

WAYLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Town Building
41 Cochituate Road
Wayland, MA 01778
June 30, 2020

MEETING MINUTES

Present: C. Lewis (Vice Chair and Acting Chair), J. Mishara, P. Murphy

Elected: Robert Goldsmith

Absent: M. Lowery (Chair), M. Wegerbauer

DPW Staff in Attendance: Tom Holder (DPW Director), Don Millette (DPW Water Superintendent), Paul Brinkman (Town Engineer)

Meeting opened at 6:00 PM.

Lewis called the meeting to order and pointed out that this meeting was being held in compliance with the revised Open Meeting Law requirements. The meeting will be live streamed on WayCAM, with all BoPW members participating by teleconference. Public comment would be received by phone at 508-358-6812. The phone number would be active during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Lewis, reviewed the agenda. Holder pointed out that the newspapers said that the Water Hearing would begin at 6:00 PM but the agenda listed it as starting at 6:15. Holder suggested that the Water hearing should start at 6:15 and in the meantime he would provide the COVID update in the absence of the Town Administrator. Lewis, Murphy and Mishara agreed.

Announcements

None

Town Administrator – COVID Update

Holder explained that the Town beach is now open and is functioning well. People make reservations and practice social distancing. Lewis asked if the beach was going to be open for the July 4th weekend and Holder confirmed that the beach will be open weekdays and weekends through Labor Day weekend.

Fields continue to be open and able for use on a limited basis with no organized games and a maximum of ten people practicing social distancing. Once Phase 3 begins then field usage will expand depending on the Governor's instructions and Recreation will then start permitting. Public Health will determine safety protocols.

The DPW is working well with 6 seasonal staff recently taken on. This is a tremendous help. DPW is in a good place with administrative staff working a staggered schedule to facilitate social

distancing. DPW are able to respond as necessary although some degree of catch up is still occurring. Mishara asked about the repaving schedule. Holder said that this was programmed to start in about two weeks and Rice Road would be the first significant project. It will take place in two 2 phases back to back. Milling and paving would occur on each half of the road in turn using Chapter 90 funds. Wayland Hills would be the next project to be performed.

FY21 Water Rate Hearing

Lewis announced that phones were now open for public comment. Holder suggested a roll call to open and close the Hearing. Lewis asked for a motion to open proceedings and Mishara so moved.

Lewis 2nd and a roll call was taken.
Mishara aye, Murphy aye, Lewis aye.

Lewis declared the hearing formally open. Brinkman made a presentation resulting in the following water rate recommendations for FY2021:

- No change to base charge
- A uniform water fee increase of 2.5% for domestic and commercial users across all tiers
- The municipal outdoor water charge to be increased by 2.5% to \$5.85 per ccf.

The resultant impact on revenue in FY2021 will be an increase of \$80,000.

Stan Robinson of 9 Wheelock Road phoned in and asked about surcharges/discounts for residents opting out of AMI and their being reflected on the rate sheet.

Mishara made a motion to adopt the 2.5% increase for domestic and commercial users and other recommendations listed.

Murphy 2nd, and a roll call vote was taken.
Lewis aye, Murphy aye, Mishara aye.

Items Included in the Packet for Discussion

- DPW Water Enterprise Fund Spreadsheet

Items Not Included in the Packet for Discussion

- DPW Water Hearing Presentation

Eversource Energy Request – Grant of Location for Utility Pole (19/104A)

The pole being considered would be located by the High School, at the new tennis and basketball courts. The BoPW makes a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen, who would then vote on this.

The DPW prepared a memorandum considering any impact on the right of way. As a result Holder recommended that the Board support this request and grant placement to Eversource. Lewis asked about photos provided and Holder explained that the shorter post which is closer to the road marked where the pole would be placed and the taller post marked the extent of the right of way. The new pole would be placed in line with the other poles on the road. Mishara moved to accept the recommendation as indicated and further to delegate to Lewis that he sign the recommendation to grant the petition on behalf of the BoPW.

Murphy 2nd, and a roll call vote was taken.

Mishara aye, Murphy aye, Lewis aye.

Items Included in the Packet for Discussion
-Eversource Energy Request Packet

Appoint Community Preservation Committee Liaison Member

Item being passed over since Lowery wants to be a part of this discussion but is not available.

Board Member's Reports, Concerns, and Updates

- Goldsmith congratulated Brinkman on the clarity of his presentation.
- Lewis queried the security aspects of AMI. Holder assured him that security was a key focus of the RFP terms and contract language. He also pointed out that Mike McCann, the IT Director, and Mike Wegerbauer, the BoPW representative, were part of the evaluation process and completely understood the complexities of the security issue. It was to the forefront of all procurement activities.
- Lewis asked why we allowed irrigation on Tuesdays and Thursdays with only one day in between during the Water Ban. Why couldn't the irrigation days be further apart? Holder explained that Tuesdays and Thursdays were the days when pumping data showed the lowest demand for water so those two days were more able to accommodate high irrigation demand. Also we are already in the middle of the summer with enforcement actions underway. Changes now would cause great confusion. Lewis asked that this be revisited at a future meeting in preparation for next year.

Holder explained that under the Water Management Act permit the unaccounted water loss is to be less than 10% and the consumption should not exceed 65 gallons per person per day. The Town of Wayland average water consumption, as presented by Brinkman in his presentation, is 72 gallons per person per day. It is likely that next year Wayland will only be permitted to irrigate once a week.

Mishara asked what difference would a MWRA connection make. Holder pointed out that in recent history no MWRA community has had a water ban, because the MWRA reservoir has a much great capacity than what is accessible to Wayland. Lewis suggested that it would be worth joining the MWRA.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours Prior to Posting, if any

Holder staed two topics that had arisen in the last 48 hours. No action was required at this time but he wanted to bring them to the attention of the BoPW. The Route 27 bridge rehabilitation design phase capital request, based on MassDOT inspection reports, will be voted on at the Town Meeting. The project has two components; the bridge decking and the wooden piles holding up the bridge. An agreement is being discussed whereby MassDOT will do the decking and the Town will rehabilitate the piling. This will save the Town \$100,000.

The second topic concerns access to River's Edge. The Board of Selectmen are considering River's Edge easement issues. A shared access route to the complex is required. The Transfer Station driveway will be impacted. This will be a future agenda item for discussion.

Holder explained that MassDOT directives concerning openings to Route 20 restrict the number allowed. The plans for a back access would be over the driveway to the Transfer Station and the BoPW would need to approve this. A drain line easement issue would also require discussion. The driveway was designed to accommodate large vehicles and a housing capacity of 218 units. The Transfer Station gate would need to be moved and this would be paid for by River's Edge.

Public Comment

Stan Robinson phoned in. His first point was that public comment coming late on the agenda was not helpful. He preferred public comment earlier. Secondly he asked about the transparency, or otherwise, of the AMI Evaluation Committee. He asked who was on this Committee? Why the meetings weren't recorded? What did they discuss? He wants to examine the AMI proposals considered by the Committee, especially the one that has been chosen. He informed the Board that the Secretary of Public Records has noticed the lack of transparency of the Evaluation Committee. Lewis explained that the Evaluation Committee was a part of the procurement process and had nothing to do with Public Works. Robinson should talk with Procurement. Mishara pointed out that there was a public records process and that the Town Administrator was the Public Records Officer for the Town. He advised Robinson to contact the Town Administrator.

Review and Approve the Minutes of the 6/4/2020 Meeting

Mishara made a motion to approve the minutes of the 6/4/2020 meeting as amended. Murphy 2nd, and a roll call vote was taken.

Mishara aye, Murphy aye, Lewis aye.

Items Included in the Packet for Discussion ***- 6/4/2020 BOPW Meeting Minutes Draft***

Lewis recognized that this was Murphy's last meeting and he thanked him for his service.

Mishara asked about the date for the next meeting. Holder explained that he planned to connect with IT and the Selectmen's Office as the need arose for meetings. No future meeting was planned as yet.

Adjourn

Mishara made a motion to adjourn. Murphy 2nd, and a roll call was taken.

Lewis aye, Mishara aye, Murphy aye.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Martin
Business Manager