

Department of Public Works  
Advisory Board Meeting  
June 7, 2005

*Approved*

The meeting was held in Room 211 at the town hall on Tuesday June 7, 2005 at 7:30 AM. Present were Advisory Board Members Eric Sonnett and Jim Pyne, DPW Director J.T. Gaucher, DPW Administrative Manager Bruce Prentiss and Water/Sewer Manager Eric Carty. Also present were, Selectmen Executive Secretary Ted Kozak, town resident Mary Pratt, Building Inspector Mike Shepard and Bob Foster and Wayne Davies from the Zoning Board.

CEDAR STREET SEWER CONNECTION

Mr. Carty advised the board that #35 Cedar Street is just north of where the sewer easement is located on Cedar Street. He said that records show a sewer stub was installed for the residence, but it was never connected and for some reason a sewer betterment was not assessed at the time of construction. He went on to explain that the septic system for the house has failed, and that the Board of Health and septic engineers have looked at the property and determined it will be very difficult and costly to install a title 5 system. There is also a brook nearby that takes storm water runoff from the center of town, and the engineer has concerns about contamination of the brook.

Mr. Pyne made a motion that the board should recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the property at #35 Cedar Street should be allowed to connect to the sewer system using the stub provided, using a grinder pump, and said pump to be purchased by the

homeowner. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sonnett and was approved by unanimous vote.

#### LETTER REGARDING NEW DEP WATER PERMITTING

Mr. Carty gave the board a sample letter that water departments in the Charles River Basin area have been sending to state representatives and senators regarding the new water permitting requirements recently approved by DEP with no comment period.

Mr. Pyne made a motion that the board should recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the town should send a letter, using the sample as a guide, to the state representative and senator asking for their support in rolling back and/or freezing the water management act permit review/renewal process until such time as communities and water suppliers have input into the rule making process. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sonnett and was approved by unanimous vote.

#### DPW DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the household hazardous waste collection was held this past Saturday and there was excellent response from the residents.

Mr. Gaucher gave the board a copy of a letter he has sent to the District 3 Mass Highway Director requesting inspection of the bridge on North Mill Street. Recently the DPW was notified that the deck planks were coming loose and needed repair. It was discovered that the stringers beneath the decking were showing signs of rot. An inspector may be in town as early as today to inspect the bridge. The board suggested that Mr. Gaucher contact the Historical Commission to see how high a priority this bridge is on their agenda.

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that as we near the end of the fiscal year the budget will need to have some monies transferred from one department to another within the DPW.

#### ZBA – DPW DIRECTOR TO OVERSEE 40B PROJECTS

Mr. Foster and Mr. Davies joined the meeting to discuss the recent decision of the Zoning Board to have the DPW Director oversee the construction of roads and drains in 40B projects. Mr. Foster explained that there is a difference between 40B developments and regular subdivisions, in that in a standard subdivision the roads and drains will become the responsibility of the town when the project is complete, but with the 40B developments the roads and drains will remain private and the responsibility of the owner of the development. He said the Zoning Board felt that the best qualified person in town to oversee that type of work was the DPW Director.

Mr. Sonnett explained that the DPW Director works directly under the Board of Selectmen, and that the director has a job description that requires his complete attention. He said the Board of Selectmen was not advised another board was going to add more duties and time requirements onto the Director.

After some discussion it was agreed among everyone present that a meeting should be arranged between the chairmen of the following: Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Zoning Board, Conservation Commission and also the Building Inspector, DPW Director and Executive Secretary to discuss the options of expanding the engineering function for the town.

Mr. Davies said, in answer to a question, that an engineer could be shared by various departments in the funds were in a 53E-1/2 account, but not if the funds were in a 53G account.

Mr. Gaucher said he would prepare a draft job description for an engineering department that could handle 40B developments as well as do work for the Planning Board, which is currently being contracted out.

#### MINUTES

The minutes of the May 17, 2005 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Pyne and seconded by Mr. Sonnett. The vote was unanimous.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for June 21, 2005 in Room 211 at 7:30 AM.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted

Bruce Prentiss