

Town of Hopkinton  
Department of Public Works  
Public Works Board Meeting  
November 28, 2007

*Approved*

The meeting was held in Room 211 at the Town Hall and was called to order at 7:30 AM. Present were DPW Board members Dan McIntyre, Jim Pyne and Kevin Kohrt, DPW Director J.T. Gaucher, DPW Water/Sewer Manager Eric Carty, DPW Administrative Manager Bruce Prentiss and Facilities Manager Brian Main. Also present were town residents Mary Pratt, Muriel Kramer, Mavis O'Leary and Jane Moran.

TOLL BROTHERS

No one from Toll Brothers attended the meeting to discuss their request to install municipal water service to their housing development.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

No one from the Downtown Revitalization Committee attended the meeting to discuss their concerns regarding crosswalks and parking in the downtown area.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Mr. Gaucher advised the Board that when the Highway Division manpower proposal was discussed with the Town Manager it was evident that it would be difficult to secure the additional funding required for more manpower this year. However, the draft copy of the DPW budget does include some additional salary funding this year, both for additional manpower and to meet contractual requirements. The Board requested that they be

provided with a draft copy by December 6, 2007 so budget discussions can be held at the meeting on December 12, 2007.

Mr. Gaucher advised the Board that the tipping fee at Wheelabrator Millbury will be reduced starting January 1, 2008, which will result in a decrease in the trash disposal line item from \$450,000 to \$400,000. Mr. Gaucher said that he would like to use at least part of that savings to off set some of the increases in the Highway budget, especially in expenses and road maintenance due to increases in utilities, supplies and materials. Mr. Pyne suggested installing a 10,000 gallon fuel tank(s) so the town could a quantity discount on fuel purchases. Mrs. Pratt suggested investigating whether or not there might be any emergency management grant funding available for fuel storage tanks.

Mr. Gaucher advised that Allied Waste is in the process of preparing a proposal for a contract extension that will have provisions for sharing recycling revenue with the town and some other offsets such as scholarship funding for the schools and funding for the recycling attendant and inspector. Mr. Gaucher also stated that the Recycling Committee is requesting quotes for recycling services from other vendors, and investigating the idea of a pay as you throw program.

There was discussion about installation of a traffic light at the intersection of West Main and School Streets and upgrades to the intersection. It was decided to make this issue an agenda item for a future meeting.

Mr. Gaucher advised the Board that the construction of the new Well 6 building will be starting next week. The contract requires installation of water main to tie into the current system and the water main work will be done first to allow for settling during the winter. Approximately 700 feet of Fruit Street will have to be excavated for installation of the pipe and it will involve the entrance to the Fruit Street Property also. The drainage system in the area will need to be upgraded also, and that work may be done by the water main contractor as a change order to allow all the work within Fruit Street to be completed this year. Next year the road will be resurfaced and guardrail will be installed. The work to install the water main should begin early in December. Mr. Kohrt asked how all of these costs compare to re-routing Fruit Street and Mr. Gaucher said this would be cheaper. Mr. Pyne noted that when the sewer comes down Fruit Street from Saddle Hill Road the town should straighten Fruit Street in the area of the "S" curve near Roosevelt Road.

Mr. Gaucher advised the Board that he has received notice from the Conservation Commission that a Notice of Intent will be required for continued use of the "snow dump" located off Cedar Street. He said the Notice of Intent must be filed with the Conservation Commission before March 1, 2008.

Mr. Gaucher and Mr. Carty advised the Board that the dry hydrant for emergency pumping of storm water from 1 Spring Street still has to be installed. There has been a delay due to the size of the pipe that currently connects the hydrant to the old water main. Mr. Carty explained that several couplings will be required and it will be more difficult to

place in between other underground utilities than previously thought. However, Mr. Gaucher said the work is expected to be completed this year.

Mr. Gaucher advised the Board that he has requested the balance of mitigation money that was offered by Next Generation Children's Center from the Planning Board. Previously limited funds were authorized by the Planning Board, and now the balance of funds is being requested to help with the costs associated with repaving of the intersection of Wood and Main Streets. Mr. Gaucher said that the total mitigation was \$25,000 and approximately \$23,000 is still available.

Mr. Gaucher gave the Board members a copy of the 401 Water Quality Certification, including superseding order of conditions, which was recently issued by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Mr. Gaucher advised the Board that the legislature has recently passed legislation that would require anyone digging a trench to obtain a permit from the local authorities. This includes not only work done within a public right of way but also any work being done on private property. Mr. Gaucher said the Mass Highway Association is requesting all cities and towns to write to their legislators in opposition to this new requirement. The Board directed Mr. Gaucher to draft a letter for them to review.

There was discussion regarding the Highway manpower study and how it could be condensed to make a more concise presentation. Mr. McIntyre gave out a copy of a chart

he is working on that compares the population of the town from 1970 to 2007 to the miles of road and manpower that the DPW has had during those years. This will be discussed in more detail at a future meeting.

#### MINUTES

The minutes from the November 14, 2007 meeting were approved on a motion made by Mr. Pyne and seconded by Mr. McIntyre. The vote to approve was unanimous.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for December 12, 2007 at 7:30 AM in room 211 at the town hall. The meeting that would have been on December 26, 2007, according to the regular schedule, was changed to December 19, 2007.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:53 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Prentiss, DPW Administrative Manager