

Present:

Lee M. Azinheira, Chairman
Mark S. Nunes, Clerk

Manuel Branco, Vice Chairman
David T. Hickox, Director

Carlos Cardoso, WPC Plant Manager Steven Sullivan, Superintendent Water & Sewer Division
Paul Pacheco, Superintendent Services & Infrastructure
David G. Cressman, Executive Administrator

The Chairman called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve and accept the warrants for the bills payable for the period ending February 10, 2011. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve and accept the payrolls for the weeks ending: January 21, 28, and February 4, 2011. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Nunes to approve and accept the Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2011. So voted.

APPOINTMENT

Mr. John Haran to address Board on issues related to the Charter review

The Chairman recognized Mr. John Haran, Planning Board member and Planning Board representative to the Charter Review Committee.

Mr. Haran expressed that his reason for appearing before the Board was to gain insight from the Board of Public Works' perspective in regard to proposed changes to the Town Charter. He informed the Board that the Charter Review Committee is suggesting a recommendation to eliminate the Board of Public Works authority and making it an advisory board that would remain appointed by the Select Board, with the Director taking direction from the Executive Administrator. He asked the Board members how they would feel if the Board's format were to change. He said he personally felt that the integrity of the Board of Public Works and how it works was great. He noted that he would take the Board's comments back to the Charter Review Committee.

Chairman Azinheira responded by stating that he has experienced a Board of Public Works functioning in both formats. Mr. Azinheira is a director of public works in the Town of Mansfield, which has a strong Town Manager form of government. Mr. Azinheira noted that he believes Dartmouth's form of government allows the time necessary for an adequate review of the issues/projects a Director of Public Works is charged to accomplish. He pointed out that the Select Board currently appoints the Dartmouth Board of Public Works.

Mr. Branco informed Mr. Haran that the Board of Public works originally was a seven member elected board, one member for each of the then precincts. The Board of Public Works was than reduced to five and then ultimately reduced to three appointed members. Mr. Branco commented that he believes the current Board is doing a good job, with two civil engineers and a businessman with common sense. He added that he believes the Board of Public Works is a strong as the appointments made by the Select Board. Having a Board that understands the many technical issues related to Dartmouth's public works; water, sewer, infrastructure, is necessary. Mr. Branco also noted that having

the right mixture of talent and a good standing relationship with the appointing authority is key. He noted that the current Board is committed to an open dialogue and consistent communication with the Select Board through its Executive Administrator. He expressed his feelings that the Board of Public Works would serve no purpose if it were reduced to an advisory Board.

Mr. Haran asked Mr. Branco whom he thought should appoint a Director of Public Works. Mr. Branco replied that he believed it should be the Board of Public Works using the job description that is in place by state statute. He added that the Select Board would be advised of the selection process.

Mr. Haran informed the Board that the Charter Review Committee is considering changing how a Director of Public Works is hired. He asked the Board members how they felt about that. Mr. Azinheira replied with no disrespect to the Select Board, that he didn't believe the Select Board should be hiring Department Heads. He stressed it is most important whom the Select Board appoints to the Board of Public Works. Mr. Nunes commented that he believe the decision for whom is appointed as Director of Public Works should be made by the Board of Public Works in conjunction with the Executive Administrator, as most projects. He added that he believes how the Town Charter is written works well now.

Mr. Haran asked the Board members how they felt about a change in the Charter that would affect whom the Director would take his/her direction. Mr. Nunes reiterated that he believed the current system works well and pointed out that the Executive Administrator is copied on most if not all correspondence. Mr. Branco simply stated, "If it works, don't fix it." Mr. Azinheira replied that he believes the Board has a good combination of people, where the focus is public works working in the best interest for the Town. Mr. Branco added that the Department of Public Works has competent supervisors. Mr. Haran agreed and thanked the Board for their time.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on curbside recycling program

Mr. Hickox reviewed the estimated costs for a private contractor to provide automated recycling curbside collection. He also outlined the pros and cons of single stream recycling from the homeowner's, DPW, and District's angle, which was outlined after a meeting with Ms. Virginia Valiela. Mr. Azinheira noted the operation in Mansfield. A brief discussion regarding single stream vs. dual stream recycling ensued.

Mr. Hickox also reviewed Option #1 – In-house Single Stream and Option #2 – In-house Dual Stream Bi-weekly recycling. In regard to Option #2 and the purchasing of two rolling totes per household, he noted that in the event that local industry/markets moves to a more inviting single-stream recycling operation, the Town would already have the second bin for solid waste collection. A brief discussion on the size of the rolling totes ensued. It was noted that most communities opt for the 64-gallon tote allowing an option for homeowners to order a 96-gallon tote. Mr. Azinheira commented that a five year expectant life on the tote used to calculate the debt service is conservative and his experience is that the totes would last between eight and ten years.

Mr. Nunes expressed his concerns on losing the recycling revenues currently generated by dual-stream recycling. He also noted that residents have already been conditioned to recycle in this manner. Mr. Hickox agreed, noting that the loss could be anywhere from \$75,000-\$100,000 a year depending upon the market.

Noting that the analysis assumed the purchase of four automated trucks, and the possibility of reducing staff by one, Mr. Nunes asked if the fourth truck was necessary. Mr. Hickox replied that they could retro or fit an existing truck for a semi-automatic collection, which could be used for the extra/spare truck. Mr. Nunes asked for a revised analysis with three trucks vs. the four. All agreed and asked it be based on a five-year debt service.

The residuals benefits of having employees available to plow and sand as well participate in highway maintenance functions on Fridays, was noted during the review of the in-house analysis.

Mr. Hickox commented that the objective is to implement the program without raising the PAYT base rate fee. Mr. Azinheria asked when they would propose implementing the new program. Mr. Hickox replied that it would have to be after Town Meeting. He noted that DEP recommends a year to implement the program. Mr. Azinheria added that they would need at least an eight-month lead-time to order and receive the trucks. Mr. Hickox pointed out that timeframe would allow the Department adequate time for public relations and education.

Mr. Branco asked for an updated cost analysis on the cost to have a private contractor perform snow and ice services vs. the in-house operation.

Mr. Cressman suggested getting an up-to-date figure on the cost of private recycling collection service. Mr. Branco said he would like to the proposal sent to the Select Board once the Board of Public Works votes on a recommendation on the final recycling program proposal. The discussion concluded with Mr. Hickox stating that he would revise the debt service for the dual stream option with updated private figures and the reduction of one new truck purchase. He also noted that the Department would be conducting a brief survey on recycling and the use of rolling totes. The survey will be placed on the Town's website.

Update on Rte. 6/Faunce Corner Road upgrades, Faunce Corner Road/I-195 Interchange Improvement Project, and Padanaram Causeway Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Hickox briefed the Board of the meeting with Representative Markey, Senator Montigny, and Congressman Franks' Chief Aide that Mr. Azinheira, Mr. Cressman, Ms. Stone and he attended last week in regard to Dartmouth's various infrastructure/transportation projects. Those projects included Padanaram Causeway Rehabilitation Project, Faunce Corner Road/I-195 Improvement Project, and the Faunce Corner Road Rehabilitation/Congestion Remediation Project.

Mr. Hickox reported that he has spoken to Kevin Mooney, the Department's contact with dcr in regard to the Padanaram Causeway Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Moody informed Mr. Hickox that he would be meeting with the Seaport Council and Federal Government Agency and thus requested Dartmouth's 25% plans and revised cost estimates so he could submit them as an example of a project that is approaching a shovel ready status. Mr. Hickox noted that his goal at this point is to complete the permitting and approval process.

In regard to the Faunce Corner road/I-195 Interchange Improvement Project, Mr. Hickox reported that the state is moving forward with the engineering design. The project was pulled from the TIF, but there has been focus to move the project forward. Mr. Hickox has drafted a letter on behalf of Senator Montigny and Representative Markey to Secretary of Transportation Mullen stressing the importance of this regional project.

Faunce Corner Road Rehabilitation Congestion Study resulted from a SRPEDD Congestion Study includes the relocation of Tucker Road. Mr. Hickox's informed the Board that the DPW received a MassDOT Highway Division Project number for the project, which will include several distinct improvements. DOT has agreed to work with the Town in "phasing" the project and the Town will proceed with the engineering design of Phase I including the acquisition of land and temporary easements. Mr. Hickox noted that they have an engineering proposal from VHB forthcoming.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Water & Sewer Revenue for FY 2011

Mr. Hickox pointed out that the rate revenues are in much better shape this year than the prior year. He added he would like to review the accounts before Town Meeting and make any adjustments

for next year's revenue. In regard to the Sewer Enterprise Account, Mr. Hickox noted that there would be a significant increase in debt service due to the capital improvements recommended in the Comprehensive Review Plan.

Application for Abatement of Sewer Betterment Tax – 15 South Lane/Map 102-Lot 19

Mr. Hickox recommended that the abatement be approved. He informed the Board members that a large portion of the lot is wet. Both the Building Commissioner and the Conservation Director conducted an evaluation of the lot. Mr. Hickox noted that there were two services to the lot, a low-pressure service and a gravity service.

A motion was made by Mr. Nunes and duly seconded by Mr. Branco, to approve a abatement of sewer betterment for the low-pressure service assessed to plat 102 lot 19 (15 South Lane) in the amount of \$20,911.39, subject to a reassessment of the betterment plus interest as determined by the Town Collector if the lot should ever become buildable. So voted.

Superintendent of Services & Infrastructure's recommendation for temporary promotion to working foreman position

Based on the recommendation of staff, a motion was made by Mr. Nunes and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to award the bid for two 8 cubic yard dump trucks/36,000 GVW to the low bidder, Altrui Truck Sales, Inc., of East Providence, RI. So voted.

Superintendent of Services & Infrastructure's recommendation for temporary promotion to working foreman position.

Mr. Hickox informed the Board that he was in agreement with Mr. Pacheco's recommendation for the appointment to Mr. Steven Mendonca to temporary working foreman. Mr. Nunes asked if the other foreman would be returning to work. Mr. Hickox replied that they did not know at this time.

A motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Nunes to temporarily promote Mr. Steven Mendonca to working foreman. So voted.

Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Dartmouth and Woodard & Curran – 687 Chlorine Monitoring.

The Director noted that the item reflects back to the Groundwater Rule. A chlorine monitoring station has been constructed at the entrance to Fieldstone Place across from D Wells, which Woodard and Curran will connect to the Department's SCADA system.

A motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Nunes to accept the memorandum of agreement between the Town of Dartmouth and Woodard & Curran for 687 Chlorine Monitoring, and to allow the funding to be disbursed from the Water and Sewer Emergency Funding line item. So voted.

In regard to the new Ground Rule, Mr. Nunes asked if there were any new reports of problems on Old Westport Road due to the chemical temperatures. Mr. Sullivan replied that although everything is in place to make the change, the issue regarding the chemical storage temperature is still on going until they receive authorization from DEP to make the switch. He added that they haven't received any reports of problems due to close monitoring of temperatures by the operators.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman asked those present if they wished to discuss any other business that morning, hearing none, he asked for a motion to close the meeting.

Having no further business to discuss that morning, at approximately 8:55 a.m. a motion was made by Mr. Nunes and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to adjourn the meeting. So voted.

Respectfully submitted:

Michelle L. DeFranco, Office Manager/Confidential Secretary

Approved: 03/03/11