

April 29, 2015

Present was Scott Bugbee, James Lehan, Jeffrey Palumbo, Jack Hathaway, Town Administrator and Marian Harrington, Executive Assistant.

The meeting was held in Room 124, Town Hall. Scott Bugbee opened the meeting at 7 p.m. Scott announced that the meeting was video and audio taped. Jack Hathaway read the agenda contents.

JOINT VERIZON/NSTAR POLE HEARING – BOARDMAN STREET

Kelly Ann Condon represented Verizon.

Scott Bugbee opened the hearing at 7 p.m. This is for Boardman Street – to place one jointly owned pole numbered T.21S/E.21E.21S on the Northwesterly side of Boardman Street at a point approximately seven hundred twenty-five (725) feet Northwesterly from the center line of Rockwood Road.

This is a joint pole location with NSTAR. There were no abutters present.

Jim Lehan moved to approve the pole installation. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

HEALTH INSURANCE DISCUSSION

Scott said that the Insurance Committee would like to give a history of where they are and that they have a slide show to present. He said Holli Merritt would be the spokesperson for the group.

Holli said they have discussed this, and are okay with the 10.5% increase. They would like to come back before the Board in August and revisit this. They are not going to do any presentation this evening.

Jim questioned the amount that we pay – 63%, compared to Wrentham's 70%. Scott said that we have a better plan than they have. Jim would like an analysis. Pick a town that touches us and see what their employer benefit is, and a plan comparison. When we have the discussion, this should be brought up. Scott said that because we have a good plan, more people are coming on. Jim said it isn't just about money.

Jeff questioned how many options. Scott reviewed the options with the Board, and will get them information.

Jack announced that Norfolk was named the seventh safest community in America. He said it was a joint effort of the Police Department and the citizens of Norfolk for keeping Norfolk a safe place to live.

ROBERT MCGHEE, DPW DIRECTOR; DPW ISSUES

Bob McGhee was present.

Bob gave the Board an update on what is happening in the DPW.

Bob started with Water. He encouraged people to read the Water Assessment Report. They did a groundwater exploration summary. This gives direction. They mapped out sites to explore for water. They need a radius of 400'. They are looking at public sites. Scott questioned why we aren't looking at private sites. Bob said we will if none of the public sites work out. He said that obviously public land is at no cost. He looked at several sites such as Harold Campbell Forest, a site on Grove Street, Apple Saint Forest (Maple St/Fox Run area) and took another look at Gold Street.

Bob said now they want to secure some money through town meeting and test on four of these sites. The \$108,500 is for the above four sites. They hope to choose either 1 or 2 sites. Costs for preparation and other things like the permitting process. This should be done through the summer and they will ask for another sum of money before Fall Town Meeting. Bob said he has approximately \$760,000 in Retained Earnings, according to Julie Siewko.

Jim asked if we are going to talk with Wrentham. Bob said we are going to have long and short term talks with them. But this plan is still going forward. Bob said we have a connection with Franklin. We don't have a direct connection with Millis. There are challenges with Millis and Franklin because they both have fluoride and pressure issues. We don't have any fluoride in our water. Bob said to connect with Millis, it will cost us about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million dollars. Then we have to buy the water.

Jack said with the State School, they had internal conversations. Steve Olsen was present at that meeting. Steve pointed out what would the State School's incentive be to give us the plant. Jack said you have to think of well avoidance, which is costs of maintaining the well, etc. Jack said the cost of distribution system would be costly. It would include maintaining their lines in the road. Jack feels it might be old lines and asbestos, etc. They would have to maintain the distribution, not just the well, and that could be expensive. Jim said we could pay them for the water, too. Bob said the well site is in the Town of Norfolk and take that over and provide them water with a guarantee. But Bob said he thought we would take over the whole system, but now he is aware of the problems and what we're up against. They may want us to get onto their

system. They may have \$29 million in water assets, and they may not want to give that up. There is a lot to consider. We could throw everything on the table.

Bob said a third angle is that you balance your wells, and Spruce is near there, and we could balance all of them. DEP agrees with us, but don't want to help us. Bob said this site would be open until the last resident resides there. What will happen to the land then? Maybe a college or something? They may be hesitant to give it to us. The Board agreed they should make the call.

Jack said transfer \$108,500 from Retained Earnings to a project account. We could do that at town meeting. The Board of Selectmen support this and will discuss it with the Advisory Committee.

Jack said part of the problem is we have always done this on an emergency basis, and they couldn't plan on income for their budgeting purposes. We should offer to buy a certain amount annually, and they can count on the income. Jack also said that we don't always want to count on area towns. We want to have our own water.

Road Projects

Bob said that he had \$393,000 for equipment. He purchased a front-end loader and a new truck. He has \$1,000 left. The truck is registered and on the road. It just needs to be lettered.

Chapter 90 funds that are left is \$285,000 – with a balance of \$235,000 because they haven't really done anything yet. They did a small project on Main Street for about \$30,000.

Bob reviewed the various projects that are not completed yet, along with projects that he plans to do. They are also going to fix winter damage like lawns that need re-seeding, etc. This will be from Winter Recovery funds given to us by the State.

Bob listed projects that he feels should be paid through an article. Wants to use the Chapter 90 monies for neighborhoods. He said that some old neighborhoods need attention. Jim mentioned possibly getting capital money for roads from the Southwood project.

Jack mentioned the Wastewater Treatment funding that he is working on with Phil McNulty, who has taken over this project. This is a draft because Phil is on vacation, and Jack wants to go over with Phil in case there are revisions, before he says this is final.

Jack announced the Field of Flags being done by the Norfolk Lions. Ceremony will be on May 23rd. All donations for flags will be for the Fisher House.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Action Items

Jim Lehan moved to authorize access and ability to utilize an upland portion of open space to allow Pulte Homes to construct a street, in exchange for what is known as Lot 4 Warren Drive, which will be designated as Conservation Land upon the completion of Warren Drive. Jeff Palumbo seconded and it was **so voted**.

Jeff Palumbo moved to appoint Charity Stolarz, 40 Ridge Road to the Cultural Council, term to expire June 30, 2018. Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Jeff Palumbo moved to accept the minutes of March 10, 2015; March 25, 2015; and April 13, 2015. Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

At 9:13 p.m., Jim Lehan moved to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. This was with respect to open litigation to review with the Board. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was a roll call vote: Jim Lehan, **aye**; Scott Bugbee, **aye**; and Jeff Palumbo, **aye**. The Board will only return to open session to adjourn the meeting.

At 9:55 p.m., Jim Lehan moved to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

This is a true and accurate report of the Selectmen's Meeting of April 29, 2015.

Jeffrey Palumbo, Clerk