

TEN YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
FEBRUARY 2018

Cruiser Replacement

Police cruisers are an item which always seem to generate a lot of discussion.

One of the major misconceptions would be thinking of cruisers like your personal vehicles at home. We always hear, my vehicle has 90,000 miles and it is in great shape or could you just replace the transmissions and engines and drive the cruisers another 100,000?

What should be taken into consideration is the Department runs 24 hours a day and 365 days of the year. The doors at the station are always open and the calls never stop. Therefore, this means the cruisers are used most of the 24 hours each day.

The Department has been on a rotation cycle where one year we would purchase one cruiser and the next year we would purchase two. This rotation cycle has worked very well.

This year the Department once again went with a combined bid program with South Portland. Scarborough usually participates, but this year they did not need any Ford Explorers. The bids for cruisers this year came in and there was almost a 5% increase from last year.

In the FY 19 Budget the Department would like to submit a line item to be able to purchase two cruisers. Included in this line item would be the cost associated with transferring the equipment over.

Computer Replacement

The laptop computers in the three marked cruisers are essential for the Officer when they are working the road. These computers not only give the Officer computed aided dispatch information, but allow them to retrieve criminal history, driver information, and warrant information on the people they are dealing with out on the street.

The IT Department has marked the laptop computers for a three year cycle. Desk top units inside the Department will be looked at for a four year cycle.

Bullet Proof Vests

The Cape Elizabeth Police Department maintains a replacement schedule for bullet proof vests. A bullet proof vest life expectancy is five years. That is set by the manufacture, therefore for safety purposes we follow their recommendations.

Each bullet proof vest is fit to the Officer for maximum comfort. Vests could be worn a total of sixteen hours straight should the Officer work an extra shift. At \$800 a vest we will replace five vests this budget year.

Radio Replacement

It is anticipated that radio equipment will be transferred in this budget year to another cell tower. These monies will assist in this transfer.

Scout Alarm

The Scout Alarm is a portable system that transmits a radio message when activated. This device acts as a portable alarm system for the Police Department.

We utilize this type of system for numerous different scenarios, but mostly for domestic violence cases and theft cases.

The previous unit we had is over 15 years old and it is beyond repair.