

**WELLESLEY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS RECORDS
OCTOBER 18, 2022**

The Wellesley Board of Public Works held a duly posted open online remote meeting beginning at 5:00 PM.

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

Chair Bender called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

VOTED: To approve the Open Session Minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2022, as presented (3-0).

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

CITIZEN SPEAK

Chair Bender provided anyone participating remotely with the opportunity to speak regarding matters pertaining to the Department of Public Works. There was no remote participation.

DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

Advisory Committee Liaison Update. Chair Bender invited Mr. Pedersen to bring any matters of interest to the Advisory Committee to the attention of the Board. Mr. Pedersen responded that the Advisory Committee continues to be most interested in the PFAS issue, updates on the proposed Stormwater Enterprise Fund and current projects. Mr. Pedersen noted that due to the thorough presentation provided by the Director at last week's Advisory Committee Meeting, there are no specific matters to be addressed at this time.

Stormwater Update. Director Cohen began by referring to the memorandum prepared by the Department's consultant, Tighe & Bond, on "Stormwater Enterprise Fund Development", which included a summary of topics previously discussed and to be addressed in the future, as a result of outreach to Town boards and committees, as well as the public.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS RECORDS
October 18, 2022
Page 2

Mr. Cohen emphasized the importance of clarifying that funding dedicated to this program is required money that must be spent and the creation of an enterprise fund along with a stormwater fee is a more equitable way to meet this need. The Director referred to a plan to conduct more internal outreach to Town Departments to entertain questions, in addition to a plan to return to the Select Board with a final proposal, following review and approval by the Board of Public Works at its November meeting.

Mr. Cohen conveyed additional planned efforts include outreach to all Town Meeting Members. Early in the new year, it will be determined what other public outreach efforts will be extended.

The Director invited the Board to provide their thoughts, comments and questions. Ms. Korpi conveyed her questions. The first was related to how the stormwater charges would be divided for condominium property owners. It was suggested that another, new, utility bill might be created for each association, which could then decide how the charges will be made equitable amongst the property owners, based upon the size of each unit.

Ms. Korpi referred to the potential reduction in homeowner's taxable income to demonstrate the demographics of how property owners will be assessed.

Chair Bender conveyed that due to numerous different scenarios, no one solution will be ideal to satisfy all residents.

Mr. Wechsler concurred with Mr. Bender that this enterprise fund would not be able to satisfy everyone. Mr. Wechsler conveyed he appreciates the time staff is devoting toward making the proposed fund as equitable as possible, while at the same time realizing the change, itself, may be causing concern on the part of some residents. Also acknowledged were the non-tax-paying property owners whose contribution will translate into approximately a half million dollars of relief for taxpayers. Another influence to be considered will be the addition of new developments opening in Town. Both the Board and Staff agreed upon the importance of having a consistent and understandable explanation in response to all questions.

Following the discussion, Mr. Cohen emphasized kudos to Town Engineer Hickey and his team for the extensive effort being directed toward this project each and every day.

PFAS Update. Director Cohen conveyed the latest information related to the interim PFAS treatment system. He notified the Board that the supernatant pumps, previously on backorder, have recently been delivered and are being installed.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS RECORDS
October 18, 2022
Page 3

Mr. Cohen reported that the water testing results continue to report non detect status.

The PFAS level detected in the Rosemary and Longfellow Wells will continue to be monitored. Any future consideration for replacement of these wells will likely be decided by a directive from the Department of Environmental Protection, which will be based upon continued test results.

It was also acknowledged that the cleaning of the Morses Pond wells is scheduled to be started in October.

FY 2024 Tax Impact Capital Budget Version 2. Director Cohen referred to V2 of this Capital Budget, which summarizes the anticipated capital needs of the Department of Public Works for FY24 through FY28 and increases the overall request by \$415,000. The total FY24 Tax Impact Capital Budget request from all sources is now \$10,432,000.

The FY24 cash capital request of \$5,787,000 is \$695,750 more than the \$5,091,250 FY24 projection in last year's five-year budget.

This version includes two new recurring capital projects needed for the requirements of the Drainage Improvements program. In FY24, \$50,000 has been added to provide for Green Infrastructure Improvements and an additional \$10,000 for GIS mapping and modeling.

This version also includes \$355,000 in sidewalk improvements for a pedestrian link along Washington Street from the Natick line to Elm Bank.

Also referenced was an updated summary of Capital 5 Year Plan Changes, which tracks the changes from last year's plan.

Following a review of various line items and responding to inquiries from the Board, the Director conveyed that upon receiving further directive from Financial Services on available capital funding, Staff will continue to refine the plan and provide a revised budget with more detailed information in the next version.

FY 2024 Tax Impact Operating Budget, Version 2. The Director provided the Board with an overview of Version 2 of this budget. The total FY 2024 tax impact request is \$8,411,336, which reflects an increase of \$497,847 or 6.3% over the FY23 budget.

Staff reviewed with the Board the contributing factors consisting of a Personal Services Increase in the amount of \$92,872 and an Expense Budget Increase in the amount of \$404,975.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS RECORDS
October 18, 2022
Page 4

Following a review and discussion with the Board related to the increases, the Director confirmed Staff would continue toward refining this version by making additional changes and reductions to be reflected in the next submittal.

The Director confirmed there are two BPW meetings planned at which revised budgets can be reviewed prior to submission of an approved version of each budget which are due in late December.

FY 2024 Water & Sewer Budgets Version 1 Update. The Director notified the Board no changes have been made to this budget presented at the September 13 BPW meeting. The total FY 2024 combined request remains at \$15,599,152, which is an increase of \$374,142 over the FY23 budget. The Director explained Staff continues to await guidance and new information related to several items that are anticipated to require adjustments be made to this version of the budget. Those items include: Health Insurance; Retirement Assessments; MWRA Charges; Management Pay Plan and Group 40 Salaries; and, Production and Supervisory Unit Salaries. It is expected a revised version will be ready for review at the next Board meeting.

Irrigation Well Request – 5 Clock Tower Drive. Director Cohen referred to the recommendation for approval for this request prepared by Matt Hernon.

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

VOTED: To approve the application, as presented, for the drilling of an irrigation well at 5 Clock Tower Drive, Wellesley, MA, as requested by the property owner, Mr. Daniel Cullaty, (3-0).

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

Statement of Fact Activity Report. The Director referred to the most recent purchase related to the repair to the gate and fence on the entry road to the Recycling & Disposal Facility.

DPW Monthly Report. Director Cohen referred to division highlights including Key Performance Goals, Key Challenges & Opportunities and Key Metrics reflected in this report from DPW Administration; Engineering; Highway; Park & Tree; Recycling & Disposal Facility; Water & Sewer; Health & Safety; and Additional Information.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS RECORDS
October 18, 2022
Page 5

Following an extensive review of the report, Mr. Cohen responded to specific inquiries and comments from the Board, which included reference to the Heroes Garden at the of Fells Branch Library and Trash Management at the Hunnewell Field Trash Management. Ms. Korpi conveyed that she attended the dedication of this garden and noted the plantings selected by DPW Landscape Planner Cricket Vlass are beautiful and encouraged all to visit the location.

With regard to Hunnewell Field Trash Management, Ms. Korpi acknowledged Sue Morris of the Climate Action Committee and Sustainable Wellesley regarding Ms. Morris' efforts related to conducting a survey related to trash and recycling management on Hunnewell Field, for which Ms. Morris created a White Paper. Mr. Cohen conveyed that DPW employees are mindful of the ongoing challenge at this location and have also created a plan to address keeping the fields clean of debris, which is very much aligned with that of the Climate Action Committee.

Mr. Shaughnessy's Retirement. Director Cohen reminded the Board this would be the last meeting of the Board of Public Works that Mr. Shaughnessy would attend in his official capacity as Water & Sewer Superintendent. Director Cohen conveyed that he wished Mr. Shaughnessy a well-deserved retirement following his departure on Wednesday, November 2, 2022.

Chair Bender extended thanks to Mr. Shaughnessy for consistently answering his questions so thoroughly. Ms. Korpi conveyed to Mr. Shaughnessy how much she appreciated his incredible dedication to his job, to which Bill promptly replied that dedication was thanks to his father, Dr. Shaughnessy, who set a powerful example by displaying his consistent commitment and dedication to his patients, which involved making house calls during the time of his practice. Mr. Wechsler conveyed his appreciation for Mr. Shaughnessy having acknowledged and sharing the meaningful example set for him by his father. Mr. Wechsler also noted his recollection of past conversations Commissioner Donohue and Mr. Shaughnessy would have involving the nuances of hydrology. Mr. Wechsler acknowledged Mr. Shaughnessy's making a point of working with various board members and taking the time to understand what, specifically, was of interest to Mr. Wechsler, as well as the interests of the other Board members. He also recognized Mr. Shaughnessy's willingness to share his knowledge and information with school children and others throughout the Town.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS RECORDS
October 18, 2022
Page 6

WATER & SEWER DIVISION

Water & Sewer Division Monthly Performance Report. Director Cohen referred to the report for the month of August 2022 prepared by Water & Sewer Superintendent William Shaughnessy. The report highlights the Water & Sewer Division's activities during that month. Information included the Daily Water Pumping Record, the iron and manganese Chemical Analyses, the graph of water supply trending, the graph of the temperature, and the Summary Report. Also included is a chart showing the daily pumpage with the gains and losses from the reservoirs.

Coming Events. Mr. Cohen referred to the listing of events, including Special Town Meeting, scheduled to begin on Monday, October 24. He referred specifically to Article 9 related to the disposal of surplus equipment with a value in excess of \$10,000. Following a brief discussion, it was confirmed the next BPW meeting would be held on Tuesday, November 15, at 5:00 PM, to be followed by one planned for Tuesday, December 13, at 5:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED: To adjourn (3-0).

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

The Board, once again, extended thanks to Mr. Shaughnessy for his many years of service to the Department of Public Works and Town of Wellesley.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:

Jeff Wechsler

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Jeffrey Wechsler
Secretary

**DISCUSSION ITEMS
WELLESLEY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS REMOTE ONLINE MEETING
OCTOBER 18, 2022
5:00 PM**

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Board to review the Open Session minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2022. **BOARD APPROVAL AND SECRETARY SIGNATURE REQUIRED.**

B. CITIZEN SPEAK

C. DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

ADMINISTRATION

D. 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.**

E. STORMWATER UPDATE. Director and Town Engineer to refer to most recent planning accomplished by staff and consultants related to proposed Stormwater Enterprise Fund. **BOARD FEEDBACK REQUESTED.**

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

G. FY 2024 TAX IMPACT CAPITAL BUDGET. Director to refer to Version 2 of the proposed budget. **BOARD FEEDBACK REQUESTED.**

H. FY 2024 TAX IMPACT OPERATING BUDGET. Director to refer to Version 2 of the proposed budget. **BOARD FEEDBACK REQUESTED.**

I. FY 2024 WATER & SEWER BUDGETS UPDATE. Director to refer to updates related to the Version 1 of the proposed budgets. **BOARD FEEDBACK REQUESTED.**

J. IRRIGATION WELL REQUEST – 5 CLOCK TOWER DRIVE. Director to refer to recommendation for approval of request prepared by Water & Sewer Systems Engineer Matt Hernon. **BOARD APPROVAL & VOTE REQUIRED.**

K. STATEMENT OF FACT ACTIVITY REPORT. Director to refer to recent purchases. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

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

WATER & SEWER DIVISION

M. WATER & SEWER DIVISION MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT. Director to refer to report for the month of August 2022 prepared by Water & Sewer Superintendent William Shaughnessy. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

FYI

Resident inquiry Re: Recycling & Disposal Facility Book Drop Location
Ltr. to DEP – DBPR Monitoring for 3rd Quarter 2022
Ltr. to DEP – Annual Perchlorate Monitoring
Ltr. to DEP – VOC Monitoring for 3rd Quarter 2022