



**Town of West Boylston**  
140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

## **Board of Selectmen/Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes**

<b>Date / Time / Location of Meeting</b> April 10, 2019; 6:15 p.m.; Selectmen's Meeting Room, 140 Worcester Street
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<b>Members Present</b> Christopher A. Rucho, Chairman Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Clerk Siobhan M. Bohnson, Selectman John W. Hadley, Selectman
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<b>Members NOT Present</b> Patrick J. Crowley, Vice Chair
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<b>Invited Guests:</b> Ray Bricault Michael Kittredge
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Mr. Rucho convened the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

1. Discussion on capital requests from the DPW and financial implications of not considering them for funding

Ms. Lucier explained that capital requests are due on September 1 of each year for consideration at the May town meeting. The only capital item submitted by the DPW Director was repaving of their parking lot. In addition, the deadline to submit articles for consideration at the May town meeting was April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Last Thursday night she met with the Finance Committee/CIB along with interim Director Gary Kellaheer. At that meeting Mr. Kellaheer presented additional capital items for the CIB's consideration.

We have three of our snow plow trucks that will require \$78,000 in repairs and the request is to purchase stainless steel dump bodies for \$114,340 with stainless steel material spreaders for \$23,500. Mr. Kittredge reports that last year when the vehicles were inspected they were told that they would not pass inspection this year. Discussion ensued with Mr. Kittredge reporting that the condition of the trucks are okay and they will get us by for a bit. Mr. Bricault noted that the CIB looked at this pretty heavily and they have two members who he did first hand inspections. We would have to invest \$78,000 for repairs or spend \$138,000 for the new units. The annual maintenance costs will be \$2,000 a year for the stainless steel spreaders. If we went the repair options we would be looking at another repair in five years. The stainless option has a minimum 10 year life.

They are also request salt spreader speed controls for \$14,000. Currently our sanders are controlled by the rpm. This unit is controlled by the speed of the tires. Mr. Kittredge notes that we are supposed to spread 14 tons an application and we are using 46 tons. Mr. Bricault advised that the CIB looked at these two items together as one item. At that meeting Mr. Kellaheer stated that if the

truck fails they will transfer the stainless steel dump body to another unit. It will be a 2-3 year return on our investment. The other item they are requesting is an extended wing blade for \$22,100. This could be put off until the October town meeting as we could have it delivered before the snow falls. The Director estimated this would save \$5,000 a year as it would reduce the number of hours for private contractors. This unit would give us a little over 4 years return on our investment.

Ms. Bohnson questioned how the dump truck bodies get to the condition they are in and voiced concern that this is the first we are hearing of this. Mr. Kittredge doesn't know why the former Director didn't bring it up earlier. About six months ago they were sent out and sand blasted. The last two years, because they rot from the inside out, they started to notice little holes. Ms. Bohnson questioned whether we are maintaining them as we should. Mr. Kittredge believes we are and noted that if we had a way to wash them when it is cold that would help. A lot of the trucks are kept outside and the new grey green salts sticks to everything. Mr. Bricault reports that due to the flux in the leadership of the DPW, the CIB was cautious because this was a complete shift in their capital request. He asked if the Board was amenable to bypassing the deadline as the CIB did not vote on these items pending the Board's decision. Mr. Hadley thinks it is a no brainer.

Motion Mr. Hadley to forward the DPW capital request for stainless steel dump bodies, \$114,340, with stainless dump bodies, \$23,500, to the CIB, second by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

Discussion ensued regarding the prior capital request to pave the parking lot. Mr. Kittredge reports that the DPW will be paving spots in the parking lot this spring and they will take care of those spots the plows get caught on. Mr. Rucho thinks the parking lot will remain an issue we will need to look at. The balance in the Capital Investment Fund is \$670,551.55. The interim Director will be asked to prepare a 10-year out DPW capital needs list.

Motion Mr. Hadley at 6:45 p.m. to adjourn, second by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: April 17, 2019

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Nancy E. Lucier, Municipal Assistant

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Christopher A. Rucho, Chairman

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Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Clerk

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Siobhan M. Bohnson, Selectman

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John W. Hadley, Selectman