

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING HELD: June 21, 2021**

**LOCATION:** Zoom Webinar

**ATTENDANCE:** W. Gelinias, P. Abair, T. O'Brien, B. Fenney, T. Christensen, F. Vachon, J. Dunn, D. Keane and B. Taddia

**W. Gelinias** called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm and asked if anyone is recording the meeting other than the webinar: None other than the recorded zoom meeting.

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF 03/30/2021 MEETING: W. Gelinias entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated March 30, 2021; T. O'Brien made a motion to approve the meeting minutes; P. Abair seconded the motion. The vote was taken and was unanimously affirmative.**

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: B. Fenney updates: Staff:** We have hired three seasonal workers for the summer to help with the Parks Department. The DPW also had two resignations: town electrician and a skilled worker. We are currently interviewing candidates to fill the two positions.

**FY22 Budget & Capital Projects:**

Town Council approved our FY22 Budget and Capital Plans on May 25, 2021:

**General Fund Projects:**

2001 Truck #3 replacement- Ford F550 with Dump Body- \$82,510

DPW Sidewalk Fund - \$1.2 million

Additional Funds for Road Paving - \$125,000

Allen Street Landfill - \$30,000 for Land acquisition

Town Wide Crack Sealing Parking Lots - \$82,500

2001 Truck #47 Replacement with Ford Transit Cargo Van \$45,228

**Stormwater Projects:**

1987 Ford F700 Replacement- 2020 MACK 42FR/21101 Vactor Body \$261,031 (split between water & sewer) (\$522,062) total

**Sewer Projects:**

Vineland Pumps Major Service- \$50,936

**Water Projects:**

Replace water main Cooley Avenue & Avery Street - \$658,499

Replace 2008 Truck #11 w/ Ford F350 w/Utility Body - \$67,866

**FY22 Rates & Fees** have been approved by the Town Council on May 25, 2021 as well.

**Grants Awarded:** We received the DCR Urban and Community Forestry Grant; the project will include 29 trees. Trees will be for our school department grounds, center field and Heritage Park facilities.

**DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: T. Christensen updates: Paving Update:** Dearborn St (including neighborhood to the north) and Gates Ave was completed by Palmer Paving; over budget 2-3%; beefed up underlying pavement; Northeast is finishing cleanup on Denslow, Sturbridge and Woodbridge. **MS4:** Completed outfall-testing on time; all results will be available on our town annual report in September. **Applying for (TIP) Transportation Improvement Project:** on North Main St. from Dearborn to just past Harkness where rail trail would eventually go; approx. \$6 mil project resurfacing the whole corridor; 4 signal reconstruction with a 10 ft. shared use path along the park where it would end near the bike trail where they removed the bridge; our district passed on to Boston; voting later this week; timeline 6 years out; once it becomes a viable project we would kick in a 25% design to show our commitment.

Hopeful to do some paving work on Maple St. this summer and fall. Sidewalk, curbing and another complete streets grant for bike lanes on both sides of Maple all the way to Longmeadow Town Line (Dwight and Converse); will help with drainage structures because they all need to have bicycle safe grates.

**Board Comments:** **W. Gelinis:** Any Sidewalk projects this summer: **T. Christensen:** Not at this time **B. Fenney:** we only have \$53K remaining in our sidewalk fund; need to use these funds before we pave Maple St.

**WATER & SEWER ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** **F. Vachon updates:** **Wendover Water Main Project:** started the project a week ago; main should be completely installed in another week; few services, water testing and cleanup. **Permanent Wastewater Flow Monitoring Project:** Bid opening was on June 16, 2021 with no bids received; hoping to rebid in September with the hope of getting a successful bidder for spring 2022.

**Town's Water:** DEP is telling us we need to bring our water usage down; we are supposed to be at 65 gal per person per day and currently we are at 95 gal per person per day; COVID had a lot to do with it seeing everyone was home a lot last year; was a hot summer; mostly due to everyone using their sprinkler system.

**Board Comments:** **W. Gelinis:** What is the DEP's concern about the water usage, conservation? do we have to worry about any regulatory? **P. Abair:** What does the City of Springfield Say? Is that just guidance? Is there any issue where they have authority? **F. Vachon:** Yes conservation; City of Springfield wants us to buy as much water as possible; we would have to do leak detection; hire a company to look for possible leaks in town; we need to show them we are doing our due diligence to try and lower the water use. **B. Fenney:** What triggered this was our sanitary survey; every three years they come in and inspect our stations and an overview of our water department; part of the process it to make recommendations on our pump stations and annual statistical report; this is nothing new; they want to know that we are doing our due diligence; part of it is informing our residents; these are just recommendations; we will put our best foot forward; we have been struggling with our unaccounted water for a few years; we decided to move forward with the leak detection testing to get our unaccounted water down to a reasonable amount.

**BUILDING FACILITIES REPORT:** **Joe Dunn updates:** Mapleshade steam project was started with limited access on June 7<sup>th</sup>; full access will start June 22<sup>nd</sup> now that students and faculty won't be there; most of existing pipe has been removed. **Pine Knoll:** everything is up and running; pool has been up and running for 2 weeks; camp is sold out for the summer; buildings are all set. **Red School House:** Started replacing the siding and decking. **Fire Department:** Building an enclosure for the methane pump at Fire department; trying to get more life out of the pumps since they run 24/7. **High School:** Hot water heater replacement near pool **COA:** Boiler has four rusted sections that need replacing; working with a company to do an energy assessment in hopes to get rebates; current estimates are \$23,000 and \$30,000. **Schools:** Started all of our preventative maintenance; air conditioner cleaners. **Police Station:** Replaced carpet in the day room

**Board Comments:** **P. Abair:** Are the tents still up at the Elementary Schools? **J. Dunn:** Tents are down.

**HIGHWAY UTILITY MANAGER REPORT:** **D. Kean updates:** **Parks:** Continuing with mowing schedule, prepping athletic fields, maintaining and grooming ball diamonds. Applied steps 1 & 2 fertilizer programs and clay conditioners. **July 4<sup>th</sup> Preparation:** putting up signs and snow fence, getting ready for fireworks; hanging flags, prepping and cleaning parade route; scheduling people that help out the day of the parade. **Highway:** Paving work orders, catch basin repairs, man hole repairs; dig trenches for Mapleshade steam pipe project. Brush cleanup around guardrails and harder spots to see on streets and side streets. **Water:** Started on Wendover Lane water main install; our new employees are helping to make our department more diverse; all town irrigation is up and running. Continuing with meter reading and mark outs (water, sewer and fiber). Jet truck has

been down and is close to be up and running. **Stormwater:** Outfall-testing is finished. Using camera for manhole sealing project to check outfall issues/sewer issues. Completed all plow damage and berm repairs.

**OTHER BUSINESSES:** Appointment Certifications should be dropped off to the Managers Office. Governor extending zoom remote meeting access until April 1, 2022. At our next meeting, the board will need to do a reorganization.

**Board Comments:** **P. Abair:** Is the zoom meetings guidance? What are other committees doing? What is the town managers recommendation? **B. Fenney:** Yes, it is guidance. If the board wishes to continue the zoom meetings until April 1, 2022, they can; no recommendations it is up to the board **T. O'Brien:** in favor of in-house meetings

**SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING:** **B. Fenney** will send an email invite for the next meeting in September and will have it posted to the Town website.

**W. Gelinis entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:29 pm; T. O'Brien made a motion to adjourn the meeting; P. Abair seconded the motion, there being no further discussion; the vote was taken and was unanimously affirmative.**