

Present:

Mark S. Nunes, Chairman
Manuel Branco, Clerk

Lee M. Azinheira, Vice Chairman
David T. Hickox, Director

Carlos Cardoso, WPC Plant Manager
Paul Pacheco, Superintendent Services & Infrastructure

Steven Sullivan, Superintendent Water & Sewer Division

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

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the warrants for the bills payable for the period ending October 18, 2012. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the payrolls for the weeks ending September 21, 28, and October 5, and 12, 2012. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2012. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2012. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the Meeting Minutes of May 31, June 21, and July 23, 2012. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2012. So voted.

APPOINTMENTS

Hearing – Request to remove four Maple trees approximately 6-12” in diameter from Town property abutting 13, 29, and 30 Dartmouth Farms Trail and three Maple trees approximately 6-12” in diameter from Town property abutting 6 & 10 Tupelo Court.

The Chairman opened the hearing and recognized Mr. Paul Sellers, Nstar Senior Arborist.

Mr. Sellers informed the Board that Nstar is in the process of pruning its circuit 541 as part of its vegetation management. A number of trees have been identified as having a potential impact on producing energy in that area. He explained the process and noted that they already obtained signatures from the direct abutters. Mr. Hickox added that the notice of the hearing was properly advertised under M.G.L. Chapter 87, Section 3 (Public Shade Trees).

The Chairman asked if anyone was present to speak in favor or in opposition of the tree removals. Hearing, none he closed the hearing.

A motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve the removal of the four Maple trees approximately 6-12” in diameter from Town property abutting 13, 29, and 30 Dartmouth Farm Trail and 3 Maple trees approximately 6-12” in diameter from Town property abutting 6 and 10 Tupelo Court. So voted.

Meeting with Ms. Donna Branco regarding request to disturb pavement – 130 Tucker Lane

The Chairman recognized Ms. Donna Branco. Mr. Hickox informed the Board that Ms. Branco just recently purchased the house and has requested gas service. He noted that the Town has a five year moratorium on road disturbances on newly paved roads. He added that neither Town funds nor Chapter 90 funds were used to pave the road this roadway. Mr. Branco suggested that the Department request a comprehensive review of how gas service could be brought to the property with little to no disturbance to the road. Mr. Branco also took the opportunity to point out that the Board will be hearing more and more requests for road disturbance because of the cost of oil and thus conversions to gas services. Mr. Azinheira suggested that in the future all abutters be notified of the moratorium policy before a road is repaved or reconstructed.

A motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Azinheira to allow Nstar to disturb the roadway adjacent to 130 Tucker Lane with the stipulation that the trench be repaired to Town specifications and the roadway paved curb-to-curb. So voted.

Mr. Hickox will notify Nstar in writing of the Board’s decision. Mr. Branco suggested an article noting the concerns related to roadway disturbances due to the number of change overs from oil to gas. The informational piece could include the moratorium policy. The other Board members agreed that posting a notice on the Town’s website would be informative.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on moratorium – 303 Slocum Road

Mr. Hickox noted that the Slocum Road has moved out of the five-year moratorium stage. He said he was seeking clarification on the Board’s policy of full-depth restoration seven-year moratorium. Mr. Azinheira voiced that full-depth restoration is a complete reconstruction of a roadway and not an overlay. In this case, Slocum Road would not be considered a full-depth restoration and thus would not be under the seven-year moratorium policy. Mr. Hickox informed the Board that he would clarify the language in the current policy and bring it back before the Board for a vote. The policy will also be incorporated in the Department’s road rules and regulations.

The Chairman asked if the trees Nstar promised to the Town had been planted. Mr. Pacheco replied that all but 10 of the trees have been planted and those trees are scheduled for planting this month.

M. Soares Excavating – Good Friends II

Mr. Hickox reviewed the status of the situation. Since there has been no action, the Board agreed to proceed with the action and fines against M. Soares Excavating in relation to Good Friends II.

NEW BUSINESS

Fiscal Year 2012 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures – Water & Sewer Enterprise Funds

The Board reviewed the information. Mr. Hickox recommended that they add another \$100,000 to the I & I account due to amount of work that is scheduled.

VHB “no cost” Contract Amendment #4 – Padanaram Causeway

Mr. Hickox briefed the Board on the “no cost” revision.

Discussion on Lake Noquochoke Water Rights and Land Owned by the City of Fall River

Mr. Hickox updated the Board on the recent meeting Mr. Cressman, Mr. O’Reilly, Mr. Sullivan, and he had with representatives of the City of Fall River relative to the water rights and land owned by the City of Fall River including the dam. Mr. Azinheira commented that he believes although there is cost involved in maintaining the dam, it is in the Town’s best interest to obtain the water rights and control of the dam. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Hickox will meet again with representatives of the City of Fall River.

Authority to File & Certifying Authority to File – Dartmouth Water Pollution Control Facility & Four Remote Pump Stations

A motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to afford Mr. David T. Hickox, P.E. Director of Public Works the authority to file through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust on behalf of the Town of Dartmouth for the upgrade and improvements to the Dartmouth Water Pollution Control Facility and four remote pump stations. So voted.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman asked those present if they wished to discuss any other business that morning.

Mr. Branco asked for the status on the Elm Street reconstruction project. Mr. Hickox reported that the project is moving as scheduled. Currently, Verizon and Comcast are transferring their wires from the old pole to the new pole. The last pour for the sidewalks is in process and all the structures are being raised in preparation of the overlay. The road will be overlaid from Russells Mills Road to Howland Street. The remaining roadway will be paved in the spring.

The Chairman asked for more detail on the correspondence the Board received in their informational packets relative to a union grievance. Mr. Hickox briefed the Board on the item.

The Board agreed to meet again on November 8, 2012, at 7:30 a.m.

Having no further business to discuss that morning, at approximately 9:05 a.m. a motion was made by Mr. Azinheira and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to adjourn the meeting. So voted.

Respectfully submitted:
Michelle L. DeFranco, Administrative Assistant

Approved: 11/29/12