

**FORM A**  
**TOWN OF AYER CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST FORM**

Parks

FISCAL YEAR: 2024

Please list each capital request on this form with a dollar amount and in the appropriate year. Then complete a Form B for each request appearing on this sheet.

	Item Requested	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28
1	Kiddie Junction Remediation (Phase 2)	\$150,000				
2	Kiddie Junction Remediation (Phase 3)		\$150,000			
3	Basketball Courts Rehab			\$150,000		
4	Sandy Pond Beachhouse Rehab Study	\$30,000				
5	Sandy Pond Beachhouse Rehab		\$500,000			
6	Utility Vehicle			\$20,000		
7	Access Road/Parking Paving					\$70,000
8	Splash Park				\$70,000	
<b>Yearly Totals</b>		<b>\$180,000</b>	<b>\$650,000</b>	<b>\$170,000</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>

Department Head Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FORM B**  
**TOWN OF AYER CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST BACKUP DOCUMENTATION**

DEPARTMENT:

FISCAL YEAR: 2024

Please provide written explanation and justification and any appropriate backup materials that would be necessary to understand and consider this request.

Fiscal Year of Request: 2024

Item or Project: Remediation of Kiddie Junction                      Phases II and III

Explanation of Request: The remediation of the original playground is underway, and funding for a partial replacement has been secured, with work expected to be complete with that phase in the spring of 2023. The desire by the public, voiced in many open forums and study groups, called for a replacement to have a similar size and scope of what had been originally in place. An estimate of the cost to do this (beyond the cost of remediation) came out in excess of \$1 million dollars. The Parks Commission chose to utilize a strategy of doing the rebuilding in three phases, with the first part including getting the site remediated and putting as much equipment in place as possible with existing town funding. The second and third phases would try to employ usage of grants for a funding source if possible before seeking funding from town resources. The requests for capital funding for phase II and III are contingent on that funding not being available.

Cost Justification: We will be utilizing every effort possible, much of that coming through efforts spearheaded by the Office of Economic Development, to get funding from outside sources to supplant some or all the expenses of this project. Many of the grants we will be seeking have prerequisites of demonstrating assured success of the project, so having the work initiated in phase I will be very helpful in attaining outside funding.

Benefit to the Town: As one of the centerpieces of Pirone Park and a social commonplace for families in town, maintaining a playground of this stature is of paramount importance. There are limited other playground options in town.

Alternative: Phase 1 can stand alone as a nice playground once work is complete, but it would not measure up to the expectations of the public to have the full scope of the project completed.

Additional Notes: We will also be asking the CPC to partially fund this project, again contingent on getting additional outside funding. An earmark from the state of \$100K has recently been secured.

Department Head Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FORM B**  
**TOWN OF AYER CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST BACKUP DOCUMENTATION**

**DEPARTMENT:**

**FISCAL YEAR:** 2024

Please provide written explanation and justification and any appropriate backup materials that would be necessary to understand and consider this request.

**Fiscal Year of Request:** 2024

**Item or Project:** Remediation of Sandy Pond Beach House      Feasibility Study

**Explanation of Request:**      The beach house at Sandy Pond Beach is currently in need of numerous repairs and updates. The primary of these is making the bathrooms ADA compliant, as none of the current stalls are capable of converting to handicap accessible entries or stalls. There is also a need to upgrade the plumbing and get the electric up to code. Ideally the new modifications would create new bathrooms, an updated area for waterfront staff to utilize for office work and concession sales, and storage for tools and equipment needed for the upkeep of the facility.

**Cost Justification:**      A study is needed to verify what the best course of action to take to get the building modifications needed, come up with a cost estimate for the project, and to create plans to create an RFP to put out to bid.

**Benefit to the Town:**      Sandy Pond Beach is the only public swimming location for Ayer residents, and has become a pride of the community. It is often listed in real estate marketing as a prime attraction to those considering moving to Ayer. Having a beach house with ADA compliant bathrooms is an essential part of being able to offer this facility to the citizens of Ayer.

**Alternative:**      There are no alternatives to having this study done if any modifications are to be made on the current building. Alternatives to what can be done with the building will become apparent after the study.

**Department Head Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FORM B**  
**TOWN OF AYER CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST BACKUP DOCUMENTATION**

**DEPARTMENT:**

**FISCAL YEAR:** 2024

Please provide written explanation and justification and any appropriate backup materials that would be necessary to understand and consider this request.

**Fiscal Year of Request:** 2025

**Item or Project:** Remediation of Sandy Pond Beach House

**Explanation of Request:** The beach house at Sandy Pond Beach is currently in need of numerous repairs and updates. The primary of these is making the bathrooms ADA compliant, as none of the current stalls are capable of converting to handicap accessible entries or stalls. There is also a need to upgrade the plumbing and get the electric up to code. Ideally the new modifications would create new bathrooms, an updated area for waterfront staff to utilize for office work and concession sales, and storage for tools and equipment needed for the upkeep of the facility. This project is contingent on the completion of the building remediation study proposed for FY24, which should yield a more accurate estimated cost.

**Cost Justification:** This is an overdue project for a very old building. Minor upgrades have been made over the last 15 years, such as new roof, new lighting fixtures, replacement doors, upgrades to toilets, etc., but the building no longer can be considered fully functional by today's standards, particularly in regards to ADA compliance.

**Benefit to the Town:** Sandy Pond Beach is the only public swimming location for Ayer residents, and has become a pride of the community. It is often listed in real estate marketing as a prime attraction to those considering moving to Ayer. Having a beach house with ADA compliant bathrooms is an essential part of being able to offer this waterfront facility to the citizens of Ayer.

**Alternative:** ADA compliance is the most essential element of this project. Temporary handicap accessible toilets can be procured through a service to achieve compliance. The Parks Department will be utilizing such a service starting in 2023, but this should only be considered a temporary solution.

**Department Head Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FORM B**  
**TOWN OF AYER CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST BACKUP DOCUMENTATION**

DEPARTMENT: Parks

FISCAL YEAR: FY24

Please provide written explanation and justification and any appropriate backup materials that would be necessary to understand and consider this request.

Fiscal Year of Request: FY26

Item or Project: Basketball Court Rehab

Explanation of Request: The two basketball courts at Pirone Park, which were paved circa 1995, are in need of repair due to the pavement developing cracks and sinkholes. Estimates to repair this require removal of the existing pavement and replacing it with new material. Ideally this would be a paving material more conducive to sports activities than traditional parking lot pavement, which was used in the original design. Additionally, a perimeter fence would keep balls that exit the court from going into the woods or the adjacent road. We would also be altering one of the courts to become a multi-use courts to allow lower hoops and other activities.

Cost Justification: The courts had been resurfaced in 2015, including sealcoating and adding pavement to the sinkhole areas, which was a stopgap solution at best. This procedure would need to be repeated every few years to maintain a bare minimal of safety for public use of the courts. The lack of a fence also presents a safety issue, particularly for younger players.

Benefit to the Town: The basketball courts are regularly used by residents on a daily basis for three seasons of the year. Youth teams have no other guaranteed space to practice due to restrictions at the school gyms. The new courts would add tremendously to the aesthetics of the park, which is a benefit to all home owners' property values.

Alternative: Paving with an inferior, less costly material would save money but would not offer the same benefits as the type of paving used at Sandy Pond and most other recently constructed courts in the area. Continuing to sealcoat and fill in cracks and sinkholes would be a temporary fix, but at some point the courts will need to either be rehabbed or abandoned.

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**FORM B**  
**TOWN OF AYER CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST BACKUP DOCUMENTATION**

DEPARTMENT:

FISCAL YEAR: 2024

Please provide written explanation and justification and any appropriate backup materials that would be necessary to understand and consider this request.

Fiscal Year of Request: 2026

Item or Project: Utility Vehicle

Explanation of Request: A utility vehicle that can be driven throughout the grounds of Pirone Park for maintenance duties is an essential piece of equipment. It allows employees to do daily maintenance tasks throughout the grounds without causing compaction to the turf or rutting that a heavier vehicle would create. The Parks Department currently utilizes an outdated golf cart which was donated by a generous citizen over ten years ago. It has limited capability and even with diligent upkeep will be expiring soon. A more modern type of utility vehicle can be used for even more purposes and would represent a major upgrade to maintenance services that can be performed.

Cost Justification: One of the most pronounced benefits of having a fully functional utility vehicle is its ability to drag ballfields, which the golf cart is unable to do. This is currently being done by the Park Department's tractor, which is both inefficient due to the poor turning radius and impact on the clay surface from such a heavy piece of equipment. It is estimated that we accrue approximately 200 vehicle hours per year dragging fields, so limiting this to a utility vehicle would put far less wear on the tractor.

Benefit to the Town: A utility vehicle will allow for more efficiency in performing Parks Department maintenance tasks at Pirone Park. If well maintained, the vehicle should last 20 years or more.

Alternative: Continue using the golf cart until it is no longer functional, which would then require using the tractor or truck to do a variety of tasks. This would cause rutting in the turf and compaction of the soil, limiting healthy grass growth.

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**FORM B**  
**TOWN OF AYER CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST BACKUP DOCUMENTATION**

DEPARTMENT:

FISCAL YEAR: 2022

Please provide written explanation and justification and any appropriate backup materials that would be necessary to understand and consider this request.

Fiscal Year of Request: 2025

Item or Project: Splash Park

Explanation of Request: We have received numerous requests from the public to explore the creation of a splash park in one or more locations in town. These are generally very popular with young families in warm summer days and offer an additional option for a cooling recreational experience beyond swimming in the local ponds.

Cost Justification: These can be constructed with varying degrees of cost, and can be tailored to an acceptable budget in most cases.

Benefit to the Town: These structures are becoming more common in various municipal settings and would offer the town an additional recreational resource, which is an enhancement to both ambiance and property value.

Alternative: Continue with Sandy Pond Beach as the sole source for municipally offered aquatic recreation.

Department Head Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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**FORM B**  
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DEPARTMENT: Parks

FISCAL YEAR: FY24

Please provide written explanation and justification and any appropriate backup materials that would be necessary to understand and consider this request.

Fiscal Year of Request: FY28

Item or Project: Access Road/Parking Lot Paving

Explanation of Request: The west section of Pirone Park has a dirt road that gives access to the basketball courts, ball fields, overflow parking, and the only public boat launch to Grove Pond. This road annual develops ruts and potholes that make access to these points difficult, if not near impossible for certain vehicles until repairs are made. We would like to get this road paved as well as paving an area for overflow parking.

Cost Justification: Repairs to the road need to be done annually just to make it passable. This requires labor and resources form the Parks Department and DPW. Patrons have reported bottoming out with their vehicles.

Benefit to the Town: Residents would benefit greatly by having an access to the points listed above without having concern of traversing a dusty and potentially damaging road. It would also create a better overall appearance for the park.

Alternative: Continue with annual repairs to the road. The DPW has been very generous with offering their resources, but are also often limited on when they are available to assist with this, particularly in the spring when the frost heaves have done the most damage and the highway department is at their busiest.

Department Head Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_