

Approved October 27, 2021

**Advisory Committee Meeting
Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday, October 26, 2021, 6:30 p.m.**

Those present from Advisory Committee included Neal Goins, Tom Cunningham, Shawn Baker, Jake Erhard, Jennifer Fallon, John Lanza, Corinne Monahan, Jeff Levitan, Doug Smith, Susan Clapham, Al Ferrer, Wendy Paul, Pete Pedersen, Madison Riley, Patti Quigley

Neal Goins called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and introduced members of Advisory in attendance.

Citizen Speak

There was no one present for Citizen Speak.

David Cohen, Director, Department of Public Works (DPW) and Jeff Wechsler, Chair, Board of Public Works (BPW) were also in attendance.

Shawn Baker made and Pete Pederson seconded a motion to rescind Advisory's vote on Article 6.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
John Lanza – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley – absent
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Motion passed, 13 to 0, and vote on Article 6 was rescinded.

Discussion and Vote on Article 6

Shawn Baker made and Doug Smith seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 6, as proposed by the Board of Public Works, that the Town appropriate \$1,500,000 to the Board of Public Works for all costs related to the construction of water treatment systems. This includes authorizing the Town Treasurer to borrow such amounts in accordance with applicable law. It also includes authorizing the Town Treasurer, with Select Board approval, to borrow some or all amounts from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and enter a loan agreement and financial assistant agreement with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority.

Discussion/Questions

A summary of the change in the motion was provided by BPW/DPW. The original motion proposed funding for an interim and a long-term solution for treating the Town's water for PFAS. The motion was limited to only the interim solution, which is required to meet the Town's water needs. The long-term

solution will be slightly delayed based on the wide range of feedback, questions raised, and the desire for more discussion on the topic. ARPA funds could fully offset the cost of the interim solution at no cost to the Town. But, in case those funds don't materialize, BPW/DPW wants the authorization to borrow money. At the conclusion of STM, BPW/DPW plans to seek public engagement for the long-term solution.

- A question was asked when the interim solution will be operational and if there will be an opportunity to examine the results of the interim solution to determine the effectiveness of the interim solution.
 - The interim solution should be in place in February or March and yes, we can measure the results of how it is working and we can use that to inform the long-term planning. It will be useful information and we will use information from other towns. We would like to have a January STM to consider the long-term solution.
- Has there been a feasibility study of alternative solutions for the long-term solutions?
 - There were not many options for short-term solutions. The long-term solution was developed with environmental consultants and DPW/BPW will further flush those out and have a full analysis of all costs. A study will be part of the process and we will have something everyone can look at.
- Is there any chance that the short-term solution could be a long-term solution?
 - This has been discussed extensively. We could extend the life of the short-term solution but it is containerized in a trailer and the challenge is weatherization. We would also have to change out filters if used longer than 12 to 18 months and the cost for those is in the low six figures. The long-term solution would be under ground.
- A comment was made the completing a feasibility study for this long-term infrastructure is important to the town and it's important for all the analysis to come to Town Meeting. We don't know the solution yet so we don't know if there are supply chain issues.
 - For large capital projects we complete a design study. Usually when there is time sensitivity work DPW/BPW works with consultants. DPW/BPW has already spent operation money for the consultants to complete the design as we wanted to move the pace forward. Natick moved very quickly on this.
- A question was asked that when evaluating the long-term solution how DPW/BPW will hear from residents in the short time frame.
 - DPW/BPW plans on holding at least one forum and possibly more. Some components have already been requested such as experts and outside opinions. DEP is a great resource and has a broader view within the state.
- A comment was made that it is important to also include TMM so they are informed and engaged about the process.
- A question was asked if there is a role for the Board of Health (BOH) in this process given the public health aspect.
 - Yes, they should participate.
- Can we increase the MWRA source in case there is trouble with other wells?
 - Part of DPW's capital plan is to expand the capacity of MWRA. The maximum capacity now is 4.3 million gallons per day. During the summer that is not enough. There is no way to meet the town's immediate water needs with MWRA. The time frame to meet this need is 3 years at the earliest.

Roll Call Vote on Article 6

Jennifer Fallon – yes

John Lanza – yes

Corinne Monahan - yes

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Patti Quigley – yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory recommends favorable action on Article 6, 14 to 0.

Minutes Approval/Liaison Reports/Administrative Items

Minutes

Shawn Baker made and Madison Riley seconded a motion to approve the October 20, 2021 and October 25, 2021 minutes

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
John Lanza – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley – yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

October 20, 2021 and October 25, 2021 minutes were approved, 14 to 0

Adjourn

Jeff Levitan made and Pete Pederson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Roll call vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
John Lanza – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley – yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes

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Al Ferrer - yes

Wendy Paul - yes

Pete Pedersen - yes

Madison Riley – yes

Shawn Baker – yes

14 to 0.

Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.