our permit because that we need to be 500 feet from the residents. So we have to continue basically to build this block and then we have to fill it with materials, non-contaminated materials.

Alderman Sullivan

Right.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

It's unfortunate because there's a lined section of the landfill but it still needs to be filled because of its proximity to residences.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

So those are just large capital projects that were planned for Fiscal '23.

Then in Fiscal '24, we have fewer projects. We have \$200,000 for recycling area upgrades. If you're at the landfill, the areas that we put in are our TVs, and the motor oil, all of that. That building really needs some help and some repair so that's what that is for.

Then the \$500,000 is for Phase III which we'll be closing eventually. Phase IV engineering and oversight for it to produce the construction documents. Once we have the construction documents, we hope to be able to go out to bid and we hope to be under construction within a year and a half or two years for the Phase IV landfill which will give us another 40 years or so of air space.

Alderman Sullivan

Great.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

So you'll see this probably go up significantly in the next year or two. Maybe not next year in Fiscal '25 but in Fiscal '26 is the latest you'll see significant increase because we'll be now constructing the Phase IV landfill.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. Thank you. I appreciate it.

Chairman Dowd

All set? Alderwoman Kelly.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I have two questions. One's easy, I think. The budget adjustment at 90 is that did you choose to do a bottom line cut?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

I'm sorry, what was that?

Alderwoman Kelly

Page 208, 90 Budget Adjustments, negative \$200.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Management DPW Finance & Administration

That is the funds that we transfer expenses out that are eligible for the Reclamation Trust Fund.

Alderwoman Kelly

Okay, thank you. And then if I could?

Chairman Dowd

Yup.

Alderman Kelly

So my bigger question perhaps Director Fauteux or some of the other department heads. We hear a lot at these meetings around maintenance and aging pieces in our cities. So I'm wondering if Director Fauteux in your time that you've been here where is that line of keeping our maintenance so lean that we end up having to outlay a lot for capital improvements later on.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

Are you referring to the equipment or...?

Alderman Kelly

I think I'm referring to everything. I think it's a reoccurring theme that we hear where we're trying to keep budget sensible but we oftentimes pull our deferred maintenance or those types of things back and that's where we cut from and then we end up with \$6 million in Holman upgrades that we need to take care of.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

So I think there's really two questions. I think with our vehicles when I first started 14 years ago now - I get to celebrate. Wish me a happy anniversary. Equipment was just held together with duct tape and wire and I'm not exaggerating. It was horrible. Former Mayor Lozeau would tell you that we worried about whether we were going to pick up trash it was that bad. So we've come a long way and we have a replacement schedule. We've been following that and so I think our equipment is in very good shape.

As far as building maintenance goes, I don't think we score quite so well. I don't think we have a very good plan on maintaining our city buildings. I think that could be better. We certainly are putting in a good plan for our new building. Alderman Dowd and Alderman O'Brien can attest to that but I think, you know, our gems like Holman Stadium have been allowed to get in disrepair. So I think I think we're going to have to make some tough decisions in the coming years on how we're going to repair these facilities.

Alderman Kelly

Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

All set? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

This may not be the appropriate time to ask these questions but if you'll indulge me. There's been a lot of - I've read a lot recently about we talk about recycling. There's been a big push to get people to use things longer, or reuse things, and kind of avoid throwing things away to begin with. That's part of the recycling formula - reuse stuff. A lot of communities, and I think we used to, have a place where people can a recliner that's still usable but, you know, they're remodeling or whatever so they bring furniture or whatever to the transfer station in these small towns. Other people come and look at and take it away and it doesn't end up in the landfill. I know we used to do that and we stopped at some point. I'm wondering - I know Superintendent Lafleur isn't here but do you have a sense of how much stuff like that furniture, and appliances, and those types of things are ending up in the landfill and would it be appropriate to kind of reconsider whether or not we could provide a place where people could exchange these types of things?

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

So we had Swap Shop and in fact my first meeting as Superintendent of Solid Waste I was tasked with closing it. It was awful. We had to have a police officer there. I mean people were taking things out of each other's trunks. Golf clubs. They weren't planning on donating it. It was rough. So we'd have to fund it. We'd have to have staffing there to watch over it. That's something we certainly could revisit but at the time, we didn't have any staff. Right now, we wouldn't have any staff to staff it so we'd have to hire some staff to be able to keep an eye on it. Scott Perkins is our Recycling

Administrator and he does a pretty good job of - there are a number of sites that use - there's free cycle. There's a number of other places that we recommend people bring their things to that, you know, that are sort of gently used that could be reused. We do try to donate things that come in that we see that are they're still in good working order. We try to donate them to help those in need but there are there are a lot of online type of swap shops that that can be utilized rather than, you know, the taxpayers finding something in the landfill.

Alderman Jette

Thank you. Something to think about.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

That is something. Absolutely, it is something we could look into.

Chairman Dowd

Alderman Kelly.

Alderman Kelly

Thank you. I just wanted to reply that there's actually Nashua Community Sharing and Giving. It's a Facebook group that I'm in and they're very moderated and that's the whole goal is to be able to give away gently used. So if people are listening and like that idea. That's a nice place that I've been able to give and take.

Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

Thank you for mentioning that. We do have a number of sites and I don't know if that's one of them but we should have if it's not on our website – on the Solid Waste's website for that purpose.

Chairman Dowd

So the other thing is I think I've said this before if any of the Aldermen have not had a tour of the landfill, Mr. Lafleur will give you a tour in his truck. It's not as simple as just taking a truck out there and dumping stuff. Everything is GPS controlled. Every square inch is GPS controlled, including when they're doing the filling and this tamping down. It's quite the operation. There's a number of different areas out there for brush recycling and all kinds of other recycling. So it's a very interesting tour if you ever get a chance to go out and see it because it's not just trucks dumping things inadvertently. The fill is going in there to cap it off every night are huge trucks as we've seen in our meetings. So I just wanted to bring that out.

Okay. We'll move on. If nobody has any other questions, we'll move on to Department 169 Wastewater User Fund.

Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent

On the revenue page 214, we have an increase in State in reimbursements. Increase there based on capital projects finished and approved. There's also an increase in the Hudson capital contributions. This is adjusted annually based on facility expansion expenditures. Town of Hudson pays a percent contribution to the wastewater plant related projects.

A decrease in the general obligation bond proceeds. So this is directly related to the calculated projects we have scheduled for Fiscal Year '24.

Going on through appropriations, page 216. On line 51, I have increases in wages and salaries. Some of these are contractual obligations. I also have an increase to fund and additional foreman position. Over the years, we've added a couple collection positions to help meet regulations out in collection systems. We have to meet regulations that require us to maintain the system, clean it, repair which is requiring one of my two foremen to be out in the street more often leaving just one foreman in the facility. We have an operations crew within the facility. We also have a maintenance crew within the facility that also has electricians. So it's a bit of a burden for just one foreman to be inside the facility so we're proposing to add another foreman.

Line 54 - we have increases in the janitorial services. This due to facility cleaning contract for our administration building. We also have disposal Services increase. This is for the disposal of our biosolids. This is a contractual increase.



We also have increase in equipment, repairs and maintenance. Just like the other Departments, we're mostly seeing the increases in pump parts and specialty parts that we purchased for the wastewater facility.

Line 55 - you'll see an increase on page 217 Other Contracted Services. We have increases in our specialty services, subcontractors that maintain our HVAC system, generators, boilers. These are companies that have the proper computer programs that my mechanics don't have to service these but we're seeing an increase in those costs as well.

Under the line 61 Supplies and Materials. We have a major increased costs in chemicals at the facility. These are all the chemicals we use to treat our process on a daily basis – hypochlorite, bisulfite, polymers.

In line 81 Capital Outlay Improvements. There's a decrease there that's based off of calculations on capital projects scheduled for Fiscal Year '24. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Chairman Dowd

Questions? Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

Thank you. So Mr. Boucher I noticed that at the Board of Public Works meetings and the Finance Committee meetings you seem to be the most popular attendant there. So every time you go before the Board of Public Works asking for money to do something or the Finance Committee is that stuff that's already been put into your budget and you're just going to get approval to pay the bill?

Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent

Yes, correct. Like the chemicals recently I just went for chemical purchase for the new fiscal year.

Alderman Jette

Okay. So the wastewater is a separate fund. How do people get billed for that? Where do the taxpayers see that? Is it part of their water bill or is it?

Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent

Yeah it's an enterprise fund based off of the sewer rates. So it's a portion of - it's based off of your water consumption and meter size also. So everyone is individually billed whoever's connected to the system who uses the sewer services. We also bill for a septic we receive as well.

Alderman Jette

Okay. Could I follow up?

Chairman Dowd

Follow up.

Alderman Jette

Is that part of their Pennichuck bill or do they get a separate bill from wastewater?

Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent

I think they receive the Pennichuck bill so they know the water usage and the sewer is based off of the consumption.

Carolyn O'Connor, Senior Finance and Administration Manager

No. Pennichuck is separate. The only thing we receive from them is the water consumption which is then used towards the billing that's done through the City. It's done on an average and that was decided years ago because of people who have irrigation systems and things. So they use the winter average of water consumption and that's how you're able to bill

but it's not billed through Pennichuck. It's billed through the City.

Alderman Jette

Okay, thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Other questions? Any other general questions for Department of Public Works? Yes, Alderman Sullivan.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. Director Fauteux I alluded earlier to the expendable trust funds and I think I stopped counting at about 20 different trust funds that sit under Public Works. I noticed that there were some with very low balances in them. Going through all of the departments tonight, I don't specifically see any call outs, transfer of money into those trust funds. Since CFO Griffin is here maybe he could chime in as well. I was just curious is that typically how it happens? Is that how the money is appropriated you have to put it in your line in your budget to make sure it gets transferred into a specific trust fund?

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works

No it doesn't necessarily need to come into our budget. It could be appropriated directly into one of the trust funds. It wouldn't normally come into our budget and then into a trust fund. It would go directly there. So, some of the trust funds they're all different. Some were set up by a donation. There are cell tower accounts that we have, Mine Falls, the Skate Park has a cell tower account that funds any maintenance for that. So they're all different. There's a Greeley Fund that was set up years ago by a grant. So, they're all a little bit different. We do have a park rehabilitation fund. I think we may actually be transferring - are we transferring money to that for the park rehabilitation this year? But that that's a common one if we want to do something like St. Andrew's Park. I think we transferred for the Labine lights into that fund. So when we have projects that we want to do, we often will transfer those funds.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay.

Chairman Dowd

Mr. Griffin did you want to add anything? Since we've had discussions about consolidating some of these and closing some out.

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

Sure. They certainly have taken on a life of their own. I can understand Alderman Sullivan looking at them and wondering when is any of this stuff going to be spent? It's hard to close them because they had a good purpose when they when they started.

What Director Fauteux was talking about, we do have what's called "interfund transfers" which is something that I'll be speaking about on Thursday but page 223. That's where the cell tower revenues get transferred into the Holman Stadium, David Deane Skate Park, and Mine Falls.

As you recall last year, there was a movement as Director Fauteux said to move monies into the Park Rehabilitation Expendable Trust Fund. That can be done through appropriation generally in the budget. Most of the departments don't carry a line item that says transfer to. A lot of times it's done through the escrow process which is a good use of an escrow actually putting money in an i.e., a savings account. Escrows should be used for capital projects and expendable trust fund build up not for ongoing expenses but you can replenish these funds and use them as the Board prefers. We've got several contributions that we've received over the years. So that's an array of a couple of pages at the end of the book and then the Expendable Trust Funds funded by appropriations. So those as a handful of money there. Not sure if we cobble everything together and just use it on one item such as the Holman Stadium renovation \$6 to \$9 million. I'll talk a lot about that issue on Thursday as well because it certainly crops up. You've had several departments that have come to you and they really don't have an answer as to where they get the money and the only way you can really do it here is to fund it, bond it, and really take a hard look at the Capital Improvement Committee Project that we do because we do a lot

of hard work in that committee. When you end up with a six-year program that's a half a billion dollars, it's scary. We can talk a lot about that Thursday too and hopefully that answers the question Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Dowd

And if nobody figured it out, Finance is Thursday. I've looked at the expendable trust a number of times and to understand each one of them, you've got to go dig the legislation out that formed it, tells you where you can get money from it, how it can be expanded, who can expand it. There's sort of a summary of that in this book if you look in the back but we've had a couple of times we were gonna sit down and see what we can do about getting rid of some of them but it's an effort unto itself. So any other general questions? If not, don't get the wrong one though.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO TABLE R-23-125**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

Alderman Kelly

I'll make it quick. Everybody's excited to get out of here. I wanted to congratulate the Black Heritage Trail and the Greater Nashua NAACP and the City for the great ceremony. I know many of you were there. It's such a sense of pride to tell everybody that Nashua was the first integrated baseball stadium. So it's nice going from there to here to talk about how an important piece of our history that is.

Then I wanted to thank everyone for letting us get out at a reasonable time. It is our wedding anniversary this evening so my husband will be happy that I'm not here till to midnight. Thirteen years.

Chairman Dowd

Taylor Swift's favorite number.

Alderman O'Brien

Happy Anniversary.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO ADJOURN**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared closed at 8:19 p.m.

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.  
Committee Clerk