



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

Selectboard/Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting March 4, 2020; 6:00 p.m.; Selectboard Meeting Room, 140 Worcester Street
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Members Present Patrick J. Crowley, Chairman Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Vice Chair John W. Hadley, Clerk Christopher A. Rucho, Selectman Michael J. Kittredge III, Selectman

Members NOT Present

Invited Guests:

Mr. Crowley convened the meeting at 6:01 p.m. All members are present.

PUBLIC COMMENT – 6:00 PM:

**REVIEW AND VOTE TO APPROVE WARRANTS FOR THE PERIOD COVERING
FEBRUARY 20, 2020 TO MARCH 4, 2020: Town Payable Warrants FY2020-35 and 36;
Town Payroll Warrant FY2020-17; Sewer FY2020-SE15 Municipal Light Plant #23 & 24 and
School Warrant FY2020-S15.**

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar to approve, second Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

6:15 P.M. Public Hearing in conformity with the General Bylaws of the town of West Boylston, ARTICLE XXII – PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE to consider increasing sewer rates effective July 1, 2020:

Mr. Hadley read the Public Hearing Notice. Ms. Lucier provided the Board an update from Tighe and Bond regarding the sewer rates. She stated they recommend a 4% increase for the FY2021 period to begin July 1, 2020, and also the rates be evaluated annually.

Motion Mr. Hadley to close the public hearing, second Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Hadley to accept the proposed sewer rate, second Mr. Rajeshkumar, all in favor.

WATER DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS – Request for Easement or Conveyance of land for Water Treatment Facility near Oakdale well:

Mr. Szczurko stated the Commission was back to give the Board some answers to the questions from last meeting. Mr. Ohl, Consultant from CEI stated they have prepared some options for the town to decide how to handle the backwash. He stated one option would be to send all the

backwash to the sewer system approximately 2.2 million gallons with an annual approximate cost of \$24,000 which is the disposal fee at current rate, the second option would be to handle 95% onsite with use of lagoons and send approximately 110,000 gallons to the sewer system with an annual approximate cost of \$1,200 which is the disposal fee at current rate. The third option is to handle completely onsite with the use of backwash lagoon and infiltrating lagoons with an approximate cost of \$24,000 which is residual disposal costs. He stated that the second option seems to be the most affordable to the town. Mr. Ohl presents an updated site plan; he explained the Water District met with DCR and they are requiring the building to outside of the 200-foot watershed protection area. He stated this project will require acquisition of 1/6th of an acre and an easement for the sewer pip and driveway. He stated the DCR will also require the driveway to be gravel. Mr. Kittredge asked what the Town of Auburn chose for an option, Mr. Ohl stated they chose a plan which they process all onsite due to arsenic in water. Mr. Kittredge asked why the water discharge amounts are less than discussed at last meeting, Mr. Ohl stated those were estimates and they have since evaluated the water use. Mr. Kittredge asked if they will plan for build out in the future if the need arises, Mr. Ohl stated the plant will be built so that additions can be added. Mr. Hadley asked about the depth of the basins, Mr. Ohl stated they will be approximately 10-12 feet deep. Mr. Rucho asked what the noise levels would be from the plant, Mr. Ohl stated there would be less noise than a sewer pump station. Mr. Crowley asked if the basin would be open or enclosed, Mr. Ohl responded the basin for the filter backwash will be in the basement of the building. Mr. Crowley asked about the \$1,200 cost listed under the second option, Mr. Ohl responded the cost was associated with sewer rate for the discharge of the backwash. He explained the pumps are small and flow is minimal, and also is hopeful they can have a gravity line to the pump station. Mr. Rajeshkumar asked if the well has arsenic, Mr. Coveney stated there is not any arsenic in the well.

Motion Mr. Rucho to move forward with an article for town meeting for conveyance and easement, second Mr. Hadley, all in favor.

Robert Barrell & Tom Dillon, Board of Health – Central Mass Mosquito Control:

Mr. Crowley stated they requested from the Assessors a breakdown of land ownership and 44% of the town is owned by DCR or State. Ms. Lucier stated she is waiting for an update from Representative O'Day as he was going to speak to the DCR Commissioner for assistance. Ms. Lucier stated she looking into the Municipal Vulnerability Program and is able to apply for a grant but it will require a 10% match from the town. Mr. Barrell stated if it is placed on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, Mosquito Control will begin their surveillance. He also agrees that DCR should have to evaluate their facilities and structures in town and be sure that they are cleaned up and water is flowing. Ms. Lucier stated she would like to schedule a meeting with John Scannell and Jamie Carr from DCR. Mr. Rucho would like the Board to updated after Ms. Lucier meets with the representatives from DCR. Ms. Lucier asked for clarification on if the Selectboard wanted her to apply for whole amount of just a portion. Mr. Crowley thinks the town should apply for the whole amount and see what DCR is willing to contribute.

Motion Mr. Hadley to apply for the MVP Grant, second Mr. Rajeshkumar, all in favor. Mr. Rucho asked if the town will need to apply for the grant annually, Ms. Lucier stated yes but believes it is a three-year situation with the threat of this virus.

NEW BUSINESS

1.Review proposed TIF for D & S Realty:

Ms. Lucier presented the Board with the proposed TIF calculation. Mr. Hadley asked if this is an existing building or a new construction, Ms. Lucier believes it is existing. Mr. Rucho asked if the company does not get this requested TIF will they go elsewhere. Mr. Rucho stated he feels this business is coming already that the TIF was requested after. Mr. Rucho stated the Board is not privy to the negotiations of the lease with the owner and potential tenant and would like more information, Ms. Lucier stated they had provided the Board at the last meeting with information. Mr. Hadley asked if the TIF would be paid off in six years, Ms. Lucier stated that was correct. Mr. Rucho stated it is a 3% escalator. Mr. Crowley stated the Board can request more details; Mr. Rucho would like to know how this will benefit the community. Ms. Lucier will place on the next agenda.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

1.Update on Crescent Street Sidewalk Project Bid Opening:

On February 28th we had the bid opening for the Crescent Street Sidewalk Project. Three contractors responded, all prequalified with MassDOT. The bids came in as follows: Richard D'Ambrosia, Inc. \$263,862.07, A.F. Amorello & Sons, Inc., \$265,077.50 and Allied Paving Corp at \$324,797. We are in the process of reviewing the D'Ambrosia bid and checking references. At our next meeting will recommend an award of the contract. Ms. Lucier stated the last time this project was bid there was only one bidder and the bid was \$700,000. She stated the town will need to use some Chapter 90 funds to pay for this project and would like to get this done before school starts in September.

2. Update on Town Counsel Budget:

Our February town counsel invoice for services rendered through January 31, 2020 has us at 76% of the \$80,000 budget expended. This bump was caused by the Brossi trial, which went to court and had been estimated to be a \$10,000 item. It did in fact come in \$500 under that estimate. Had it not, and we had our normal monthly services we would have been at 63%.

3.Update on RFP for Curbside Recycling of Solid Waste & Recycling:

On Tuesday we received four responses to our RFP. They included Casella Waste Systems, P. Pellegrino, Trucking Company, Republic Services and Waste Management. Although Waste Management responded, they indicated that their decision was not to respond due to the fact that their time frame necessary to procure collection vehicles is 12-15 months. Our review team, which consists of myself, the DPW Director, Selectman Rucho and Norma Chanis of SWAT, will be interviewing each of the companies who responded on Tuesday, March 10th.

4. Other

Last Thursday I received a phone call from Rep. O'Day letting me know that another Bond Bill as being filed and he asked if the town had any requests, we would like included which fell under the category of road and/or sidewalk work. One of the projects in town, which was identified as a high priority in the Sidewalk Master Plan and the last two Open Space Plans is completion of the gaps in our existing sidewalk between the schools, the Library and the town common. I have requested

\$300,000 to extend the sidewalk at the dead-end sidewalk on the north side of Goodale Street at Goodale Park and the sidewalk would at the intersection of Newton the sidewalk would follow north side of Newton Street, cross Prospect and connect to the exiting sidewalk on the north side of Newton Street, between 14 Newton and 20 Newton Street, which is adjacent to the Beaman Public Library.

Rep. O'Day has confirmed that he did get the project filed as an amendment and it is scheduled for debate on Thursday.

Next Monday the town of Shrewsbury will be hosting a meeting of the Worcester Department of Public Health Alliance communities to discuss the most up to date information about the Corona Virus. I have invited the Fire, Police and School Department to send a representative to the meeting. I will be attending with the Chair of our Board of Health. Although the virus is a public health emergency, it will require all departments to understand their role in response. The School Superintendent previously had reached out to me to see if the Health Department had any materials which could be distributed to families of school children through our school nurses. Those materials were provided.

FISP UPDATE:

1.General Update on Senior Center:

Mr. Hadley stated the paving contractors plan to only take one week to complete. Mr. Rucho stated there should not be any interruptions to the Senior Center during this time.

MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Thursday, March 5, 6:30-7:30 p.m.- Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens Presents Indoor Seed Starting at the Library
- Wednesday, March 11, 1:00 p.m. Flower Arrangement Class at the Senior Center \$12.00 per person.
- Friday, March 13th and Saturday, March 14th – all day Celebrate Pi Day and get a free Table Talk Pie when you check out a book at the Library while supplies last! Thanks to Worcester based Table Talk Pies for the donation.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/SELECTMENS REPORTS:

Mr. Hadley would like to review the salaries for the Election workers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Consider entering into executive session under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30a, Section 21(A), Part 3 to discuss contract negotiations with union personnel and the Chair declares that an open meeting discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body.

Motion Mr. Hadley moved to enter into executive session under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30a, Section 21(A), Part 3 to discuss contract negotiations with DPW and Cemetery Union personnel - Chair declares that an open meeting discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and to exit and adjourn the meeting following Mr. Rucho, second, all in favor.

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Kittredge, exited meeting.

Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes

Mr. Crowley, yes

Mr. Rucho, yes

Motion Mr. Rucho to exit executive session and adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Mr. Rajeshkumar, second all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: April 15, 2020

Faye D. Zukowski, Municipal Assistant

Patrick J. Crowley, Chairman

Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Vice Chairman

John W. Hadley, Clerk

Christopher A. Rucho, Selectman

Michael J. Kittredge III, Selectman