

9.B. 25/26-43: Consideration/possible action, Resolution 2026-06 authorizing the Bonding and Acquisition/Replacement of certain Capital Equipment and/or Vehicles; and to place this Resolution on the Agenda for the Annual Town Meeting on April 25, 2026 for consideration of approval through an Adjourned Town Meeting and Referendum on May 5, 2026.

Town Council Action Requested: Town Council will consider passing Resolution 2026-06 authorizing the acquisition and bonding of capital items to include: GHR and CGS Fire Alarms; CHS, CNH, GHR, and CGS Intercoms; Quint Fire Engine/Tanker/Ladder Truck; DPW Streetsweeper; and an Ambulance. The amount of the acquisition proposed is \$3,520,000. Town Council will also consider authorizing placing this Resolution on the agenda at the Annual Town Meeting on April 25, 2026 for consideration of approval by voters through an adjourned Town Meeting and referendum, which in compliance with the Town Charter is to be held on May 5, 2026.

Purpose: The Town has a number of capital projects and capital items in the Capital Improvement Plan that are in need of funding. These projects are projects that are too large for being funded in the annual Capital Budget, and there are pieces of capital equipment that have been needed, but the purchase has been delayed in past years. The Council will be proposing the acquisition of these capital items to the voters at the Annual Town Meeting for their consideration and potential approval through the adjourned Town Meeting and Referendum.

History: The projects and capital items being considered are all within the Town of Coventry's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Some are fairly new to the Plan and others have been pushed out year after year. The Finance Committee and The Town Council reviewed proposed capital projects for bonding in January 2025 and again in December 2025 and approved the listed projects to move ahead for a future referendum for voter consideration of authorization of purchasing and bonding.

Facts about the issue: Each project has its own background, which is explained within the Bonding Project Descriptions (attached).

Funding Information: The Town's debt service will significantly decrease in FY2027 and again in FY2028 making new debt easier to accommodate. The payment schedule of the Quint Fire Truck will allow for the delay of borrowing \$2,245,000 of the \$3,250,000 until FY2029 or later, keeping the debt service from escalating.

Finance Committee's Recommendation: 1) At the December 15th Finance Committee meeting it was recommended by the Finance Committee to recommend to Town Council that they include in a future referendum to authorize debt the following items: GHR and CGS Fire Alarms; CHS, CNH, GHR, and CGS Intercoms; Quint Fire Engine/Tanker/Ladder Truck; DPW Streetsweeper; and an Ambulance. 2) At the March 9th Finance Committee meeting it was recommended that the Resolution be forwarded to Town Council for their consideration and that the Resolution be added to the Annual Town Meeting on April 25th so to save on the expense of a separate Special Town Meeting and separate referendum election in April.

Town Manager Comments: The Town would save approximately \$5,000 by including this referendum question at the Annual Town Meeting and referendum instead of a separate Town Meeting and referendum.

Town Manager's Recommendation: Two Motions

1. **Motion** to adopt Resolution 2026-06,

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$3,520,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION, REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT, AND/OR PURCHASE OF CERTAIN CAPITAL EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, AND/OR FURNISHINGS FOR VARIOUS TOWN DEPARTMENTS; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,520,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

2. **Motion** that the Town Manager and Town Clerk be authorized and directed to place on the agenda for consideration Resolution 2026-06 at the Annual Town Meeting to be held in the Coventry High School Veterans Auditorium (78 Ripley Hill Road, Coventry, Connecticut 06238) on Saturday, May 5, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. (DST.), for the following purpose:

1. To consider a resolution entitled "Resolution Appropriating \$3,520,000 For The Acquisition, Repair And Replacement, And/Or Purchase Of Certain Capital Equipment, Vehicles, And/Or Furnishings For Various Town Departments; And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,520,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose."

And, further, that the vote on the ballot question below be adjourned to a vote at the Adjourned Annual Town Meeting and Referendum, to be held on May 5, 2026:

1. "Shall the resolution entitled 'Resolution Appropriating \$3,520,000 For The Acquisition, Repair And Replacement, And/Or Purchase Of Certain Capital Equipment, Vehicles, And/Or Furnishings For Various Town Departments; And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,520,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose', as introduced and read at the Annual Town Meeting held April 25, 2026 be approved?"

The ballot label for said question shall read as follows:

"Shall the resolution making an appropriation of \$3,520,000 for various capital equipment vehicles, furnishings and other capital projects, be approved?

YES _____ NO _____"

The vote will be by optical scan voting machine. Those in favor of the resolution referred to in the question shall fill in the oval under the word "YES" under such question. Those not in favor of the resolution referred to in the question shall fill in the oval under the word "NO" under such question.

The polls will be open during the hours between 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. (D.S.T.). Electors will vote at the polling places established for voting districts #1 and #2. The voters who are entitled to vote by reason of Section 7-6 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, may vote at Coventry Town Hall, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. The polling places are as follows:

District 1 and District 2 will vote at Coventry Fire/EMS Station #118, 1755 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238.

Absentee ballots shall be available as provided by law at the Office of the Town Clerk, as provided by law.