

**Select Board Meeting
December 20, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Sanford Hall
155 Village Street**

Present: Maryjane White, Chair; Dennis Crowley, Vice-Chair; Frank Rossi, Clerk; John Foresto, Member; Glenn Trindade, Member.

Staff Present: Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Allison Potter, Assistant Town Manager; Rich Boucher, Information Services Director, Peter Pelletier, Department of Public Works (DPW) Director; Sean Harrington, DPW Deputy Director; Stephanie Carlisle, Compliance Coordinator, DPW; Barry Smith, Water Superintendent; Barbara Saint Andre, Community and Economic Development Director.

Other Participants: Todd Alessandri, Finance Committee Chair.

At 7:00 PM, Ms. White called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: There were none.

Approval of Minutes: December 6, 2021

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of December 6, 2021.

Mr. Trindade moved that the Board approve the minutes of December 6, 2021. Mr. Foresto seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Authorization to Expend Grant Funds:

- **Community Compact First Responder Technology Grant - \$40,976**
- **604b Water Quality Management Grant - \$35,769**

The Board reviewed the (1) Community Compact First Responder Technology Grant Notice of Grant Award Form, (2) Community Compact First Responder Technology Grant agreement, (3) 604b Water Quality Management Notice of Grant Award form, and (4) 604b Water Quality Management grant award letter

Ms. Carlisle stated we received a water quality management planning grant to look at implementation of green components at both the high school and middle school and will be working with the Charles River Watershed who will recommend the best locations. She noted there is also an educational component included to work with the schools. Mr. Foresto asked if there is a second implementation stage that the Town will need to fund. Ms. Carlisle stated her plans to apply for grant funding to implement their recommendations. Mr. Trindade asked about the education component. Ms. Carlisle stated students would learn about ground water, climate change, etc. and design a website. Mr. Boynton stated this is part of compliance with the MS4 (Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) State regulations.

Mr. Foresto moved that the Board authorize the expenditure of the 604b Water Quality Management Planning Grant funds as presented. Mr. Trindade seconded. No Discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Mr. Boucher stated this is to add first responder mobile devices to all of the Fire vehicles. He noted these are currently in place in all Police vehicles and wanted to expand this to the Fire Department. Mr. Foresto asked if they can sit in their vehicles and see what the 911 dispatch sees. Mr. Boynton stated the intent for the Fire Department is to provide hydrant location, access to building preplans, etc. He stated the goal is that the officer on the engine could see if there are any hazards, etc. on site. The other utilization for this is incident management on the scene. Mr. Boucher explained the recent purchase of Nearmap which adds 3-d visual imagery of locations and explained the impact for the Assessing, Fire, and Police Departments. He noted this would be implemented in the vehicles before June and will be on-line in one month.

Mr. Foresto moved that the Board authorize the expenditure of the Community Compact First Responder Technology Grant funds as presented. Mr. Trindade seconded. No Discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Acceptance of Deed for Roads and Drainage Parcel in Redgate Estates

The Board reviewed the (1) deed, (2) deed acceptance, and (3) subdivision plan.

Ms. Saint Andre stated at the last Town Meeting the roads in Redgate were voted to be accepted. The owner has agreed to turn over the deeds to the roads and the drainage parcels to the Town, which will be held in escrow until the closing in about a week.

Mr. Trindade that the Board accept the deed from Jonathan M. Bruce and Robert P. Grant, Trustees of the Red Gate Estates Realty Trust, for the property at 2 Redgate Drive, and the following streets or portions of streets only to the extent as shown on the Redgate Subdivision Plan: Red Gate Drive (a/k/a Redgate Drive), Briar Lane, and those portions of Hay Field Road (a/k/a/ Field Road), Bramble Patch Way (a/k/a) Bramble Road, and Fern Path as shown on the Plan, together with all drainage easements thereon as shown on the Plan. Mr. Rossi seconded. Mr. Crowley stated he will vote against this. He is not in favor of Mr. Bruce not sitting down with the Town to address the outstanding taxes, but he is in favor of acceptance of the deed. There was discussion about taking the roads and not the drainage parcel. Ms. Saint Andre stated the drainage goes directly to this parcel so the Board must accept both the roads and the drainage parcel. **VOTE: 3-2-0. (Crowley and Trindade opposed)**

Discussion: Quarterly Unaccounted for Water Loss and Charles River Pollution Control District (CRPCD) Volume

The Board reviewed the (1) unaccounted for water loss quarterly data, and (2) Charles River Pollution Control District flow data.

Mr. Smith stated the unaccounted for water loss for 2021 projected out through end of the month is looking to be at 6.4% but may come down some. Mr. Trindade asked what the average community is at. Mr. Smith stated we are lower than average. Related to the sewer flow, he stated we are still out camera-ing sewers, noting what has been recently fixed as a result. He reported that our average sewer flow to date through October is 826,000 per day through CRPCD. He noted a manhole on Charles River Road which needs repairs should decrease this number and that 95% of the Town has been camera-ed this year. Mr. Crowley asked if the total available flow from the water pumping stations of 240 million gallons includes December. He noted that we are pumping 13 million gallons less than the previous year. This is a loss of revenue and our costs have increased. Mr. Crowley asked what the testing entails. Mr. Smith said fluoride, chlorine, and pH are always monitored. Mr. Crowley noted that we are averaging 659,000 per day pumping and are allowed by the State 940,000 per day so we have a lot of capacity that translates into dollars. Mr. Crowley asked about discussing at a future date the possibility of loosening up the water restrictions, as this will bring in more revenue. There was further discussion

that it is a challenge to increase usage/scale back on the water ban based on capacity as a drought and other factors, i.e., growth, could impact this. Mr. Crowley asked about also discussing at a future date the possibility of those 2,500 residents with wells paying some type of water fee. He stated he has a well but has a hydrant for fire protection and uses a substantial amount of water when being flushed, and his grandchildren use Choate Park, including the water at the splashpad, and therefore uses Town water. Mr. Boynton stated there is a piece of equipment, specifically a street sweeper, that needs to be replaced at a cost for \$300,000 that impacts our MS4. This will be split from the water enterprise funds, sewer enterprise funds, and free cash. Mr. Crowley stated there is \$326,000 in funding from prior Town Meeting articles that has not been spent and we should look into using these funds to purchase this equipment.

Approval: Updated Water and Sewer Rules and Regulations

The Board reviewed the proposed water and sewer rules and regulations.

Mr. Crowley asked what changed in the updated rules and regulations. Mr. Smith stated many are sewer related and reviewed these including tie-ins to the sewer mains. Mr. Smith stated there are no major changes and the changes added look to protect the Town and its residents. He noted there were 48 laterals that were fixed this year improving our unaccounted for water loss percentage.

Mr. Foresto moved that the Board approve the water and sewer rules and regulations as discussed. Mr. Rossi seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Action Items from Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the action items dated December 6, 2021

This agenda item was not discussed.

Town Manager's Report

There were no items for the Board to review.

COVID: Mr. Boynton stated that we are in a surge, and we are not in a position to drill down and understand the meaning of the data. We continue to receive information from the State that is not at a level as was in the past. We continue to monitor and observe what is happening at both the State and Federal level. Mr. Trindade asked if we know the percentage of residents and school students vaccinated. Mr. Boynton stated we do not know residents, but the schools are at about 80%.

MBTA Community: Mr. Boynton stated as was discussed at a prior meeting, we are an MBTA community that must develop zoning regulations to address multifamily units inclusive of a density requirement to comply with State law. The State has come out with the specific regulations and Ms. Saint Andre is looking at them. She will be drafting a letter, most likely to come from the Select Board and Planning Board in response. He stated she is recommending a joint meeting with the Select Board and Planning Board in January. Mr. Crowley asked if we have reached out to other Towns. Mr. Boynton stated not yet but we will plan to include them as well.

December Schedule (Contractual Procedures, etc.): Mr. Boynton stated Town Hall will be closed as follows per contractual procedures:

- Thursday, December 23rd – Closing at Noon
- Friday, December 14th – Closed
- Friday, December 31st - Closed

Town Manager Out of Office: Mr. Boynton stated he will be out of the office as follows:

- December 27-29 – Vacation/Personal

Mr. Boynton reported there is still no news on sewer capacity with Franklin.

NEXT Select Board Meeting – Monday, January 3, 2022.

Select Board's Reports

There were no items for the Board to review.

Mr. Foresto stated the IDEA Committee completed two focus groups, one with the school and one with the Town Manager's office with four more scheduled for next month. They will detail the outcomes of these. He commended the Town Manager's group on their feedback.

Mr. Rossi reported that the boys' varsity hockey is off to a 2-0 start noting their home games are in Franklin and encouraged residents to attend.

Mr. Crowley commended Mr. Foresto and Medway Cable Access (MCA), as they are not only broadcasting hockey, but also doing both boys and girls basketball. Mr. Foresto commended Dave Scanlon of MCA on his efforts. Mr. Crowley gave a shout out to Julie Harrington and the residents on the Christmas light displays in town, which are impressive. Mr. Crowley congratulated the Medway/Millis Cheerleaders and Coach Ober who won the 2021 National Championships in Florida.

Mr. Trindade noted the Girl Scouts are out selling cookies.

Mr. Boynton wanted to welcome Brian Kelley the new firefighter/paramedic noting that we are now fully staffed.

At 7:58PM, Mr. Trindade moved to adjourn. Mr. Rossi seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Langley
Executive Assistant
Town Manager's Office