

Department of Public Works  
Advisory Board Meeting  
June 12, 2006

*Approved*

The meeting was held in Room 211 at the town hall on Monday June 12, 2006 at 7:30 AM. Present were Advisory Board Members Eric Sonnett, Jim Pyne and Dan McIntyre, DPW Director J.T. Gaucher, DPW Administrative Manager Bruce Prentiss, Water/Sewer Manager Eric Carty and Highway Manager Mike Mansir. Also present were town resident Mary Pratt and from Earth Tech Richard Jubinville, Jim Bresanti, Bob Bell and Rosemary Blacquier.

EARTH TECH – WATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Ms Blacquier and Mr. Bell updated the board regarding the status of the Water Management Act. They said the state draft has been received and that some questions about the formula used for determining the water withdrawal limit need to be clarified. A meeting is scheduled for 10:00 AM this morning with representatives from DEP to address those questions. They explained that after meeting with DEP the final draft will be prepared and then a 20 day comment period is required prior to the town receiving the final permit.

EARTH TECH – SEWER INFLOW/INFILTRATION UPDATE

Mr. Bresanti and Mr. Jubinville reviewed how the I/I study was conducted. They said 721 buildings were entered for inspection of the sewer connections, of approximately 1400 buildings connected to the sewer system, and manholes were inspected. The majority of

the inspections were in the downtown and Hayden Rowe Street areas of town. About 40,000 gallons of I/I was found, mainly in the downtown area. There were about 11 buildings found to have sump pump connections into the sewer, and the possibility of 6 unconfirmed connections, that could account for a seasonal peak of an additional 80,000 gallons, with a yearly average of about 40,000 gallons. Approximately 14 to 16 manholes had minor leaks, primarily from lift holes in the concrete cylinders that have opened up over time and some rings and covers that have been leaking.

There was a discussion about the best approach to address the I/I problems. Mr. Carty said he will contact each of the property owners found to have sump pump connections and work with them to relocate the discharge from their pumps. Water/Sewer employees will be scheduling confined space entry operations to enter the manholes and plug the leaks with cement.

#### EARTH TECH – WASTE WATER PLANT UPDATE

Mr. Jubinville advised the board that the waste water treatment plant design process has recently started. The plant is going to be designed to treat 100,000 gallons per day, however the pipe connecting the plant to the existing force main on Saddle Hill Road will be designed to have the capacity to handle up to 350,000 gallons per day to accommodate future expansion of the plant should it be necessary.

The Notice of project change, from the original Fruit Street master plan, will be filed along with the project change for well H2. The documents are scheduled to be filed with the state by the end of this week.

## WHEELABRATOR TRASH DISPOSAL CONTRACT

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the new contract with Wheelabrator Millbury for trash disposal has a reduction of \$20.00 per ton from the current contract and becomes effective in January 2008. The Board of Selectmen voted to sign the new contract at their last meeting, prior to the deadline to be eligible for a multi-year contract.

## DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Front Street Culvert – Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the project to repair the culvert on Front Street has been completed.

Hearthstone Road – Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the project to repair Hearthstone Road has been completed.

Fourth Road – Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the estimates received to repair Fourth Road are \$15,000 + . He said that he had originally estimated the repair at \$12,000 and that was the amount included in the override vote. The \$15,000 estimate includes new head walls and road paving, no culvert replacement. Mr. Gaucher said he had some questions whether the road was worth spending that amount of money to repair, but the board advised him that because the money was included in the override and the town's people were told the money would be used for that purpose, he had no choice other than to repair the road.

Year end Transfers – Mr. Gaucher said he has been advised by the Town Accountant that it is ok to transfer \$5,000 or 3% of the department’s budget between and within departmental budgets.

Planning Board Request – Mr. Gaucher and Mr. Sonnett explained that the Planning Board requested proposals for developing a east Hopkinton master plan as approved by town meeting. The Planning Board selected a committee to review the proposals received and the unanimous agreement was that the best qualified company had a fee which was \$15,000 more than the money voted by town meeting. Therefore, because water/sewer issues are going to be part of the master plan, the Planning Board has requested \$15,000 from the water/sewer enterprise funds to supplement the town meeting funds.

Mr. Pyne made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that an amount not to exceed \$15,000 should be approved to be taken from the water and/or sewer enterprise funds, to allow the most qualified company to develop the master plan. Mr. McIntyre seconded the motion and it was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. McIntyre made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that all funds taken from the water and/or sewer enterprise funds shall be returned to said enterprise funds by the town at the next town meeting. Mr. Pyne seconded that motion and it was voted by a unanimous vote.

#### ALLIED WASTE COLLECTION CONTRACT

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that BFI has merged with another company and their new name is Allied Waste. The current trash collection contract is due to expire, but it

contains a provision for two one year extensions. If the town extends the contract for one year the collection fee will increase 3.9%. Mr. Gaucher said it is his opinion that extending the contract is in the best interest of the town, and the Board of Selectmen has it on their agenda for this week to vote on it.

Mr. Pyne made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the current trash collection contract with Allied Waste Service should be extended for one year at a increased fee of 3.9% from the current rate. Mr. McIntyre seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous vote.

#### MINUTES

The minutes of the May 9, 2006 meeting were approved as submitted on a motion by Mr. McIntyre and seconded by Mr. Sonnett. The vote was: McIntyre-yes; Sonnett-yes. Mr. Pyne was not at the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting so did not vote.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday June 27, 2006 at 7:30 AM in room 211 at the town hall.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Prentiss, Administrative Manager DPW