

WAYLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Wayland Town Building

March 10, 2014

7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

T. Abdella, B. Goldsmith, M. Lowery, J. Mishara, D. Ouellette – DPW Director

Meeting opened at 7:04 PM

(Abdella announced that the meeting is being videotaped and recorded.)

Public Comment

George Bernard 103 East Plain – Discussed with the Board his observations regarding traffic on East Plain / School / Rt 30 Intersection, and inquired about the status of proposed changes.

Abdella replied that the Board has voted to support TEC and the Police Chief's recommendations for changes.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the current status of the intersection, the plan to try different traffic patterns beginning in May, and described process to making changes.

Bernard inquired about status of state funding for reconfiguring the intersection.

Ouellette responded that the process to obtain state funding has been initiated, but takes several years to process.

Discussion on West Plain Street / Old Connecticut Path Intersection, including Proposed Sidewalk Design and Related Topics

Ouellette discussed with the Board the option between the original plan, with the sidewalk located in the middle of the green space; and the alternate plan, placing the sidewalk closer to properties while leaving six feet of green space to grow trees.

Todd MacDowell of Danforth Green LLC discussed with the Board homeowners' concerns about sidewalk placement. MacDowell presented the Board options for creating a pathway to facilitate pedestrian access at intersection.

Abdella noted he preferred the plan featuring a wider green space. Mishara, Goldsmith, and Lowery agree.

Abdella inquired about the status of a resident's brick pillars, and his concern that they would be affected by the sidewalk design.

Ouellette responded that the sidewalk can be given a slight bend to resolve issues with the pillars.

The Board continued to discuss proposed changes to the intersection and plans for implementation.

After discussion, the Board endorsed proposed changes for the intersection.

Presentation / Discussion on OPEB Assessment to Water and Transfer Station Enterprise Funds

David Gutschenritter 14 Clubhouse Lane, OPEB Advisory Committee Member – Discussed with the Board the OPEB Funding Article relative to the Board of Public Works.

Gutschenritter described to the Board the parts of the funding article: ‘Motion A’ reflects a one-time “catch-up” allocation, while ‘Motion B’ is an ongoing assessment.

Ouellette noted that the Water Enterprise Fund has not contributed to the OPEB account, justifying the request for a “catch-up” allocation.

Mishara asked Gutschenritter if he is requesting the Board take a formal position.

Gutschenritter noted that the OPEB Advisory Committee would like the support of the Board, and a Board vote of endorsement would be helpful and appreciated.

Abdella made a motion that the BOPW supports the OPEB Advisory Committee’s recommendations in their warrant article at Town Meeting.

The Board continued to discuss the different aspects of the OPEB funding Article with Gutschenritter.

Abdella amended his motion to state that the BOPW endorses Motions A and B of the OPEC Advisory Committee Funding Article at Annual Town Meeting. Lowery 2nd, all in favor.

Water Division – Discussion on Water Billing – Extent of Bills with Greater than Six Months of Charges; Root Cause and Corrective Action; Long-Term Option Discussion

Lowery discusses the process of abating users’ water bills that extended beyond 6 months, and how to rectify the issue.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the process of reading meters and various issues that create a delay in reading.

Ouellette suggested to the Board that the Water Department attempt to do all readings in town during the months of April and October.

Abdella noted the importance of timing and equity to the collection of money for water billing.

Goldsmith and Lowery noted their support of Ouellette’s idea of April and October readings.

Goldsmith requested that Ouellette provide a summary of the proposed reading changes.

Lowery asked if a change in the reading schedule would affect field openings.

Ouellette responded that it does not.

Lowery requested Ouellette provide a formal recommendation of proposed meter reading changes to the Board for the 3/24/2014 BOPW meeting for discussion and vote.

Chris Brown 9 Charena Road – Noted to the Board that he supports the proposed change to the meter reading schedule.

Director's Report – Review and Discussion

Ouellette Discussed status of the Rt 27 / Rt 30 Intersection. He noted that the project is on schedule. Ouellette noted that he spoke with TEC regarding drainage issues and possible changes to drainage pipes.

Ouellette noted that the Sherman Road Bridge is listed on the MassDOT TIP list, and anticipates state funding will be allocated in four years.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the status of the DPW budget, and discussed recent well cleaning at Baldwin Pond.

Ouellette discussed the planned 3/17/2014 BOPW meeting with NSTAR to discuss upcoming tree trimming.

Ouellette discussed the recent removal of the Pinebrook Road water main replacement from the budget by the Finance Committee. He noted that it was not his decision to cancel the Pinebrook replacement.

Abdella noted that the Pinebrook water main replacement could be requested to be reinstated on the floor of Town Meeting.

Mishara wondered if Finance Committee approval is needed, and if they have right to veto it.

Lowery asked if the Finance Committee can be invited to appear before Board on 3/17/2014 to discuss their vote.

Ouellette noted that he met with Sudbury, and an inter-municipal agreement is being drawn up to tie into the Sudbury water main for the River Road DPW Facility.

Ouellette discussed with the Board his meeting with the Recreation Department. He noted that the fields cannot be prepared until the snow has melted and the fields are dry. Ouellette added that it is unlikely that the fields would be accessible before April 1, and he does not anticipate the fields being open until April 15 at the earliest.

Lowery noted that Ouellette has done a good job building a good relationship with the Recreation Department.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the process of putting new sand on the beach. He added that the sand could not be put on beaches until mid-April at the earliest.

Ouellette discussed recent DPW personnel changes: Scott Perry has been promoted to Park Foreman, Ryan Bernard has been promoted to Senior Groundskeeper, and a new Park employee is scheduled to start on 3/27/2014.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the status of proposed 5 Paths signal upgrades, and that he hopes to have estimate by 3/12/14.

Mishara clarified that it is for signal upgrades only, not changes to the intersection.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the status of the water budget. He noted an anticipated increase in the undesignated fund.

Ouellette noted that all parties are on board with not putting a fixed generator at Happy Hollow, and he is waiting on formal paperwork confirming the change. He added that the project should be out for bid by mid-April.

Ouellette updated with the Board the status of the construction of the chlorine analyzer. He noted the work is delayed from mid-March until 4/1/2014 due to weather.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the status of upgrades to the Chamberlain Pump Station.

Board Members' Reports, Concerns, and Updates

Lowery asked Ouellette about the status of the rehabilitation of the West Plain Street Castle Gate Pillars.

Ouellette responded that the work could be done in June.

Lowery discussed with the Board the condition of Lakeshore Drive, and expressed his concern with the condition of the drainage systems and catch basins.

Goldsmith asked if road is public or private.

Lowery responded that portions are public, but parts are private.

Mishara asked why it hasn't been accepted.

Ouellette responded it doesn't meet the standards for acceptance.

Goldsmith recommended that Lowery develop creative solutions to Lakeshore issues to be presented to the Board.

Ouellette suggested that a walk-through of Lakeshore Drive with the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Police Department, and Fire Department be scheduled to examine and highlight the areas of concern.

Lowery noted to the Board that the relationship between the DPW and the Conservation and Historical Commissions have improved in the last year.

Goldsmith encouraged the Board to revisit the 8/19/13 Abrahams Report regarding water revenues in anticipation of upcoming water rate setting.

Goldsmith discussed with the Board anticipated issues regarding rate setting.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours Prior to Posting

Abdella requested an additional agenda item be added to the 3/17/2014 BOPW agenda: An invitation to the Finance Committee to discuss the Annual Town Meeting Budget.

Abdella requested that when revised plans for the West Plain Street / Old Connecticut Path Intersection were available, they be posted on the DPW website for public review.

Ouellette discussed with the Board the need to send a letter to MassDOT regarding a temporary construction easement on Hanna Williams Playground. Ouellette distributed a copy of the proposed letter to the Board for review.

The Board discussed the letter and noted a clerical error to be corrected.

Lowery made a motion that the Board approve letter with the change noted. Mishara 2nd, all in favor.

Review and Approve Minutes; Status of Posting to Web Page

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the February 24, 2014 BoPW Meeting.

Abdella made motion to accept minutes as drafted. Goldsmith 2nd, Abdella, Goldsmith, Mishara in favor; Lowery abstain.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours Prior to Posting

Ouellette discussed with the Board an issue with the water account of 8 Carpenter Road, and distributed a letter to the Board that has been sent to the residence requesting access to the water meter.

Ouellette discussed with the Board a recent resident request for the installation of stop signs on Orchard Lane and Training Field Road.

Abdella made a motion to adjourn.

Mishara 2nd, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.