

Department of Public Works  
Advisory Board Meeting  
October 31, 2006

*Approved*

The meeting was held in Room 211 at the town hall on Tuesday October 31, 2006 at 7:30 AM. Present were Advisory Board Members Eric Sonnett, Dan McIntyre and Jim Pyne, 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, and Mary Pratt; and from Earth Tech, Bob Bell and Rosemary Blacquier.

EARTH TECH UPDATE

West Main Street Water Main

Mr. Bell updated the board regarding the West Main Street water main project. He said the job has been progressing slower than expected, due to unexpected conflicts with other utilities and the volume of traffic. Overall he said the project is going well and should be substantially complete in another 4 to 6 weeks.

New H-2 Well

Mr. Bell advised the board that the state still has not issued the new source permit, which would allow the project to go out for bid. Hopefully that permit will be forthcoming in the near future. Ms Blacquier said that she is in contact with DEP representatives and SRF representatives almost on a daily basis trying to speed up the release of the new source permit.

Mr. Bell explained that the Conservation Commission has issued a report requesting additional information regarding work within the buffer zone of wetlands. That additional information is being compiled and will be presented to the Commission for their review prior to the next hearing, scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup>. He said the Commission has questioned whether other designs would provide better distance from wetland buffer areas, but the other designs would be worse for conservation than the design presented to the Commission for approval.

#### Waste Water Treatment Plant

Ms Blacquier advised the board that all required documents have been submitted to the state and are currently being reviewed. She said Earth Tech expected no problems with the submittal and the project should be able to proceed early in 2007.

#### STAGECOACH HEIGHTS (Fafard Project, Wood St.)

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the drainage swale on the west side of Wood Street should be cut and the outlet from the structure into the swale on the east side of Wood Street is scheduled to be complete either today or tomorrow. The work is to be done by Fafard employees. He said the new hay bales that were requested by the town have been put in place. Before the project is complete the swale along Wood Street will be re-designed and improved.

The board asked if the loam and seeding in the area of Mr. Beattie's property has been completed. Mr. Gaucher said it has not been done yet. The board encouraged Mr.

Gaucher to make sure it gets done soon. They suggested that if Fafard can not get the work done the town should do it and send the bill to Fafard.

#### SENIOR CENTER GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Mr. Gaucher said he has received a request from the Senior Center Director for the DPW to take on responsibility for mowing and grounds upkeep of the Senior Center. He said that the matter has been discussed with Mr. Mansir and it has been determined that the DPW can not take on any new grounds maintenance due to the present work load of cemetery mowing and funerals, parks & recreation field mowing, the town common, etc. Mr. Mansir also mentioned that the DPW does not have the proper equipment for mowing small areas such as would be required.

The board suggested that Mr. Artie Pyne, who currently cuts the lawn at the police station, should be asked if he would cut the Senior Center lawn one time this fall. After that the Board of Selectmen should address the matter of grounds maintenance for the senior center property.

#### COLELLA'S DRAIN

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that he has been advised by the owners of Colella's Market that the addition which was planned for the store will not be constructed. Therefore, they would like to have some of the patch over the new storm drain replaced and skid plates at the trash compactors replaced. Mr. Gaucher said he would be meeting with the owners to discuss the matter.

Mr. Gaucher also said that the owners of the store have suggested changes to the pavement markings on Main Street and Grove Street as well as another change in the timing of the traffic light.

The board recommended that the traffic light timing and street marking matter should be referred to the Board of Selectmen, as a traffic study of that area has recently been completed and the recommendations of the study have been carried out.

#### NEW CRACK SEALING

Mr. Gaucher advised the board that the new crack sealing process worked good on West Main Street, where there is a heavy volume of traffic. It was acceptable on less traveled roads, but he was not happy with the results on very low volume roads, such as housing development areas. Mr. Mansir said he would not recommend using this process in the future. He explained that DPW employees had to mix the sand and sawdust, load the trucks and sweep the areas treated 48 hours after the application. Mr. Gaucher said there are other crack sealing processes that require little or no work from DPW employees that would be no more costly than this process.

#### WEST MAIN STREET / SOUTH STREET

Mr. Gaucher said ET&L removed their equipment from town at the end of last week. The sink holes in the intersection of West Main Street & South Street have been repaired, but the elevation of the discharge from the retention pond still has not been corrected. The state highway department is reviewing that matter and has not responded back to the town with a plan for repair. A new catch basin has been installed on the eastbound lane

prior to South Street, and the new catch basin in the area of 66 West Main Street should be complete by the end of this week.

#### DRAINAGE PROBLEM HAYDEN ROWE STREET

Mr. Gaucher advised the board he has met with town counsel regarding the drainage problem on Hayden Rowe Street near the Milford line. He said town counsel has advised, based on case law, that the town is responsible for discharge of the basin. Because Mr. Brock, owner of the property, has requested piping of the run off to the rear of his property, the town should seek the necessary easement(s) to comply with his request. Mr. Gaucher said he estimates the cost of obtaining the easement, installing the pipe and required discharge structures to be approximately \$16,000.00, and that town meeting approval would be required. The board recommended that town counsel should notify the lawyer for Mr. Brock of the town's intentions to comply with his request for installing the pipe, and request permission to enter his property to clean the existing drain prior to winter weather when severe icing will occur.

#### #1 SPRING STREET DRAINAGE

Mr. Gaucher said he has a meeting tomorrow with the owner of 1 Spring Street regarding the on-going drainage problem. He said options are still being considered as to how the street run off can be diverted away from the property.

Mr. Pyne stated again that it is his opinion that this is not an issue that the town should be responsible for.

## OPEN DISCUSSION

Ms Peters asked for clarification regarding the sewer betterment structure and exactly how it is determined who is eligible to connect to the municipal sewer. Mr. Sonnett and Mr. Carty explained how the betterment structure was determined for the various phases of the sewer, and why a privilege fee is assessed in lieu of betterment after the construction is completed.

## MINUTES

The minutes of the October 17, 2006 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Pyne and seconded by Mr. Sonnett. Mr. McIntyre abstained from the vote because he was not at the meeting.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday November 21, 2006 at 7:30 AM in room 211 at the town hall.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Prentiss, Administrative Manager DPW