

WAYLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Wayland Town Building

March 17, 2014

7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

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

Meeting opened at 7:09 PM

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

N-Star Presentation Regarding Tree Trimming FY2014

Chris Fallon and Joanne O’Leary of NSTAR appeared before the Board to discuss upcoming tree trimming around distribution lines for 2014.

Fallon described to the Board the process of tree trimming for distribution line clearance.

Fallon noted that they plan on primarily pruning this year, but will identify trees that may need to be taken down in the future.

Abdella asked if a map of the area to be trimmed is available.

Fallon supplied the Board with a map of the areas scheduled for pruning in the spring and fall.

Abdella requested that the maps be scanned and put on the DPW website.

Ouellette asked if any herbicide will be used.

Fallon replied that there won’t be any used for the trimming around distribution lines.

Fallon noted that NSTAR would plant a number of trees in town if requested, and offered to speak with Ouellette about locations to plant them.

Questions / Public Comment

Linda Segal – 9 Aqueduct Road asked if any permits have been issued for the pruning.

Lowery noted that permits would be issued only for trees to be taken down.

Ouellette responded that he doesn’t think a permit is required, but will look into it.

Segal asked when pruning is scheduled.

Fallon replied that he will provide the DPW with advanced notice when tree trimming will occur.

Scott Machanic – 26 Meadow View Road asked when a similar hearing will occur regarding the trimming of trees around transmission lines.

Fallon and O’Leary replied that the trimming around transmission lines is not under their purview, but O’Leary will contact Machanic with more information.

Machanic also offered his input regarding the placement of new trees that NSTAR proposed to plant.

Ouellette requested that Machanic send him an email to discuss the tree planting further.

Abdella announced a recess at 7:27, pending the arrival of a representative of the Finance Committee.

Abdella announced that the meeting is back in session at 8:00.

Invitation to the Finance Committee to Discuss the Annual Town Meeting Budget

Bill Steinberg, Finance Committee Member, appeared before Board to discuss the deletion of the Pine Brook Road water main project from the Capital Budget.

Ouellette noted that the project is one of the key hydrological issues to be addressed in town.

Steinberg suggested that if the item is returned to the budget, approval to add it should be obtained from the Town meeting moderator.

Abdella asked if the Finance Committee would have any objection to the BoPW presenting the item at Town Meeting.

Steinberg noted that the Finance Committee will discuss the issue and will speak with the BoPW regarding their support of reinstating the item in the budget.

Ouellette cautioned that Happy Hollow Wells is the most important water item on the agenda, and noted that the status of the Pine Brook Road water main project should not affect the Happy Hollow project.

Steinberg noted that there is a consensus on the Finance Committee to support the Pine Brook Road water main project.

Ouellette asked that in the future, the Finance Committee provide the BoPW with advanced notice prior to removing significant budget item.

The Board asked Steinberg why the request for two new Parks Department employees was denied by the Finance Committee.

Steinberg responded that the reason it was voted down is that they supported the Personnel Board’s decision against the additional employees.

Lowery provided Steinberg with a handout that was also distributed to the Board outlining his concerns about the Finance Committee’s decision.

Abdella suggested that a memo be drafted from the BoPW to the Finance Committee outlining their concerns.

Goldsmith asked what would be the most effective way to bring the Pine Brook Road water main replacement before Town Meeting.

Steinberg replied that the ideal situation would be to allow the Finance Committee to present the item at Town Meeting.

Steinberg noted that the Finance Committee understands the project's importance, and invited BoPW members to the 3/26/14 Finance Committee meeting.

Goldsmith noted that it is important to get the item on the Finance Committee's upcoming agenda and decide who will attend from the BoPW.

Lowery and Goldsmith both offered to go to the Finance Committee meeting.

Goldsmith discussed with the Board the status of the DPW reserve funds and distributed a handout to the Board for review and discussion.

Goldsmith made a motion to adjourn.

Lowery 2nd, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.