

WELLESLEY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS RECORDS

FEBRUARY 8, 2022

The Wellesley Board of Public Works held a duly posted open online remote meeting beginning at 4:00 PM.

Remote participants included Chair Jeffrey P. Wechsler and Commissioners Scott Bender and Ellen Korpi; Director David A. Cohen; Assistant Director Jeff Azano-Brown; Town Engineer David J. Hickey, Jr., Water & Sewer Superintendent William J. Shaughnessy; Executive Assistant Debra Surner; and Advisory Committee Liaison Pete Pedersen.

Chair Wechsler called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Following reference to the minutes proposed for approval and upon motion duly made by Ms. Korpi and seconded by Mr. Bender, it was

VOTED: To approve the Open Session Minutes of the meeting of January 11, 2022, as presented, (3-0).

Ms. Korpi – Aye
Mr. Bender – Aye
Mr. Wechsler – Aye

CITIZEN SPEAK

The Chair provided anyone participating remotely with the opportunity to speak regarding matters pertaining to the Department of Public Works. No citizens participated and no one chose to speak.

Advisory Committee Liaison Update. Director Cohen invited Mr. Pedersen to bring any matters to the attention of the Board of Public Works. Mr. Pedersen conveyed that he has been in contact with Mr. Cohen regarding the Advisory Committee's interests in major issues facing the DPW to be discussed at the upcoming meeting, as well as the revised Tax Impact Capital Budget and the Tax Impact Operating Budget and what will be discussed at Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Azano-Brown has been drafting Warrant Articles for the Advisory Report. He indicated continued discussion is requested on the Walnut Street Reconstruction and PFAS. Director Cohen conveyed the next Advisory Committee Meeting date he would be available to attend would be Wednesday, March 2. Mr. Pedersen will be back to confirm once a firm date has been decided upon.

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PFAS Update. Director Cohen provided a status report and confirmed two contracts have been signed with both vendors and activity is moving forward with the interim solution to address PFAS. He noted both vendors are working to avoid supply chain issues and delivery of the container vessels is on track for April 11. Director Cohen and the staff await the certificate to be issued by the Department of Environmental Protection approving the final installation and look forward to getting the systems up and running.

With regard to the proposal for the source investigation, there is a plan in place, which will be implemented within the week.

Mr. Cohen explained conversation continues regarding the MWRA option as a solution to the water supply issue. He has reached out to peer communities and has not yet received definitive word of interest in joint participation. The Director conveyed that the Annual Town Meeting Article could be constructed to have flexibility to keep multiple options open, rather than a single recommendation. A decision will need to be made at the March 8 BPW Meeting.

Director Cohen conveyed a recommendation for a permanent solution remains an unknown due to numerous variables, including potential future regulatory requirements. Therefore, it may be advisable that a decision on selection of a method to implement a final solution be postponed until the fall Special Town Meeting.

Contract #22S-420-1679(A) – Amendment No. 1- Engineering & Supplemental Services in Connection with Morses Pond WTP Interim PFAS Procurement, Permitting and Construction Assistance --- Amendment No. 1 (ASK DAC to Contract #22C-470-1685). Director Cohen referred to the Recommendation to Award Contract Amendment No. 1 to provide consultant support to bring the project to the implementation phase.

Following a brief discussion and responding to Chair Wechsler's inquiry regarding whether this was an anticipated add-on expense, Mr. Cohen explained that as Staff moves forward from the procurement phase, the additional assistance from the consultant will be valuable until the system is up and running. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Bender and seconded by Ms. Korpi, it was unanimously,

VOTED: That Contract Amendment No. 1 for Contract #22S-420-1679(a) for Morses Pond WTP Interim PFAS Treatment Procurement, Permitting, and Construction Assistance be awarded to Environmental Partners of Quincy, MA, in accordance with the amendment document and their quoted price of \$130,700, (3-0).

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Stormwater Utility Discussion. Director Cohen and Town Engineer Hickey reviewed with the Board the reason for the recommendation to defer action on this proposal to introduce the Stormwater Enterprise Fund at this Annual Town Meeting. It was acknowledged there was not enough time to sufficiently engage stakeholders, combined with the need to provide a comprehensive, detailed presentation.

Following this discussion, the Director notified the Board that Staff would continue to press forward with the steps to prepare this proposal for presentation of a Stormwater Enterprise Fund at Special Town Meeting in the fall.

Walnut Street Reconstruction Discussion. The Director reported that approximately 30 people participated in the Zoom Neighborhood Meeting and provided helpful input and questions. He complimented Mr. Hickey on his presentation. Mr. Cohen conveyed that the major theme that emerged was support for a multi-use path on one side of Walnut Street.

Mr. Hickey also acknowledged while it can be challenging to engage abutters in a virtual format, great feedback was provided by the attendees. The participants understood the benefits of Complete Streets. The more dominant theme addressed was the fact that the majority of the street is residential in character. Also expressed was a desire for a design to be safe for families and children. The majority of the participants were in favor of a multi-use path, which would intersect with the Warren Park and Cross-Town Trail. There was also support for a flashing beacon to provide additional safety.

Following the discussion, Chair Wechsler thanked the Staff for making arrangements to host and facilitate the recent neighborhood meeting.

Wellesley Avenue at Great Plain Avenue Intersection Improvement Project – Change Order No. 2. Reference was made to this Change Order which will be required to close out the project and will be prepared for approval at the March 8 BPW Meeting.

Revised FY 2023 Tax Impact Capital Budget – Version 4. Director Cohen conveyed that he was notified by the Finance Director of a request for the DPW to cut \$600K from the proposed budget. Mr. Cohen referred to specific items that were cut following a recent review of the proposed budget, which included: Crosswalk Renovations; the Automated Brine Processor; Playground Reconstruction; Tennis and Basketball Court Improvements and Equipment Procurement. He conveyed that the majority of the money was deferred; however, confirmed there were sufficient funds remaining for spot repairs, as needed.

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Following a discussion and upon motion duly made by Mr. Bender and seconded by Ms. Korpi, it was unanimously,

VOTED: To approve the FY2023 DPW Tax Impact Capital Budget, Version 4, with a cash capital total of \$3,016,000 and a Bonding and Chapter 90 total of \$3,240,000 for a total capital funding request of \$6,256,000, (3-0).

Mr. Bender – Aye

Ms. Korpi – Aye

Mr. Wechsler – Aye

Revised FY 2023 Operating Budget – Version 3. The Director reported to the Board that this version of the budget is responsive to a request from Financial Services to bring the DPW budget into guideline. The guideline was met successfully while still meeting the anticipated DPW Tax Impact Operating program needs. The changes in this version reflect the following adjustments. Both the Management Pay Plan salary increases have been removed per the request of Financial Services, as well as the projected increases in trash disposal costs, per the request of Financial Services. Additionally, increases for contracted tree work included in the last version have been reduced by \$15,110. Following a discussion and upon motion duly made by Mr. Bender and seconded by Ms. Korpi, it was unanimously,

VOTED: To approve the FY 2023 DPW Tax Impact Operating Budget, Version 3, which excludes Merit Pay Plan increases, for a total funding request of \$7,913,489, (3-0).

Mr. Bender - Aye

Ms. Korpi - Aye

Mr. Wechsler - Aye

Winter Maintenance Supplemental Authorization Request. The Director notified the Board that upon making his request seeking authorization for a supplemental authorization in the amount of \$300,000 for the FY22 Winter Maintenance Appropriation, the Select Board made the decision to increase the authorized amount to \$400,000.

SOF Activity Report. The Director referred to the most recent activity on the report during the month of January, which included a pump for Morses Pond Treatment Plant.

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DPW Monthly Report. Director Cohen referenced topics and detailed additional highlights and provided examples to supplement information provided on Key Performance Goals, Key Challenges and Opportunities and Key Metrics reflected in this report from the following DPW divisions -- Administration; Engineering; Highway; Park & Tree; Recycling & Disposal Facility; Water & Sewer; Health & Safety; Winter Maintenance and Additional Information.

Passing of Former Employees. Director Cohen notified the Board of the recent passing of former long-time Town Engineer Stephen S. Fader, P.E., following complications from an extended illness. Also of note was the unexpected passing of Max Neustadt, a Highway Division employee. Mr. Cohen then referred back to the Monthly Report to continue to review a number of items.

Water & Sewer Enterprise Funds Financial Statements. The Director referred to the statements for the month of December 2021 and responded to comments from the Board. It was acknowledged that expenses are higher, as expected due to use of MWRA water, yet Mr. Cohen confirmed targets continue to be met. He also noted that a water-related contract with a value of approximately \$2,000,000, to be covered by capital funds, would soon be going out to bid.

Water & Sewer Division Monthly Performance Report. The Director referred to the report, which summarized the Water & Sewer Division activities during December 2021. Chair Wechsler inquired if there was any update from Wellesley College (WC). Mr. Shaughnessy conveyed he is awaiting an update as to what WC's plans are with regard to preparations to filter PFAS.

ADJOURNMENT

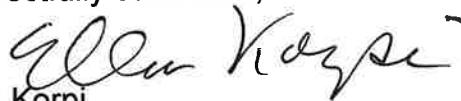
Upon motion duly made by Ms. Korpi and seconded by Mr. Bender, it was unanimously,

VOTED: To adjourn (3-0).

Ms. Korpi – Aye
Mr. Bender – Aye
Mr. Wechsler – Aye

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Ellen Korpi
Secretary

DISCUSSION ITEMS
WELLESLEY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS REMOTE ONLINE MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2022
4:00 PM

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Board to review the Open Session minutes of the meetings of January 11, 2022. **BOARD APPROVAL AND SECRETARY SIGNATURE REQUIRED.**

B. CITIZEN SPEAK.

ADMINISTRATION

C. ADVISORY COMMITTEE LIAISON UPDATE. Director to inquire if Mr. Pedersen has information to bring to the attention of the Board and Staff. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

D. DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

E. PFAS UPDATE. Director to refer to most recent activity related to this matter. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

F. CONTRACT #22S-410-1679(A) – AMENDMENT NO. 1 – ENGINEERING AND SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH MORSES POND WTP INTERIM PFAS PROCUREMENT, PERMITTING AND CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE. Director to provide additional detail related to project tasks. **BOARD APPROVAL AND SECRETARY SIGNATURE REQUIRED.**

G. STORMWATER UTILITY DISCUSSION. Director to provide update on Stormwater Utility Initiative. **BOARD FEEDBACK REQUESTED.**

H. WALNUT STREET RECONSTRUCTION DISCUSSION. Director to provide update on most recent activity and planning. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

***PLEASE NOTE – A COPY OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
WILL BE FORWARDED ON MONDAY***

I. WELLESLEY AVENUE AT GREAT PLAIN AVENUE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – CHANGE ORDER NO. 2. Director to refer to this Change Order. **BOARD APPROVAL REQUIRED.**

J. 2023 TAX IMPACT CAPITAL BUDGET. Director to refer to revised version of this budget. **BOARD APPROVAL REQUIRED.**

K. 2023 TAX IMPACT OPERATING BUDGET. Director to refer to revised version of this budget. **BOARD APPROVAL REQUIRED.**

L. WINTER MAINTENANCE SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST.
Director to refer to request to be submitted to Advisory Committee. **BOARD APPROVAL REQUESTED.**

PLEASE NOTE – A COPY OF THE FOLLOWING REPORT WILL BE FORWARDED ON MONDAY

M. DPW MONTHLY REPORT. Director to refer to division highlights listed in report.
NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.

N. STATEMENT OF FACT ACTIVITY REPORT. Director to reference the report reflecting contract awards between \$10,000 AND \$50,000, to date. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

WATER & SEWER DIVISION

O. WATER & SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. Director to refer to financial statements for the month of December 2021. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

P. WATER & SEWER DIVISION MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT. Director to refer to report for the month of December 2021 prepared by Water & Sewer Superintendent Shaughnessy. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

FYI

Ltr. to MWRA Toxic Reduction and Control – 2021 Semi-Annual Report
Notes of Appreciation for Assistance Provided by W&S Division Crews