

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING HELD: May 4, 2016

LOCATION: 84 Somers Road, East Longmeadow, MA 01028

ATTENDANCE: J. Maybury D. Burack T. Wilson R. Peirent R. Esposito B. Fenney S. Tancredi

ABSENT: D. Murphy

Also in attendance was resident Nicole Sadowski from 19 Orpheum Avenue.

Mr. Burack called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. He asked if anyone other than ELCAT was recording the meeting. Ms. Tancredi stated that she was recording the meeting for the minutes.

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF April 20, 2016 MEETING: Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 20, 2016. Mr. Maybury seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the vote was taken and was unanimously affirmative.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Mr. Peirent advised the Board of Public Works that during the course of tonight's meeting, a resident, Nicole Sadowski from 19 Orpheum Avenue, would be attending. She has requested to speak to the Board of Public Works concerning issues relating to her property.

TOWN MEETING ARTICLES: Mr. Peirent stated that Mr. Burack will be doing the taping with ELCAT tomorrow evening, May 5, 2016 in preparation for the upcoming Town Meeting, which will be held on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Peirent stated that the Department of Public Works will be presenting four articles, while Selectmen Kevin Manley will be presenting the Land Swap Article. Mr. Peirent stated that he will be meeting with Mr. Manley tomorrow, May 5, 2016 in order to inform him about the history of the Land Swap Article before the taping with ELCAT as he has been newly elected. Mr. Wilson asked if Mr. Manley has taken over the responsibility for the Board of Health. Mr. Peirent stated that the responsibility for the Board of Health is undetermined at this time as Mr. Paul Federici, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen is out of Town and Mr. William Gorman has not returned, which leaves Mr. Manley as the current acting Selectmen.

DEFERRED PAVING PROJECT: Mr. Peirent stated that a deferred section of Chestnut Street, which had a water main break last year, will be paved by the end of next week. The section was deferred last year in order to give the repaired water main a chance to settle. The adjustment of structures will be on going this week. Lane Construction will then be on site at the end of next week to pave.

CRACK SEALING PROJECT: Mr. Peirent stated that the spring crack sealing program will start in the next week or two. The plan is to crack seal three miles of roadway and possibly more depending on available funds. The following sections to be crack sealed will be the rotary, which will be done at night, a section of North Main Street from Lombard Avenue to the Stop and Shop Plaza, Shaker Road going north bound from Chestnut Street to the rotary, portions of Allen Street that are still in good shape and a section of Porter Road from Heritage Circle to Parker Street. Mr. Peirent stated that depending on the available funds a portion of Vineland Avenue may be cracked sealed along with the section of Somers Road from

Michel Street down toward the Connecticut line. Mr. Wilson recommended that Mr. Peirent also repair the pot holes in the rotary before crack sealing. Mr. Peirent and Mr. Esposito concurred.

2016 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: Mr. Peirent stated that Palmer Paving will be presenting their paving schedule tomorrow, May 5, 2016. Mr. Peirent stated that he is confident the work will be done during the spring and summer due to the bid for the “2016 Road Improvements Project” going out early in the season. The sections to be paved will be portions of Allen Street that are in bad shape, Porter Road from Allen Street to the Wilbraham line, Markham Road, the east end of Pease Road from house number fifty-four up to Somers Road, a section of Millbrook Drive from number one hundred fifty-four to Sanford Street up to Windham Drive. Mr. Burack asked about drainage work on Markham Road. Mr. Peirent stated that a catch basin will be installed and connected into the existing storm drain at the bottom of the roadway. Mr. Wilson asked how Mr. Peirent will keep the road material out of the catch basin. Mr. Peirent stated that curbing will also be installed in order to stabilize the area.

SENIOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Mr. Peirent stated that he met today with Mr. Steven Beaumier. Mr. Beaumier is one of the two gentlemen assigned to assist the Department of Public Works as part of the Senior Work Assistance Program. He will assist with gardening and landscaping work at various facilities around Town this spring and summer. Mr. Maybury asked about the High School Court Yards. Mr. Fenney stated that a work order was put into the system. Mr. Peirent stated that the second gentlemen assigned to assist the Department of Public Works will be Mr. Robert Boswick. He will assist with parade route preparations this year, painting sign posts and hydrants in addition to assisting with line stripping.

PROPERTY ISSUES LOCATED AT 19 ORPHEUM AVENUE: Mr. Peirent introduced and the Board of Public Works recognized resident Nicole Sadowski from 19 Orpheum Avenue. Ms. Sadowski introduced herself and stated that her purpose for attending the meeting tonight was to discuss her property and the building located behind her property.

Ms. Sadowski stated that she moved into her home four years ago this past January and that spring she woke up one morning to find a construction crew in her back yard installing a building, which was put very close to her property line. She stated that before the construction of the building the ground around her property was level but now it has become a bowl and there is run off as the area is very wet. She presented to the Board of Public Works several photographs and stated that no grass can grow and her garage and basement have been damaged due to flooding. Ms. Sadowski stated that she notified the construction company and sent photographs to them showing her damage but they have not responded back to her. Ms. Sadowski stated that she would like a fence built and shrubs installed in order to hide the building, lower the sounds and stop the smells coming from the building.

She would also like the large tree stump located in her back yard which was taken down when the building was installed to be removed as she is planning to put her house on the market.

A short discussion then followed and the decision was made to schedule a time next week for Mr. Peirent and Mr. Burack to view the property in order to develop a solution to the problems that were outlined.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT CONTINUED:

DEPARTMENT UPDATES: Mr. Peirent stated that Mr. Mark Langone has resigned from the Department of Public Works to take the Highway Superintendent position at the Town of Hampden. Mr. Peirent and Mr. Wilson both concurred that it is a loss to the department but a great opportunity for Mr. Langone. Mr. Peirent stated that Mr. Langone's departure has put the department in a somewhat of a bind as Mr. Langone was the Cross Connection Control Inspector. Mr. Peirent stated that in order to keep the inspections on track, Mr. Joe Dunn the Town Plumber, who was trained to be a Cross Connection Inspector about a year and a half ago, will be taking over some of the inspections in between his full time work load. Mr. Peirent stated that he will also look into certifying another DPW staff member and will reach out to an outside firm in order to get through the spring inspections.

SHAKER ROAD TRUCK TRAFFIC: Mr. Peirent stated that he and Mr. Esposito will be meeting tomorrow, May 5, 2016 or Friday, May 6, 2016 in order to discuss the section of curbing located in the center of Town heading south on Shaker Road, which has been worn down by heavy truck traffic. Mr. Peirent stated that the plan would be to either pull the curbing back and install pavement on the eroded section or install cobble stones. A discussion followed and the decision was made to install cobble stones.

BUILDING MANAGER'S REPORT:

RENOVATIONS AT THE TOWN HALL: Mr. Fenney stated that the rough framing has been completed in the Assessor's and Accountant's Office. The sheet rock has been installed in the Accountant's Office and the rough wiring will be finished tomorrow, May 5, 2016 and inspected. Mr. Fenney stated that the Assessor's Office has been sound proofed in order to keep the noise down and the sheet rock should be installed by the end of tomorrow or into Friday. Mr. Fenney stated that he will continue to keep the Board of Public Works updated.

FIELD MAINTENANCE: Mr. Fenney stated that step one of the Fertilizer Program at the High School was completed last Friday, April 29, 2016. Mr. Fenney stated that step two of the program will not be finished until the end of May or the first week of June depending upon available funds as step two will total about \$3,000 to \$3,400 in order to complete.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT PROJECTS: Mr. Fenney stated that bids for the Meadowbrook and Mountainview School playscapes were opened on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. Mr. Fenney stated that five bids have been received, Green Acres Landscape and Construction for \$140,000, Ultiplay Parks and Playgrounds, Inc., submitted two bids for \$124,899 and \$116,725 but they were disqualified due to not meeting bid requirements, Play Power LT for \$111,576, JL Construction Corporation for \$118,500 and Mountain View Landscapes and Lawn Care, Inc. for \$146,500. Mr. Fenney stated that he has written a recommendation to Mr. Gordon Smith, Superintendent of Schools to award the bid to Play Power Ltd. for \$111,576 and the final decision will be made during the next School Committee meeting, Monday, May 9, 2016.

VEHICLE STATUS REPORT: Mr. Fenney stated that Truck #78 should be completed by the end of this week by MHQ and a pickup date will need to be confirmed. Mr. Fenney stated that he has the plates,

the title, etc. and he is also working on finalizing specifications with MHQ in regard to building a new Truck #2 and Administrator vehicle. The specifications will be submitted to MHQ by Friday, July 1, 2016. Mr. Peirent asked Mr. Fenney about the new mower. Mr. Fenney stated that on Tuesday, April 26, 2016, Toro did a demonstration with a new mower, which has a sixteen foot cut. He stated it was a good piece of equipment. Mr. Fenney stated that Toro is confident that after Town Meeting the mower should be ready around Friday, July 1, 2016 providing a letter of intent is submitted.

HIGHWAY/UTILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT:

TOWN MAINTENANCE: Mr. Esposito stated that the sweepers have been activated, all the main roads in Town are swept and the sweepers are now moving to secondary roads.

CATCH BASIN REPAIRS: Mr. Esposito stated that all catch basins that pose a hazard have been repaired and DPW crews are now working on repairing and cleaning the catch basins with less significant issues.

POTHOLE REPAIRS: Mr. Esposito stated that DPW crews are patching potholes and continuing to fill new ones as work orders are submitted.

ROAD AND DRIVEWAY REPAIRS: Mr. Esposito stated that there are very few road and driveway repairs left as DPW crews have narrowed down the list of needed road and driveway repairs.

BERM AND LAWN REPAIRS: Mr. Esposito stated that broken berm from plow damage over the winter has been picked up and a list has been created in order to determine where berm repairs need to be completed. Mr. Esposito stated that the loaming and seeding of damaged lawns will be finished as soon as it dries out and weather conditions permit.

TREE WORK: Mr. Esposito stated that as the new Tree Warden, he has reviewed the backlog of tree work that needs to be completed. Mr. Esposito stated that Mr. Tony Longo and DPW crews have done an excellent job removing trees and saving the Town money by using the man lift. There are still a few more trees that need to be removed and the most difficult trees will be removed by an outside firm.

SEWER MAIN REPAIRS: Mr. Esposito stated that DPW crews have completed all the sewer main problem areas and if additional ones are found they will be added to the list. Mr. Esposito stated that DPW crews will be televising sewer mains.

IRRIGATION REPAIRS: Mr. Esposito stated that most of the irrigation systems in Town have been repaired. A few of the irrigation systems are currently running but have been shut down for the present due to the wet weather conditions and will be activated when needed.

TRANSFER STATION BRUSH: Mr. Esposito stated that DPW crews are working on brush grinding at the Transfer Station.

SIDEWALK PROJECT: Mr. Esposito stated that he will be meeting with a contractor on Friday, May 6, 2016 in order to discuss grinding sidewalk edges that have heaved up as opposed to replacing them. The Board of Public Works asked Mr. Esposito if he has also considered the method of pumping grout into the sidewalks to level them. Mr. Esposito stated not at this time. Mr. Fenney stated that the mud grout only works in certain conditions. Mr. Peirent concurred and stated that grinding is the better option in some cases to prevent tripping issues. Mr. Esposito concurred and stated that many of the sidewalks are in good shape they just need to be smoothed out. Mr. Esposito stated that other sidewalk repairs will be completed around Town.

MOSQUITO SPRAYING: Mr. Esposito stated that mosquito spraying for this year was successful and he worked with Ms. Aimee Petrosky, Health Department Director to update the map on new wetlands.

OTHER TOWN PROJECTS: Mr. Esposito stated that DPW crews will be starting the Transfer Station and Landfill upgrade as soon as weather conditions permit as well as a water main project on John Street and painting the parade route in a couple of weeks.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Burack asked Mr. Peirent if he has been in contact with National Grid regarding street light replacement and repairs. Mr. Peirent stated that National Grid has repaired the first list of street lights that were submitted to them two to three weeks ago and have requested another list be submitted to them clarifying other street lights that need to be repaired. In addition, Mr. Peirent stated that the streets light list needs to be sorted out as there are about a dozen streets lights that appear on National Grid's list but there are no street lights at those locations. Mr. Esposito concurred and stated that there are poles at those locations but no street lights on the poles. Mr. Maybury stated that street lights do get moved on occasion.

Mr. Maybury asked if the Lacrosse Field irrigation is up and running and Mr. Esposito stated yes. Mr. Fenney stated that it was completed but it has been turned off. Mr. Peirent stated that the disturbed areas have been over seeded in order to take advantage of the fields being out of service for the season. Mr. Fenney stated that the seeding was done Friday, April 29, 2016. Mr. Maybury asked about Center Field. Mr. Fenney stated that he has all the needed materials and will work on Center Field when weather conditions permit. Mr. Maybury asked if the mounds for the JV or Varsity Fields have been clay bricked. Mr. Fenney stated yes and while DPW crews were finishing up the project last week it received great feedback from students.

Mr. Burack stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at 84 Somers Road, East Longmeadow, Mass.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 p.m. and go into Executive Session for Strategy with respect to potential litigation and not to return to open session upon adjournment. Mr. Maybury seconded the motion, there being no further discussion; the vote was taken and was unanimously affirmative.