



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

Select Board/Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting
March 3, 2021; 6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

Members Present
John W. Hadley, Chairman
Christopher A. Rucho, Vice Chair
Patrick J. Crowley, Clerk
Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Selectman
Michael J. Kittredge III, Selectman

Members NOT Present

Invited Guests:
Gary Kellaheer, DPW Director
Anna Shaw, Library Director
Lisa Viklund Clark, COA Director
Rep. Jim O'Day
Sen. Harriet Chandler
George Tignor, Building Commissioner

Others Present: (names taken from the Zoom login list) Rachel Brown, Becky Conway, Chris and Judy, Emily Braxten, Judy, Ray Bricault, Sheryl Keddy, Gordan and Maryellen Cocks, L.N. Howard, Tammy, Janet, Karen, Jenny Ferreria, Lauren Espe, iphone, Annelle

Mr. Hadley convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. roll call taken.

Chairman's statement:

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 31A, §20, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Town of West Boylston Select Board is being conducted via remote participation. No in person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. A reminder that persons who would like to view this meeting while in progress may do so by:

- Join Zoom Meeting

If despite our best efforts, we are not able to provide for real-time access, and we will post a record of this meeting on the town's website as soon as we are able.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

- **February 17, 2021 Regular Session**

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar moved to approve; Mr. Kittredge second.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Crowley, yes
Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes
Mr. Hadley, yes
Mr. Rucho, yes
Mr. Kittredge, yes

- **February 17, 2021 Executive Session**

Motion Mr. Rucho moved to approve; Mr. Rajeshkumar second.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Crowley, yes
Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes
Mr. Hadley, yes
Mr. Rucho, yes
Mr. Kittredge, yes

**REVIEW AND VOTE TO APPROVE WARRANTS FOR THE PERIOD COVERING
FEBRUARY 17, 2021 to MARCH 3, 2021: Town Payable Warrants FY2021-35 & 36; Town
Payroll Warrant FY2021-17; Sewer FY2021-SE19; School S15 and MLP #20.**

Motion Mr. Crowley moved to approve; Mr. Rajeshkumar second.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Crowley, yes
Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes
Mr. Hadley, yes
Mr. Rucho, yes
Mr. Kittredge, yes

Senator Harriet Chandler and Representative James O'Day

- **Update on Reservoir Triangle:**

Rep. O'Day explained there has been much better communication from the DCR in the last couple days. He stated the Deputy Commissioner Nick Gove and Ms. Lucier spoke and he is hopeful that Nancy can clarify some of the issues that have been resolved. Ms. Lucier explained the Deputy Commission stated the direction was not clearly relayed and if the town was looking to place a building, excavating or pouring a pad that would be considered a significant alteration. She explained removing the curbing and installing a crushed stone base for trucks to park on is not a significant alteration. Ms. Lucier explained to the Deputy Commissioner the licensing process they plan to use with these vendors. She stated it seems like the town can proceed ahead with the plan. She explained it will be carry in, carry out and will be no dumpsters left on the site. Mr. Hadley stated excellent news. Mr. Rucho asked for clarification that the DCR understands there will be picnic tables and the Municipal Light Department will be installing power, Ms. Lucier responded that she did disclose that. Mr. Rucho would like the subcommittee to meet and talk about what is next, Mr. Hadley would like to meet next week. Mr. Crowley asked if the town needs any further permits or are, they good to move forward, Ms. Lucier stated that is what she was told. She would be willing to reach out to Jamie Carr and go over the plan again to keep the project going.

- **Update on Funds for Upgrade to Goodale Park:**

Sen. Chandler stated in 2014 they had \$5 million in an Environmental Bond Bill which was to be expended for improving Goodale Park and does not believe the funds are available. She stated in 2018 had placed \$1 million in an Environmental Bond Bill and her office has sent a letter in support as well as Rep. O'Day's office. She stated their hope is that the \$1 million is approved for the town. Rep. O'Day explained the process for Bond Bills or Bond Money are usually large amounts of funding which goes before the legislature and the funds are released by the Governors office. He explained they had good efforts by the townspeople and the representatives in support of this project and the clock ran out for that request. He would like to see another campaign to remind the Governor and his staff that the town would like to receive this funding. Sen. Chandler asked if there is any close contact with the Lieutenant Governor which may be helpful for this campaign. Mr. Rucho asked what changed the \$5 million to \$1 million, Rep. O'Day he submitted the \$1 million dollar request with hopes that it could be funded since the \$5 million dollar request did not get looked at. Mr. Rucho asked if the funds are awarded is there a specific amount of time to use the funds, Rep. O'Day responded he is unsure but believes it may coincide with the bond bill itself. Mr. Rucho stated that Rep. O'Day is on the facilities committee so he understands the project and the costs involved and that it cannot be completed in pieces, Rep. O'Day responded the costs from five years ago have most likely increased. He explained the next bond bill they can submit for more. Mr. Rucho would like the Parks Facilities Committee to get together and work on a campaign for the support. Rep. O'Day explained \$1 million would definitely help fix up that park but may not be able to create the park as planned five years ago. Mr. Crowley will reach out to Mr. Inderwish, Chairperson to get a meeting scheduled.

- Mr. Rucho discussed the vaccination process for residents and all of central Massachusetts, he receives calls daily from residents. He stated the Worcester Senior Center recently cancelled an entire day of appointments and not all residents received the notification. Rep. O'Day responded this has been very difficult and frustrating, he believes the Legislature on both sides have become much more involved and pushing back on the Governor and staff that the plans put in place is not working. Rep O'Day learned on Monday that on Tuesday the senior center was not going to receive the 300 vaccines as intended. He researched and learned that the liaison between the City and the State made a mistake and 1,100 doses for the city did not get delivered on time. Rep. O'Day is disappointed to hear that people were not notified correctly of the change. He explained CVS, Walgreens and other Pharmacies are receiving their vaccines direct from a federal program not through the state. He stated the 211 system has not really worked as well as it was proposed. Sen. Chandler stated she has had a hard time getting the vaccine for herself and her husband, she stated as far as she is concerned the Baker Administration has done a horrendous job handling this. She stated they are having weekly meetings with the Director of Health and Human Services and a hearing was held with Governor Baker. She does not feel it is fair for residents to have to drive all over the state to get a vaccine. She is hopeful that once the Johnson and Johnson vaccine comes out and Moderna and Pfizer upping their production the supply issue will be resolved. Mr. Rucho appreciates the response and thinks the communication is the issue not the supply. Mr. Hadley thanked the representatives for joining the meeting.

ANNA SHAW, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

- **Update on Reopening Plan:**

Anna Shaw, Library Director shared good news that the library meeting room is now open and they will begin computer and copy use soon by appointment. She explained she along with the Library Trustees have been working hard to get meeting room back open after the water damage that occurred this past summer. She explained a few things need to be completed such as placement of signs, a few Board of Health recommendations, and a final test of procedures. She is hoping to begin at the end of month if not sooner. She explained the Library is offering other services such as; contactless pickup in Newton Street vestibule available Tuesday through Saturdays, Library programs are streaming online and last month they offered 52 online programs, Take it and Make it packages for pick up for children, teens and adults, library staff offers printing, copying and faxing services by appointment, customized book bundles, and copies of all tax forms and instruction books are available in the lobby. She stated February was "Love your Library Month" and they received valentines from their patrons, she read a few of them. She stated next week they will offer a virtual historical presentation on West Boylston Station prior to the construction of the reservoir, engineering students of WPI have created a model of the buildings and terrain around West Boylston Station and on Wednesday March 10th at 6 p.m. they will be presenting their research if interested contact the library.

Mr. Rajeshkumar asked when they plan to open the library, Ms. Shaw responded that she has been in contact with other libraries to see what they are working on for opening plans she gave an overview of neighboring towns. She explained the Library Trustees will be working on expanding the services as they are able to. Mr. Rajeshkumar asked if they have a timeline for this, Ms. Shaw stated they do not have a timeline and once they do, she can provide that to the Board. Mr. Rucho stated he has the same question as Raj and believes reopening was in Phase 3 of the Governor's plan. He stated everything else is open with the exception of the libraries and believes people should be able to walk into the library to use it. Ms. Shaw stated she is working with the Library Trustees to get the building open to the public as soon as possible. Mr. Rucho stated this is the same answer they received six months and does not feel this is fair to the public. Mr. Crowley also shares the same question for the Library Trustees and would like them into a meeting to discuss this. He agreed they were told months ago that they were working on it. Mr. Hadley asked Nancy to coordinate that for the next meeting. Mr. Rucho stated the Director still runs the library even if the Trustees are elected, he would like to know who runs the library.

LISA CLARK VIKLUND, SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR

- **Update on Reopening Plan:**

Lisa Clark Viklund, Senior Center Director provided the Board an update on the reopening plan which is not a reopening that they have been open from the beginning. She explained since the beginning of COVID Pandemic they have delivered 13,325 meals on wheels, senior van transportation has continued with WRTA, they have made over 1,000 outreach welfare check friendly calls to senior residents, have provided over 700 facemasks, created shopping buddies and other services. She stated in alliance of USDA and Worcester Elder Services they delivered meat and cheese boxes to seniors in need. They worked with Wachusett Rotary Group to deliver meals twice a week to seniors in Boylston and West Boylston from April to June. They worked with the West Boylston Food Pantry she has

personally delivered baskets to isolated elders every month. She obtained a grant from Central MA Agency for Aging they joined intergenerational engagement program with Worcester State University, this program focused on socialization of elders and students on a weekly basis. She stated they have an ongoing pen pal with the National Honor Society with the High School. She explained in 2020 they offered free meals with a drive thru style service and averaged 150 meals at each event. They offered grab and go projects for Bemis Nursery. She stated over the summer they were able to open for classes with limited attendees until November. She stated they had a digital divide and with West Boylston Cable Access they were able to broadcast programs on local cable stations. She stated they are currently offering AARTaxaid Program even with a shortage of volunteers in this program and are fully booked for appointments. She explained they are offering still offering health and legal aid clinics as they are one on one. They are working daily to assist getting seniors appointment for COVID vaccinations. She explained they made 120 appointments for seniors even with the low amounts of available vaccine. Ms. Clark Viklund discussed the recent COVID variants and the concern for the elderly population being the most vulnerable. She explained the mission of the Council on Ageing is to keep the seniors healthy and they are wishing for the vaccine to be more available. She stated because of the slow vaccine roll out they will not be resuming classes until May. Mr. Rucho asked for clarification that the building will not open until May, Ms. Clark Viklund responded the building has never closed. Mr. Rucho would like to know when people will be able to go in the building and meet with other seniors socially distanced, Ms. Clark Viklund stated in May with all protocols in place. Mr. Rajeshkumar stated a lot of seniors are vaccinated and should be able to use the senior center. He stated the case numbers are dropping and thinks she should consider opening sooner to vaccinated people. Ms. Clark Viklund stated a lot of her instructors are willing to come back in May. Mr. Rajeshkumar stated there are many things' seniors can do besides classes. Mr. Crowley asked what the significance of May, Ms. Clark Viklund responded due to the slow vaccine rollout. Mr. Crowley asked if she worked with the Board of Health, Ms. Clark Viklund stated they made decisions based on CDC and vaccine roll out and nothing with the Board of Health. Mr. Hadley asked that if possible, maybe move it up a couple weeks once she discussed with Board of Health. Mr. Rucho stated he agrees with Pat and asked why it could not open now, he feels it is the choice of the person coming to the building. Mr. Rucho asked what the outcome of this meeting is, Ms. Clark Viklund stated social distancing will need to be adhered to. Mr. Rucho would like to begin opening now, Mr. Hadley stated she will check with Board of Health and if she is comfortable as the Director opening the building. Mr. Rajeshkumar asked how they decided to open last time, Ms. Clark Vicklund stated they used state guidance. He stated the CDC is stating more capacity is allowed, Ms. Clark Viklund stated this age population is recommended limited capacity. Mr. Rajeshkumar would like some percentage of opening with a slow increase of capacity, Ms. Clark Viklund stated that is their plan for May. Mr. Hadley would like to know if they could open for April 15th, Mr. Crowley stated he has not heard why the Library and the Senior Center cannot open now and thinks having town services closed is wrong. Ms. Clark Viklund clarified that they are open for many services on a limited basis but just not the classes. Mr. Crowley reiterated that he feels this is a disservice to the town to have the Library and the Senior Center closed to the public. Mr. Hadley asked Lisa to report back to the Board at the next meeting about opening immediately or have a plan to open.

GARY KELLAHER, DPW DIRECTOR

- **In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 31D, consider voting to authorize the over expenditure of FY21 Snow and Ice:**

- **Update on Traffic Counts:**

Mr. Kellaher stated he has been in contact with Robert Raymond of CMRPC and have been added to list to have counters installed once the snow melts and spring arrives. He explained he emailed Emily Braxten requesting a location for the counter and has not heard back. Mr. Kellaher explained CMRPC will be providing three traffic study locations; Pierce Street, short end of Woodland Street and Hosmer Street. Mr. Kellaher explained he will need the addresses of where exactly to place the counters and will wait to street sweep before or after on those locations. Mr. Kittredge stated the residents on Hosmer Street have also complained for years about the truck traffic. Ms. Braxten wrote into the Zoom chat her address for the counter.

- **Our FY21 Chapter 90 apportionment is \$285,410.00:**

Mr. Kellaher announced the Chapter 90 funding and assured the Board it will all be well spent.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Reconsider Previous Vote on Selectboard designee for DPW Union Contract Negotiations (Raj):**

Mr. Rajeshkumar stated this was not an agenda item at the last meeting and would like it to be reconsidered.

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar moved to reconsider the previous meetings vote; Mr. Hadley second.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Crowley, no

Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes

Mr. Hadley, yes

Mr. Rucho, no

Mr. Kittredge, no

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Proposed Pride Park Playground A/D/A Update:**

Ms. Lucier stated this began back in November of 2019 by Rachel and Patrick Brown brought attention to the town, she explained they wanted to create a fundraiser effort to cover the cost of upgrading the current playground. She explained the Browns invited three different companies to participate in the process and provide a presentation to the group; Uniplay, O'Brien and Sons, and Sitespecifics. She explained they held meeting at the site with Steve Blake, Mr. Rucho, Tammy Hubbard, and Jennifer Bobosi. She explained following site meetings they held presentations which included price estimates in January 2020. She stated at a final meeting on January 27th they discussed the possibility of a new school which would have a new playground fully ADA Compliant, they agreed and decided to hold off on the plans until they knew what would happen with the schools. Ms. Lucier explained the Browns have contacted the school this year and they are concerned the playground is not ADA compliant and requested this agenda item be added. Ms. Lucier stated she contacted George

Tignor, Building Commissioner and in charge of ADA Compliance. She explained He has reached out to O'Brien and Sons as they are the firm that installed the existing playground and they have provided the town with an estimate on bringing the playground into ADA compliance. Mr. Tignor explained he has been in contact with Andrew Berger of O'Brien and Sons as to how to bring the playground as it exists into compliance. He explained the quote received shows the most important item and that is the surface and will allow for access to all the equipment located at the playground and feels this will bring the playground into compliance. He stated they may need to add ramps or transfers for ground level and elevated structures up to ADA compliance are also included in the quote. He stated the cost estimate would be \$109,000 and due to cost inflation, he would like to propose \$160,000 which would include the cost for the DPW to complete the site work needed for the pour in place rubber matting. Ms. Lucier provided a breakdown of funding; pour in place component \$64,470, replacement components on climbers \$20-\$25,000, and components for new equipment to meet ground level accessibility \$23,000. Mr. Kellaheer, DPW Director explained they will need to know what the specifics are for the subsurface, he explained all the chips and some subsurface will need to be removed. He explained once he has the detail of the requirements for subsurface, he will be able to put together a price. Mr. Hadley asked if they can use CPC funding, MS. Lucier confirmed they can. She explained on Monday they held a meeting with Jim Pedone from Parks, Gary Kellaheer from DPW, and George Tignor from Building Department and they decided this would be a project the Parks Commission would take the lead on and the plan is to apply for CPC funds. She also reached out to volunteer grant coordinator to apply for a Christopher Reeves Grant and she is working on the grant due on March 16th. Ms. Lucier would like to add a 20% contingency to this price and when final number is received if grant is received CPC funds will be returned. Ms. Lucier stated they are going to move on this and be ready to bring to town meeting and have completed for September school start. Mr. Crowley stated Rachel came to CPC with a proposal of approximately \$700,000 which would rebuild the entire playground to ground level so it would be accessible by anyone in a wheelchair. He explained she plans to go to the Parks Commission with a proposal that will go above and beyond the proposal to CPC. He stated the CPC grant was withdrawn due to not being fully developed plan. Rachel Brown stated they have spoken with their Attorney and they concluded that the adjustments proposed are in conflict with the current IEP. She asks why there is not coordination with the town, Parks Commission and the School Committee. She stated they have been trying to understand process on who will handle project and she also would like to know if the mats will cover the entire playground. Mr. Tignor explained according to ADA the proposal is to bring up to ADA compliance and that both playgrounds will be resurfaced and there will be access to all equipment. Mr. Brown asked about the map shown only shows poured in place under play structure, not under the blue slide or under tire swing, or under swings. He stated there has not been support from stake holders and only spotty maps. He stated in speaking to their Attorney if the poured in place is only under the structure and not the rest of the playground the entire playground will not be accessible. Mr. Tignor responded any ground level apparatus will be in the plan to have the pour in place and stated whatever the ADA requires will be in the proposal. Ms. Brown does not believe that all the sand and mulch in the map will be replaced. Mr. Hadley would like George to go back to O'Brien and Sons for clarification on the map. Mr. Rucho stated he has been at a couple meetings with the Brown's and explained that going to CPC will require a plan including maps and costs. Mr. Rucho stated this is not only a town issue but also a school issue and believes the Brown's need to speak with the

school. He believes they need to be involved in regards to the IEP plan. Mr. Hadley asked if the school have been contacted, Ms. Brown responded they have been. Ms. Lucier wanted to be clear that the project is to make the existing project ADA compliant and the definition of ADA compliance is 25% of ground level structures and 50 % of elevated structures are accessible. She explained the Brown's project request is as different project than the town has proposed. Mr. Kittredge requested to receive an updated map; Ms. Lucier stated she may be able to get someone from O'Brien & Sons to attend a future meeting. Mr. Kittredge stated he believes the Browns are looking to get more than the minimal done and would like the town to look into these costs and maybe be able to add in the future. Ms. Lucier stated she had spoke to Gary and additions can be made to this surface in the future. Ms. Brown is not understanding why this project is not being looked at as one project and would like the town to take into consideration the plan that she has provided. Mr. Crowley stated there is not time for that type of project with town meeting being in May. He stated the Browns stated that if the park is not up to compliance that no children at the school will be able to use the park. He explained there is a month and a half to have a fully completed plan to come before the CPC to make it to town meeting in May. Ms. Brown stated she started this sixteen months ago and shared an updated plan with a budget to Jim Pedone and has not heard back. Mr. Brown stated there are other children in wheelchairs in the community not just their child. Mr. Rucho stated if no children will be able to use the playground than they need to hear from the school. Mr. Rajeshkumar asked why the School Committee has not been involved yet and why do the parents need to go to the school they came to the town, Mr. Rucho stated the IEP issue a school issue. Ms. Lucier stated this was placed on hold last January due to the discussion of new school and the plan was shared with the School Superintendent to bring the playground into ADA compliance. Mr. Hadley stated the next step is to clarify the map and invite O'Brien into a future meeting and also asked school committee about the possible usage of the playground. Mr. Rajeshkumar believes there should be a committee formed to handle this, Ms. Lucier stated she has been meeting with everyone and the Parks Committee will be meeting to discuss bringing forward a request to CPC. Mr. Rucho believe this needs to be brought forward to the School Committee, Ms. Lucier will contact School Superintendent to review the plan and advise if anything more is needed to meet the IEP. Mr. Crowley stated the application to the CPC needs to know what all the details of the plan is, Ms. Lucier will be sure to have all of that.

- **Board Vote on presenting level services or level tax budget at town meeting (PC):** Mr. Crowley explained he put this idea out to the Board and Nancy did present what the first round of cuts would be.

***Motion** Mr. Crowley moved to present two budgets at town meeting; level service budget which would include normal 2 ½ % increase and a level tax budget which would have no 2 ½ % increase on residential and commercial properties next year; Mr. Rucho second.*

Mr. Rucho asked if the level tax budget is presented will they discuss what cuts will be made and how the Board got to the number. Mr. Crowley stated Nancy sent interoffice budget to town office which would be \$360,000 on the town side worth of cuts and would eliminate major positions; facilities manager, Recreation Director, a DPW person and a Police Officer and other cuts also. He explained on the school side is eliminating 7-8 positions to cut \$441,000. He explained the cuts will result in increased cost for Unemployment which will result in more cuts. Mr. Crowley stated the biggest complaint he received is that taxes are too high and if the Board decides to go through with this it needs to be perfectly clear on what will be cut. Ms. Lucier stated she spoke with the

Assessors and the average tax bill savings for residents will be \$152 annually to not have the 2 ½ % increase. Mr. Rajeshkumar stated the goal is to have level funded or increased tax, he is not sure going with two plans to town meeting will be a good choice. He would like to pick one or the other. Mr. Hadley stated he does not think the level funded is feasible without having a severe impact on the town and the problem is some departments will require overtime if positions are cut and he will not be in favor of this. Mr. Crowley stated if a level funded budget is presented it will show specific cuts, Mr. Rajeshkumar responded that the Board should choose a budget and not present two.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Crowley, yes

Mr. Rajeshkumar, no

Mr. Hadley, no

Mr. Rucho, yes

Mr. Kittredge, no

- **Designate Board member for Fire Department Union negotiations:**

Mr. Hadley volunteered to work on the negotiations

Motion Mr. Rucho moved to appoint Mr. Hadley and Mr. Rajeshkumar; Mr. Crowley second.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Crowley, yes

Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes

Mr. Hadley, yes

Mr. Rucho, yes

Mr. Kittredge, yes

- **General Update on Town Hall Water Damage Project:**

Ms. Lucier stated the project demo has been completed and a meeting Rebuildx and the Insurance Adjuster was held last week. She explained the priority will be given to the first floor so the department can return to their offices. She stated the next meeting will be with contractors that will be working on the repair. Mr. Hadley stated he is impressed with everyone at that meeting and have done a fantastic job so far. Mr. Crowley asked if a sound engineer, architect and lighting engineer will be hired for the repair of the meeting room, Mr. Hadley stated there will be.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. **Update on RFP for Assessing Services (vote may be taken)**

In response to the Request for Proposals for IT services, on Friday, February 26th, the town received one proposal, which was from our current vendor Regional Resources Group, Leominster, Ma.

I recommend the town engage the services of RRG Resources Group for their Assessing Services and move forward with executing a 3-year contract with them for the period covering July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. The increase for year one will be This will increase the Purchased Services line item by \$1,080.00.

Motion Mr. Crowley moved to approve; Mr. Rajeshkumar second.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Crowley, yes

Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes

Mr. Hadley, yes
Mr. Rucho, yes
Mr. Kittredge, yes

2. Update on RFP for IT Services (vote may be taken)

In response to the Request for Proposals for IT services, on Friday, February 26th, the following three proposals were opened:

BetterWorld Technologies
11921 Freedom Drive, Suite 550
Reston, VA 20190

CM Greeks, Inc.
243 Bullard Road
Oakham, MA 01068

Infinite Consulting Services
1690 Sutter Road, Suite 1
McKinleyville, CA 95519

BetterWorld Technologies did not provide any references to indicate that they had any municipal experience, which was a required element of the RFP.

Infinite Consulting Services was contracted by the Town of Oxford to do three small projects. They do provide Managed IT Services to Surprise Valley Health Care District in California.

CM Geeks manages IT services for 9 municipalities, including West Boylston, 11 police departments and 7 public safety departments. They have supported West Boylston since July 2018.

Results of opening the fee proposals: BetterWorld \$11,868.50/month, CM Geeks \$2,610/month, and Infinite \$5,960/month.

I recommend the town engage the services of CM Geeks for their IT Services and move forward with executing a 3-year contract with them for the period covering July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024 at a cost of \$31,320, which is guaranteed for years 2 and 3 of the contracts. This will increase the Purchased Services line item by \$1,080.00. The Town of West Boylston has been well-served by CM Geeks since July of 2018.

***Motion** Mr. Rucho moved to approve; Mr. Kittredge second.*

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Crowley, yes
Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes
Mr. Hadley, yes
Mr. Rucho, yes
Mr. Kittredge, yes

3. Update on COVID Vaccinations for the Housing Authority Residents:

The Leominster Housing Authority oversees the West Boylston Housing Authority units. They are indicated that they were willing to vaccinate the residents of the WB Housing Authority in Leominster. We surveyed those residents to see how many would like to

receive the COVID vaccine and identified seven, five of whom were in need of transportation. As Leominster is beyond the territory covered by our WRTA van I reached out to the school. The school allowed us to use their van to drive the residents to Leominster to be vaccinated. I would like to thank the school for allowing us to use their van for this purpose.

Mr. Rucho stated small vaccination sites are no longer available and would like to know how is Leominster Housing Authority doing this. Mr. Rajeshkumar stated a recent category added was the Housing Authority is able to vaccinate residents using UMASS Leominster hospital. Mr. Rucho asked why the town cannot bus seniors in Worcester Senior Center for vaccination. Mr. Crowley stated the state is running this and it is an absolute disaster.

4. Town-wide Clean Up Day

I have reached out to individual who Chaired last year's event and at this time she would prefer not to take on that role. I also reached out to a couple of other residents who helped out to see if they might be willing to step into that role. At this time no one has stepped forward. If there are any residents who might want to take this on, I would welcome an opportunity to review the format we have followed.

Mr. Crowley asked if Ms. Lucier was looking to hold on Earth Day, she responded yes, she was hoping to hold on or around Earth Day maybe the 17th or 24th day of April.

MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **March 13th, 8:30 a.m. Board Retreat at the Senior Center:**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/SELECTMANS REPORTS:

- Mr. Rucho would like to have a social media subcommittee meeting, Ms. Lucier had sent in an earlier agenda packet. Mr. Rucho would like a meeting set up.
- Mr. Rucho would also like to look at the official meeting posting site and has concerns with the meeting posting being inside the Town Hall with building closed. He would like the towns official meeting posting site to be on the website. Mr. Crowley would like to have information on legal posting electronically.

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

***Motion:** Mr. Rajeshkumar 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 Police Union and litigation (West Boylston vs Regional Industrial Services Corp.) and the Chair declares that an open meeting discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body at 8:26 p.m. and will not come back to open session following; Mr. Rucho second.*

Roll call vote:

Mr. Kittredge, yes

Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes

Mr. Hadley, yes

Mr. Rucho, yes

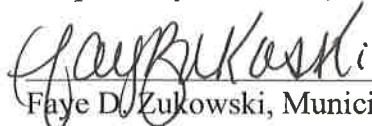
Mr. Crowley, yes
All in favor

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar moved to exit executive session at 9:03 p.m., Mr. Crowley second.
Roll Call Vote

Mr. Kittredge, yes
Mr. Rajeshkumar, yes
Mr. Hadley, yes
Mr. Rucho, yes
Mr. Crowley, yes
All in favor.

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar to adjourn at 9:03 p.m. Mr. Crowley, second all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,


Faye D. Zukowski, Municipal Assistant

Approved: *April 7, 2021*


John W. Hadley, Chairman


Christopher A. Rucho, Vice Chairman


Patrick J. Crowley, Clerk


Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Selectman


Michael J. Kittredge III, Selectman