

MEETING BOARD OF SELECTMEN/SEWER COMMISSION SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

Members present: Allen R. Phillips Kevin M. McCormick
 John J. O'Brien Steven J. Quist
 Christopher A. Rucho

Mr. Phillips convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Read and Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Motion Mr. McCormick to approve the regular session meeting minutes for the August 3, 2011, seconded by Mr. Quist, all in favor.

Signature File

The Beaman Library's Masonry Repair Project, previously funded by town meeting vote, went through the procurement process, and the Board's Signature File contains the Agreement for the project, which was reviewed by town counsel and signed off on by the Town Accountant.

Motion Mr. McCormick to accept the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract on the town's behalf, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Concurrence on the appointment of Richard Simmarano, 98 Shrewsbury Street to Cable TV Advisory Committee, effective September 7, 2011 for a term to expire on June 30, 2013

Motion Mr. Rucho to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. McCormick, all in favor.

2. Concurrence on the appointment of Audrey M. Clary, 41 Angell Brook Drive to the Council on Aging, effective September 7, 2011 for a term to expire on April 30, 2014

Motion Mr. Quist to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

3. Concurrence on the appointment of Frederick Hatstat from the Lancaster Police Department as a Special Police Officer for detail assignments during the period of September 7, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Motion Mr. McCormick to concur with the appointment, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

4. Accept the following donations on behalf of the Bandstand Committee: Free Will donations for concert of July 31, \$171.85, concert of August 7, \$60.00, and concert of August 21, \$95.00

Motion Mr. Quist to accept the donations on behalf of the Bandstand Committee, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, all in favor.

5. Consider sending thank you letter to Mass Highway Department for repairing the causeway stone wall

Motion Mr. McCormick to send the thank you letter, seconded by Mr. Quist, all in favor.

6. Acknowledge receipt of August 23rd letter from the School Committee

Mr. Gaumond explained that the Board sent a letter to the School Committee on July 11 inquiring as to their intentions with regard to a Proposition 2-1/2 override to support the FY13 school budget. We have received a response letter from the School Committee, who are requesting a meeting

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with the Selectmen, Town Administrator and Finance Director to review revenue projections for the town's FY13 budget so they can gauge the impact on the school budget. Mr. Gaumond spoke with Finance Director Michael Daley about when he would feel comfortable with a solid revenue projection for next year and he feels it would be a few months from now, around Thanksgiving. By then we will have additional months of trend data to predict things like local receipts. Mr. Gaumond is hopeful that we will be level funded with our local aid numbers.

Mr. McCormick voiced his concern with waiting until Thanksgiving to hold these discussions with the School Committee. With that timeline, we will have to analyze the numbers and it won't be until February or March that the School Committee could make a decision on going forward with a Prop 2-1/2 Override, and the School Committee will again say it is too late to get the information out to the townspeople. He recommends meeting with them at our first meeting in October and say this is where we think we will be and have the Committee make their decision on historical numbers. Mr. Phillips concurs with Mr. McCormick's remarks.

Motion Mr. McCormick to send a letter to the School Committee inviting them to the October 5 meeting of the Board, seconded by Mr. Quist. Discussion ensued with Mr. McCormick suggesting the letter stress that the Selectmen want to move this along and the School Committee needs to be prepared to move quickly on what they need. Mr. Gaumond will put together a draft letter and leave it for the Board's signature. Mr. Phillips added that we are looking for a realistic number from the School Committee.

Vote on the motion – all in favor.

Public Hearing (Cont.): Consider Amending Policy L-18, Beautification of Town Squares and Islands

Mr. Phillips reconvened the public hearing which was originally opened on July 6th and read the following notice. Public notice is hereby given, in conformity with the requirements of the General Bylaws of the Town of West Boylston, ARTICLE XXIII - PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE, that the Board of Selectmen will meet on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at 7:05 p.m. for the purpose of considering amending Policy L-18, Beautification of Town Squares and Islands. The meeting will be held in meeting room #1 of the Municipal Office Building, 127 Hartwell Street, Suite 100, West Boylston. For additional information, or to review the proposed information, please contact the Office of the Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator at 508.835.3490. All interested persons, groups, and agencies are invited to attend. Kevin McCormick, Chairman, advertised on June 22 and 29, 2011.

Mr. Gaumond explained that when the Board reviewed the policy at its meeting on July 6th they requested the following changes, which included conducting a second drawing at the first Board meeting in May for any remaining squares not adopted, a condition that squares and islands be planted prior to Memorial Day weekend, and designating the DPW Director or his designee as the monitoring agent. All those changes have been incorporated in both the Policy and in the Agreement which is signed by the adoptee. At the meeting of August 3rd the Board suggested allowing pots and barrels on the squares/islands. The policy has been updated to include language which states that no pots or barrels shall be allowed in any plantings without the concurrence of the DPW Director. The reason we included the language with the concurrence of the DPW Director is due to the fact that some of the islands are on state property and they prohibit pots and barrels on their property.

Mr. McCormick stated that he is very happy with the policy. Mr. Phillips questioned whether the state would be amenable to having the sponsor sign on the island. Mr. Gaumond explained that initially we wrote to Katie Murphy of MHD for authorization and they wrote us a nice letter authorizing us to do this. There is no one present who wishes to speak on this issue.

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Motion Mr. McCormick to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Motion Mr. McCormick to adopt the policy as updated, seconded by Mr. Quist, all in favor.

M.E. Pete Murphy, 128 Worcester Street, Finance Committee Candidate

Mr. Murphy joined the Board. He explained that he moved to West Boylston from Shrewsbury four years ago and he noticed that the town was looking to fill openings on some boards. He has 32 years of experience in being a licensed professional engineer, retired professor from Assumption College and has been the treasurer of some organizations. He has no expectations that he is going to come in and solve any problem, however, he will try to contribute as best he can. Mr. Rucho thanked Mr. Murphy for coming forward. Mr. Phillips asked Mr. Murphy what he sees as the town's financial problem. Mr. Murphy stated that he expects with Prop 2-1/2 limits that many of the costs the town experiences are accelerating at rates greater than 2-1/2% and puts a squeeze on level funding resulting in cuts in other line items.

Motion Mr. Rucho to appoint Mr. Murphy to the Finance Committee, seconded by Mr. McCormick, all in favor.

James Marinelli, 21 Meadowbrook Drive, Finance Committee Candidate

Mr. Marinelli joined the Board. He has been a resident for ten years and has four children in the school system. He has a background in finances and budgeting for 15 years and feels his input may help the community in a good way. Mr. Rucho thanked Mr. Marinelli for coming forward. Mr. Phillips asked Mr. Marinelli what he sees as the town's financial problem. Mr. Marinelli would like to see more detail. Overall, the challenges ahead with local aid numbers and you always manage the gap there. We will continue to do so. Mr. McCormick explained that in our budget process, we take out fixed costs and split our available funds two-thirds to the schools and one-third to the town. The last couple of years we have had larger hits with the school in the way we need to fill this gap. A few years ago we got rid of our structural deficit and now we are beginning to form another structural deficit. He asked Mr. Marinelli how he felt about that. Mr. Marinelli asked if the school system is being challenged to manage in every area. He added that there are probably other variables with school choice and there are probably other areas within the school budget and maybe we need to look under rocks to get answers.

Motion Mr. McCormick to appoint James Marinelli to the Finance Committee, seconded by Mr. Quist, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

7. Consider recommendation from Hearings Officer regarding animal control issue

Mr. Gaumond explained that when he first arrived in town one of the first things he had the Board consider was to appoint the Town Administrator as the Hearings Officer for animal control complaints. The issue is a dog owner who owns three dogs, two of which are pit bulls. The problem exists where they have been roaming in the neighborhood repeatedly, even after receiving fines. The property owner has failed to meet his obligation and the individual watching the dogs during the day is not physically capable of doing so. Mr. Gaumond provided the Board with copies of Article 19 of the Town's General Bylaws, requires all dogs must be restrained upon written complaint, and a copy of previous memos and letters of complaints from residents in the neighborhoods. Based on two public hearings and the failure of the owner to restrain the dog, Mr. Gaumond recommends the Board vote to banish these two dogs from the Town of West Boylston as the Board of Selectmen they have the

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ability to order, restrain, banish or euthanize the animals. He added that typically restraining works, however, it did not in this case.

Mr. Phillips asked if the dog owner, Mr. O'Loughlin, or any of the neighbors are present this evening. Mr. Gaumond advised that neither the dog owner or any neighbors are in attendance. Mr. Phillips questioned whether the Board also needed to hold a public hearing on this. Mr. Gaumond explained that he is acting as the Board's agent, and he held two public hearings with Mr. O'Loughlin present at both hearings. He added that one of the problem is the mother of the owner of the dog is the primary care giver and she is an older woman who is physically unable to care for the dogs. Mr. Gaumond explained that in his first dog order he ordered that the dog owner was to immediately keep the dogs on the property unless they were under the control of an individual capable of restraining the dogs and in addition the dog owner was to properly license the dogs. The owner did license the dogs, however, the dogs have escaped three or four times and we have letters from the neighbors who are afraid to walk out on the street. The dogs have not bitten or attacked anybody, however, the dogs are prone to be vicious.

Mr. O'Brien agrees with the recommendation as we do not want to wait until the dogs do something vicious before the Board takes action. He questioned where it says the Board has the authority to banish the dogs. Mr. Gaumond advised that under Mass General Law, the Board of Selectmen are charged with the ability to do these steps. He does progressive discipline as the Hearings Officer. If they fail to correct the situation you go to the next step. Town Counsel has issued a memorandum outlining the process. Mr. O'Brien questioned if the Board votes the order, how long they have to comply. Mr. Gaumond advised within ten days of the order, however, the owner does have the right to appeal. Mr. O'Brien questioned if the Board votes to banish and the owner does not comply, what is the next step. Mr. Gaumond would file an injunction in court. Mr. Rucho questioned up until now, Mr. Gaumond followed the process as the Hearings Officer and why now it comes to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Gaumond advised that the Selectmen are charged to make the decision. Mr. Rucho's concern is the Board did not hear any of the facts and now it becomes a Board of Selectmen decision. Mr. Gaumond noted that the Board could, from this day forth, serve as the Hearings Officer for these cases. Mr. McCormick stated that we have numerous dog hearings and it is time consuming and it is better handled by the Town Administrator. Mr. Rucho questioned when this issue began. Mr. Gaumond advised that the first hearing was held on July 11th and the first complaint came in prior to that. A lot of times these things get addressed prior to a hearing by the Town Administrator. The Animal Control Officer has effectively dealt with these issue. Mr. Rucho feels it is a long time for this process and now they get ten more days. Mr. McCormick noted that even if the Board of Selectmen was running the hearing it would take time. Mr. Gaumond pointed out the fact that the only delay is we did not have a Selectmen's meeting two weeks ago. Mr. Rucho is concerned we do something quickly before something does happen. Mr. Phillips added that in the past we had numerous dog hearings and we asked Mr. Gaumond to take over and hold the hearing and then bring it back to the Board of Selectmen. He questioned whether the yard is fenced. Mr. Gaumond explained that the dogs are very large and the evidence provided were photos of a fence in bad repair. The dog owner said when the dogs want to get out they get out. One is a small pug and the other two are pit bulls. Mr. Phillips asked the age of the dogs. Mr. Gaumond does not have that information. Mr. Phillips asked how long they had been at that location. Mr. Gaumond stated that this is a recent issue, the owner of the dog has a son in high school in West Boylston, and they are his dogs. The grandmother is the primary care taker of the dogs during the dog.

Mr. O'Brien stated that there have been two hears and several certified letters, numerous emails from concerned neighbors.

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Motion Mr. O'Brien to follow the recommendation of the Hearings Officer and banish the two pit bulls, seconded by Mr. McCormick. Mr. Rucho asked if the owner of the dogs was invited to the meeting. Mr. Gaumond pointed out that the letter indicates that they could attend this meeting and if they could not attend they could provide written correspondence. We never heard from them. Mr. Phillips asked if the Animal Control Officer had any comments. Mr. Gaumond advised that he attended both hearings and agrees with the recommendation to banish. Mr. Rucho asked if the letter could be served tomorrow. Mr. Gaumond noted that it would be. Vote on the motion – all in favor.

Silvio Baruzzi, DPW Director

1. Weston & Sampson items: - Review of current sewer system (pump station locations, flow history, internal & external capacity)

Mr. Baruzzi joined the Board with John Potts, John Bocchino and Tom Frost of Weston & Sampson, Engineers. Weston & Sampson has been operating our sewer system for several years and were involved in the development of the system. They proceed with a power point presentation, which will be posted on the town's website.

Mr. Potts explained that DCR implemented a program to identify areas with failing septic systems. They program identified poor soils, outdated sewer system designs and numerous small lots in tributary areas to the Wachusett Reservoir, businesses with inadequate septic systems or illegal connections to storm drains or Gates Brook, a tributary to the reservoir. They hired Weston & Sampson in 1994 and they prepared a Wastewater Facilities Plan for West Boylston and Holden. They prioritized the recommended sewer areas depending on the severity of on-site disposal problems and proximity to the Wachusett Reservoir and its tributaries. The first section was the Industrial Area followed by the Fast Track, Phase 3 and the Final Phase. The Industrial Area was undertaken by the town in 1995, the Fast Track was in 1995-1997 and all the subsequent phases were between 1997-2001. All pump stations and pipes were designed based on the assumption that 100% of buildable vacant lots would be developed. It was based on a study of water usage in town and projected wastewater for each lot was estimated at 200 gallons per day per lot. Each vacant buildable lot was assigned a flow rate of 200 gallons per day regardless of size to deter multiple dwellings from being constructed on larger lots. A peak factor of 5 was used to design all sewer and pump station for residential properties and for commercial they used a peak factor of 2. Peak future flows were at 1,000 gallons per day and took inconsideration that all developable lots would be connected to the sewer system and include allowance for infiltration and inflow.

Regardless of lot size they used 200 gallons per day as flow. Mr. McCormick noted that Weston & Sampson accounted for one house on each lot and if someone came in and wanted to build 30 houses one 30 acre lot there is no capacity. Mr. Potts agreed with Mr. McCormick's statement. Between 1995 and 2004 all were designed and constructed, 12 pump stations with 116 grinder pumps are the town's responsibility to maintain.

Mr. Potts showed a schematic of all the pump stations, green are can stations, most fenced in, yellow are wet pit/dry pit and require buildings, and blue are larger stations with custom built stations requiring multiple pumps. He provided a summary of pump stations which included number of pumps in each station, year completed, remaining life expectancy and approximate pump replacement cost. Mr. Potts reviewed each pump station.

The Woodland Street pump station was custom built in 1996-1997 under the Fast Track phase. It is the main pump station for the town. The entire town tributary to this pump station except flows that go to the Shrewsbury Street pump station and its flows discharge to Holden.

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The Glenwood Pump Station, a submersible pump station, was built in 1996-1997 under Phase 3 of the project. It flows discharge to the Woodland Street Pump Station.

The Prospect Street Pump Station, a submersible pump station, was built in 1998-1999 under Phase 3 of the project. It flows to the Woodland Street Pump Station.

The Worcester Street Pump Station, a custom built pump station, was built in 1998-1999 under Phase 3 of the project. It flows to the Woodland Street Pump Station. It has an additional tank on the outside for odor control.

The Temple Street Pump Station, a submersible pump station, built in 2003-2004 under the final phase of the project. It flows to the Worcester Street Pump Station.

The Thomas Basin Pump Station, a wet pit/dry pit station, built in 2003-2004 under the final phase of the project. It flows to the Worcester Street Pump Station.

The Pine Arden Pump Station, a submersible pump station, built in 2003-2004 under the final phase of the project. It flows to the Thomas Basin Pump Station.

The Goodale Street Pump Station, a submersible pump station, built in 2003-2004 under the final phase of the project. It flows to the Thomas Basin Pump Station.

The Sterling Street Pump Station, a submersible pump station, built in 2003-2004 under the final phase of the project. It flows to the Thomas Basin Pump Station.

The Sterling Place Pump station, a submersible pump station, built in 2003-2004 under the final phase of the project. It flows to the Sterling Street Pump Station.

The Oakdale Pump Station, a submersible pump station, built in 2003-2004 under the final phase of the project. It flows to the Sterling Street Pump Station.

The Shrewsbury Street Pump Station, a wet pit/dry pit station, built in 1995-1996, was constructed under the Industrial Area Sewer Project for the town. Flows discharge to the Burncoat Street station in the City of Worcester. There is a dumpster at this location for the disposal of housekeeping items from the other pump stations. Bunzle continually backs their trucks into the fence and they have been contacted. There are two houses on Burncoat Street, 12 houses on Old West Boylston Road and 7 houses on Tyson Terrace all connected to the West Boylston sewer system.

Mr. Potts reviewed the average gallons per day pumped from the Worcester and Woodland Street pump stations and existing water flows. There may be some kind of inflow problem. You have to look at all the pump stations individually and begin with their design output. You also have to collect data on how long the pumps run. He explained that you would have to go through and do a draw down test of all the pump stations and do additional study more like a forensic of your sewer system. Mr. McCormick asked if Woodland Street is the main pump station for the town we have 115,000 gallons of capacity still at that station. Mr. Potts stated that the numbers are a little misleading without taking the next step.

Mr. Frost spoke about the Operation & Maintenance services, which Weston & Sampson provides to the town. They have provided this service since 1999 and they are all trained in confined space entry. They also offer flushing of so many linear feet of the town per year. In three years he completed the entire town. He inspects man holes and removes debris he finds at the bottom. They inspect each station daily, take down the run time meter, check all operations and the alarm to insure the alarm is working. They also perform all the maintenance as far as mowing trimming shrubs and snow removal. The Worcester Street station has its own Scada system which monitors and reports alarm conditions and the computer was updated last fall. If they have a problem they can access it online. They also service 116 grinder pumps for the life of the pump which is about 10 years. When they need to be repaired they do the repair here rather than sending it out. They have a leak detection

system going across the causeway, two units in Oakdale and two in West Boylston. Weston & Sampson is on call 24-hour a day to respond to sewer system emergencies

Mr. Phillips opened the floor up to Board questions. Mr. Quist stated that it looks like we are going to have to repair a few pumps on Woodland Street and questioned whether that was built into Mr. Daley's plan on the enterprise system. Mr. Gaumond explained that we build a budget and he does not know if specifically those pumps are built into this years' fund but we also have capital areas of the budget and retained earnings if we need to replace the pumps. We also have an agreement with the Town of Holden which requires us to put a certain percentage aside each year for capital improvements. Mr. Quist questioned whether the inflo into our system on Parker Street is metered. Mr. Barruzi advised that it is not. Mr. Gaumond added that we would need to invest some funds in order to get that metered and since we are having conversations with our neighboring town perhaps we should meter this. Mr. Barruzi feels we need to take a look at all our meters and analyze the entire system to be able to do that.

Mr. Quist asked how we could use this information for future development of the town. Mr. Potts explained that a project came forward in 2004 for the Oakdale section of town and at that time we used the 200 gallons per day. The applicant said there was plenty of capacity, however, we refuted that. You have to go back to the first come first serve and in 2004 we were able to say either take from the vacant lots or go back and renegotiate the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Holden. Mr. Quist asked what if a Marriott went in on Route 12. Mr. McCormick explained that Route 12 is within the system, and not beyond the scope of the system.

Mr. Quist asked if we solved the problems with the reservoir. Mr. Potts does not have the answer to that question. He would assume we have corrected the problem as if there were problems with the reservoir DCR would have come back and said there is still a problem. Mr. Quist would like to see before and after test results. Mr. Rucho commented on going back to a hotel on Route 12, it is only 200 gallons per day. Mr. Barruzi explained that many towns have I&I banks. Developers would remove a certain amount of I&I from the system in order to earn connection to the system. Mr. Potts pointed out that we may have sump pumps connected into the system and the town could do house to house inspections.

Mr. Phillips asked if we know if the 21 houses in Worcester are connected and whether we are getting payment. Mr. Baruzzi will look into it. Mr. Phillips also questioned who reads their meters. Mr. Rucho would like to get a copy of the Worcester agreement.

2. Review of sewer agreements

The Board's agenda package includes copies of the agreements with the Town of Holden, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Weston & Sampson Services. Mr. Phillips questioned why the Board is reviewing the agreements now. Mr. Gaumond explained that when the Board asked to review the sewers they also included review of all the agreements. Mr. McCormick noted that the agreements are long term agreements, which will not be changed until it is time to renegotiate another term.

Mr. Quist noted that in a lot of areas where sewers were installed people are getting water in their cellars. He asked if the ground water flows through the sewer trenches. Mr. Barruzi feels it could bring water to the low point. Mr. Potts pointed out that individual drainlayers picked up the sewer from the property line and piped it into the house. Mr. Rucho thinks most people are pulling water out of their basements.

With regard to the Agreement with the Town of Holden, Mr. Rucho does not see that it has an ending date. Mr. Gaumond explained that it is a long term agreement to provide utilities, however, you have the ability to exit the agreement.

3. Discussion on policies and proposed changes

Mr. Phillips asked if there is any desire to change any of the policies right now as he thinks there is only one we could eliminate at this time. Mr. Rucho asked about adopting a policy for people who do not pay their sewer bills. Mr. Gaumond advised that we just went through the exercise of sending demands out and if these people do not pay, the past due sewer will go onto their tax bill. Mr. Rucho questions whether we should have a policy on collecting delinquent sewer bills and sending out demands. Mr. Barruzi advised that it has been several years since the demands were sent out and going forward demands will be done much sooner.

Motion Mr. McCormick to schedule a public hearing to review all the sewer policies and consider creating a policy on collecting delinquent sewer bills, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor

Mr. Rucho would like to address the condition of the fencing at the Shrewsbury Street pump station. Mr. Frost noted that the problem is trying to identify and track down the truck that hits it. Mr. Gaumond will work with Mr. Barruzi and Mr. Frost to address the condition.

4. Tree Issues

Mr. Barruzi informed the Board that he has a budget of \$20,000 to deal with the removal of dead trees in town. He has taken photos of a number of trees including one very large tree at 98 Prospect Street, and several on Maple, Shrewsbury and Worcester Streets. He is hesitant to remove the trees and spend his entire \$10,000 budget at one time. Mr. Gaumond added that during his tenure as the interim DPW Director one of the biggest issues was trees and when Mr. Barruzi arrived he provided him with a three-page memo of tree concerns. With town meeting coming up, if we can find the money within the budget, Mr. Gaumond would like to fund an additional \$10,000 to deal with these trees. Mr. Phillips asked if we had an estimate to take care of all the trees. Mr. Barruzi does not yet, but would be happy to prepare an itemized list. Mr. Phillips would like them prioritized from emergency to low level. He noted that the USDA will pay for the removal of any ALB trees. Mr. Barruzi intends to send the USDA the tree list to have them inspected prior to being taken down.

5. Discussion on Goal #7, alternatives for the sewer services

Mr. Gaumond asked the Board if there is a certain direction they would like us to be going in for this goal. Mr. McCormick noted that we spend \$280,000 for Weston & Sampson to maintain our sewers and he wonders if it would be cheaper for the town do to this themselves. If we did, he anticipates the initial year would be expensive due to the need to purchase equipment and in the winter time, when not much is going on, we would have someone who could help us with plowing. Mr. Baruzzi feels there are other companies out there who provide this service. He will open a discussion with the union and see if they are open to a discussion and have them submit a proposal. Mr. McCormick feels it would require hiring additional employees and another vehicle and perhaps we could share sewer line cleaner with the Town of Holden. Mr. Rucho thinks we may end up finding we are getting a good deal as they monitor our stations 24-hours a day. Mr. McCormick's understanding is that the person who covers West Boylston for Weston & Sampson also covers another town. Mr. Baruzzi pointed out that we may not have one person in town for eight hours, however, there are times when several Weston & Sampson employees are in town flushing the system. When Mr. Baruzzi was in East Longmeadow they ran their own pump stations, more people and more flow. He added that some of our sewerage is pumped four or five times. Mr. Gaumond asked Mr. Baruzzi if it is the Board's intension is to have a study done, with his current work load, how soon he could take a preliminary look at the operation. Mr. Barruzi will compile a rough outline by the first of the year. Mr. Gaumond added that we may end up hiring a consultant to complete the full study. Mr. Phillips

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suggested giving Mr. Barruzi enough time to complete the study. We also have the option of extending our Weston & Sampson contract, if needed.

Mr. Barruzi offered to speak with other sewer consultants to ascertain why they did not bid on our contract. Mr. Quist thanked Mr. Barruzi for arranging the Weston & Sampson presentation.

Mr. Rucho asked about the issue of poison ivy at the Mixer field. Mr. Barruzi reports that they went to the Parks Commission and they voted some funding. The consultant they hired sprayed three times. We were not happy with the results so they came back and re-sprayed the area. It now is dead and eliminated and we will be doing poison ivy control at the schools as well.

Mr. Phillips would like to discuss sick time use at the DPW. Mr. Barruzi advised that he is monitoring that.

SELECTMEN REPORTS

Mr. Rucho reported on the first business tour held last Friday with the Economic Development Task Force, the Selectmen and the Town Administrator's office. The tour was of Checkerboard and Micah Chase was very positive about the town and he has no problem doing everything he has done. As soon as the Business Tour schedule is finalized it will be shared with the Board. Mr. Phillips, who also attended the tour recalled Mr. Gaumond telling Checkerboard that this was their time to complain about anything about the town and Checkerboard complimented the town as it has always worked with them. Mr. Rucho further noted that that Checkerboard has employees who have been with them for good number of years and it was a very positive experience. Mr. Gaumond shared that Checkerboard is an award winning business having won awards for their designs.

Mr. McCormick, the Board's representative to the MWRA, attended the field trip they put on this year. It included a tour of Boston Harbor from Dear Island and lunch on Spectacle Island, the highest point on Boston Harbor.

MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. September 9, 2011, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – 180 Beaman Street, Public Forum on Senior Programs
2. September 10, 2011, 7:00 a.m. – noon – additional brush dump day due to Tropical Storm Irene
3. September 11, 2011, 9:00-9:30 a.m. – Fire Department 911 Remembrance Ceremony on Town Common
4. September 11, 2011 from 7-10 p.m. – Tribute and Reflect at the Old Stone Church at the Wachusett Reservoir. Municipal Light Plant Manager Brad White has announced that two vertical blue search lights will represent a symbolic tribute to all those who lose their lives 10 years ago at the World Trade Towers in New York City, at the Pentagon in Washington DC and those aboard Flight 93 that crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The blue lights are also intended to represent a heartfelt tribute to all American Service Men and Service Women who serve and to those who gave their lives in the defense of freedom both at home and abroad. Special thanks is given to the DCR for allowing the event and to Immedia of Millbury Street, Worcester.
5. September 13, 2011, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Hillside Village Club House 2nd Selectmen Listening Tour for Town Properties
6. September 16, 2011, 2:00 p.m. – Business Tour of Gerardo's Italian Bakery
7. Fall Legislative Breakfast Meetings from 8-10:00 a.m.: October 7th: Sunderland, Monson & Ashland

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Phillips would like to revisit live broadcasting of Selectmen meetings. He would like an update on that status. Mr. Gaumond suggested an update from the Municipal Buildings Advisory

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Committee first and then a meeting with the Cable TV Advisory Committee.

Mr. Gaumond informed the Board that we have received an invitation to attend the September 14, 2011, Board of Health meeting with the Worcester Department of Public Health to discuss a regional public health district. Mr. Phillips questioned whether this has been brought to the Shared Services Committee. Mr. Gaumond advised that he did send this to the Shared Services Committee.

Mr. Rucho would like an update on the Regional Dispatch initiative. Mr. Gaumond noted that he and the Police and Fire Chiefs have been in negotiations and discussions with the City of Worcester on the framework of what a regional dispatch could be. They are close to bringing forward a proposal to the Board of Selectmen and town counsel is reviewing it. He thinks we are at a point where we should be involving the policy makers of the town. We are hoping to not only save money but have a better product.

Mr. Gaumond presented the Board with a framed certificate from the National Center for Civic Innovation for our Performance Measurement Program. Mr. Phillips thanked Mr. Gaumond for his work on this.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion Mr. O'Brien at 9:40 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McCormick, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: September 21, 2011

Nancy E. Lucier, Municipal Assistant

Allen R. Phillips, Chairman

John J. O'Brien, Vice Chairman

Christopher A. Rucho, Clerk

Kevin M. McCormick, Selectman

Steven J. Quist, Selectman