

Department of Public Works
Advisory Board Meeting
September 26, 2006

Approved

The meeting was held in Room 211 at the town hall on Tuesday September 26, 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, Highway Manager Mike Mansir and Water/Sewer Manager Eric Carty. Also present were town residents Nancy Peters, Mary Pratt, Kevin Kohrt and David Beattie; and from Earth Tech, Rosemary Blacquier and Steve Small.

WEST MAIN STREET WATER MAIN

Mr. Gaucher introduced Steve Small from Earth Tech. He is the on site inspector for the West Main Street water main upgrade project. Mr. Small advised the board that the tap into the existing water main was completed yesterday, and that today the placement of new pipe will begin. He said the construction would be crossing Wood Street, at the intersection of West Main Street, today and proceeding westbound. The westbound traffic is being detoured down Wood Street to Elm Street and back to West Main Street. Mr. Small said he estimates the project will take about 60 days to complete.

EARTH TECH WELL H-2 AND WWTP UPDATE

Ms Blacquier updated the board on the status of the new well and the waste water treatment plant. She said that the State Revolving Fund office has notified Earth Tech that they would like to see the well H-2 project put out to bid as soon as possible. She

said the only obstacle remaining is the receipt of the “new source” approval from the state, and that should be received within the next few days. Earth Tech continues to work with the utility companies to establish services to the well site.

The design of the Waste Water Treatment Plant is 95% complete. Mr. Gaucher stated that a meeting with Earth Tech is scheduled for October 2nd to review comments for the permit. The final permit is scheduled to be submitted to the state on October 15th. Ms Blacquier said the Notice of Intent for the Conservation Commission continues to be worked on, and that since the spotted turtle has been taken off the protected list there is no local conservation commission involvement required for the turtle crossings. Also, Mass Fish and Wildlife has no enforcement power regarding the turtle crossings. The prior agreement which was in place is now null and void. Ms Blacquier also explained that there is a Riverways Grant that the town may be able to secure. She will be working on the grant application this week as the application has to be submitted no later than Friday this week.

FAFARD PROJECT – WOOD STREET

Mr. Gaucher updated the board on the status of the project. He gave the board a copy of the report he prepared following his meeting on September 5th. The report included a punch list of items still to be completed as of that meeting. (A copy of the report and punch list items is attached to the file copy of these minutes). He said Fafard will be required to improve the drainage swale along Wood Street (both sides) in the area of the 495 bridges.

The board, through the Chairman, requested a time table for completion of each of the punch list items. Mr. Beattie mentioned that when he and Mr. Gaucher met with the representative from Fafard, the representative stated that the required work would be started immediately and so far to date nothing has been done.

Mr. McIntyre suggested that item #1 on the punch list Post Construction (re-grading of swale to handle water quality structure discharge) should be implemented now and not wait for the post construction items.

Ms Peters asked if the town had the capability to clean the Downstream Defender Catch Basins that are being installed, not only at the Fafard project but at other developments in town. Mr. Gaucher explained that the basin cleaning equipment that the town has is not capable of lifting the depth of the “defender” basins. He said equipment could be hired that is capable of cleaning that type of basin. He also explained that the majority of those basins, if not all, are the responsibility of the development associations to maintain.

Mr. Sonnett said he would like Mr. Gaucher to set up a meeting between himself, Mr. Gaucher and representatives from Fafard to be held at the DPW office to review the issues still outstanding with this project. Mr. Sonnett also stated that when the town develops a storm water by law it should be worded so as to have some sort of control over the various development associations to assure the basins are properly maintained.

WOOD STREET CULVERT

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the replacement of the culvert pipe under Wood Street is underway. There was a conflict with the gas main and negotiations had to be held with the gas company as how to resolve the conflict. An agreement was reached

which required the town to do the additional excavation required and then the gas company relocated the main. The pipe installation should be complete today and then head walls can be built on each side of the road. The project should be finished in a few days.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that he has sent a letter to Mrs. Scarlata regarding the request for sewer connections for house lots on Deneen and Scarlata Roads. A copy of the letter is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the bids for general materials and services have been received. He explained that in the best interest of the town some low bids may not be accepted due to the time and expense required to travel to the vendor's plant to pick up materials. He said there was a slight increase from last years bids across the board, and that we did not receive a bid this year for asphalt. Options for purchase of asphalt without a bid will be investigated. It is possible that the asphalt will be re-bid as an individual item. There was also no road salt advertised in the bid this year as the town has joined a group of other towns in securing a bid for road salt that is several dollars a ton less than what we were paying last year.

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that he sent a certified letter to the Massachusetts Highway Department District 3 Office regarding the lack of response to the punch list items ET&L is required to fix at the intersection of West Main and South Streets. A reply

from Mass Highway was received a few days ago and stated that meetings have been held between ET&L and Mass Highway. The town will be notified as to when the work is to be done.

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the new highway department radio system was put online yesterday. This radio is now located at the tower at the rear of the school and not on the water storage tank. The old radio system was destroyed by a lightening strike earlier this year and we have been operating on a loaner system from the radio repair company.

MINUTES

The minutes of the August 29, 2006 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Pyne and seconded by Mr. McIntyre. The vote was unanimous.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the DPW is scheduled to meet with the Capital Improvement Committee on October 2nd. The 10 year plan and vehicle replacement schedule was reviewed.

The board suggested that the study areas for sewer extension, as stated in the CWMP, should be listed on the 10 year plan as starting in FY 2011. The board also suggested that the High Pressure Water System and Storage Tank should be extended beyond the 3 year financial plan and kept on a sliding schedule as its time frame has not been established at this time.

Mr. McIntyre made a motion that the board should recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the capital plan for the DPW should receive a favorable vote from the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Sonnett seconded the motion and it was approved on a vote of: Sonnett – yes and McIntyre – yes. Mr. Pyne had to leave the meeting before this vote was taken.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for October 17, 2006 at 7:30 AM in room 211 at the town hall.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:08 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Prentiss, Administrative Manager DPW