

**Select Board Meeting
January 17, 2023 – 7:00 PM
Sanford Hall
155 Village Street**

Present Dennis Crowley, Chair; Glenn Trindade, Vice-Chair; Frank Rossi, Clerk; Todd Alessandri, Member; Maryjane White, Member.

Staff Present: Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Allison Potter, Assistant Town Manager; Chris Park, Principal Assessor; Peter Pelletier, Department of Public Works (DPW) Director; Police Chief William Kingsbury; Sandra Johnston, Communications Director.

Others Present: Dharma Bhakti Corporation: Matthew Porter, Attorney, Nitant Raval, Corporate Director; Energy Committee: Martin Dietrich, Chair, Nicholas Fair, Vice-Chair, Dave Travalini, Member; Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Advisory Committee: Dan Kerls, Chair, Susan Dietrich, Member, John Foresto, Member.

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

Public Comments:

Mr. Crowley requested that those residents present to discuss the tax increase, hold their questions and comments until the discussion of that specific agenda item.

Approval of Minutes: January 3, 2023

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of January 3, 2023.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board approve the minutes of January 3, 2023. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 4-0-1. Mr. Rossi abstained as he was not present at this meeting.

Approval: Contract with Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) for Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Consulting Services - \$20,000

The Board reviewed the (1) memo from Stephanie Carlisle, and (2) contract.

Ms. Potter stated this plan was updated five years ago and must be updated every five years to qualify for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants. The Town solicited quotes and the MAPC was the most affordable firm. It was noted the MAPC did this plan for us last time at the same cost. Mr. Alessandri asked if we had any issues with them the last time this was completed. Ms. Potter stated no and noted that they do this for many communities.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board approve the contract with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council for Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Consulting Services as presented. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Discussion/Vote: Adoption of Group Health Insurance Contribution Rules and Regulations

The Board reviewed the proposed Group Health Insurance Contribution Rules and Regulations.

Mr. Boynton noted this is a new policy, as we determined we had some exposure without this type of policy document in place regarding group health insurance eligibility, especially relative to retirees. We want to make sure it is very clear who is and is not eligible to apply for insurance through the Town. He noted that this must also be aligned with the Affordable Care Act as well as the Massachusetts Universal Health Rules and Regulations. We utilized another town's policy as a starting point, and the policy before the Board was also run by our Labor Counsel. Mr. Crowley requested that this be moved to the next Select Board meeting, so the Board has time to further review and comment on the policy unless this is time sensitive. Mr. Boynton stated this was not time sensitive. The Board agreed to move this to their next meeting.

Approval: Contract with Weston and Sampson Engineers, Inc. for Water Main Replacement Design Services - \$99,300

The Board reviewed the (1) memo from Pete Pelletier, and (2) contract.

Mr. Pelletier stated this contract is for water main replacement between Village and Main Streets, as well as stormwater improvements along Holliston Street from the Middle School towards Sanderson Street. Of the contract amount, \$66,000 is for the water main and the balance is for the stormwater improvements. Mr. Boynton reminded the Board that we are on track to receive the Safe Routes to School Grant, which we are anticipating around the end of 2024. To prepare for that project, all the underground utility, water, sewer, and stormwater improvements are the Town's responsibility. Mr. Crowley asked if the funding for this is approved. Mr. Boynton stated this will be funded from the operating budget. Mr. Pelletier confirmed this funding will come from the water and stormwater operating budgets. Mr. Crowley asked for the anticipated project costs. Mr. Boynton stated approximately \$2 million. Mr. Crowley asked if this is accounted for anywhere in the water rates. Mr. Boynton stated no, and it may need to be, but there may be other opportunities to fund this, including the from the road plan. Mr. Crowley stated the Board would like to know where this funding ends up coming from. Mr. Boynton noted a lot of streets may need watermain work before we address paving. Mr. Crowley asked if the plan was to coordinate State funding with this work, including the sidewalks. Mr. Pelletier confirmed noting the sidewalk work is looking like Fiscal Year 2025. Mr. Rossi asked if we have used this vendor in the past. Mr. Pelletier stated that they did the Brentwood project.

Mr. Trindade moved that the Board approve the contract with the Weston and Sampson Engineers, Inc. for Water Main Replacement Design Services as presented. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Public Hearing: Application for Alcohol License Change of Officers and Stock Interest – Dharma Bhakti Corp. doing business as Liquor World

The Board reviewed the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) application.

Mr. Trindade moved to open the public hearing for the application for the alcohol license change of officers and stock interest for Dharma Bhakti Corp. doing business as Liquor World. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Attorney Porter stated this is an internal transfer of stock with one shareholder giving up a portion of his percentages and another shareholder giving up all his percentages. There is no change to the corporation structure or manager. One shareholder coming in is an employee of the store and the other is a well experienced liquor store owner. There will be no major changes to the operations of the business. Mr. Crowley asked who the current manager of the Medway store is. Mr. Raval stated

Kaushal Vyas. Mr. Crowley asked who the manager of the Franklin store is. Mr. Raval stated he is. Mr. Crowley asked for any public comments. There were none.

Mr. Trindade moved to close the public hearing for the application for the alcohol license change of officers and stock interest for Dharma Bhakti Corp. doing business as Liquor World. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Mr. Trindade moved that the Board approve the application for the change of officers and stock interest for the alcohol license for Dharma Bhakti Corporation doing business as Liquor World, as discussed. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Discussion: Fiscal Year 2023 Tax Bills

There were no materials for the Board to review.

Mr. Crowley stated that he has been approached by several residents regarding their most recent tax bill, which has gone up substantially. He noted it is not town-wide, but in certain areas of town. He invited these residents to attend a Select Board meeting and the Town Manager and Assessor to address these increases at this meeting. Mr. Crowley noted that residents may go directly to the Assessor's Office for any questions they may have on their specific tax bills. Mr. Boynton stated the purpose of tonight is informational and directed residents with specific issues to follow the defined legal process of going to the Assessor's Office and filing an abatement request if they believe their assessment is not correct or the methodology was not correct, noting there is also a defined appeals process. Mr. Park will explain the technical piece about how the valuations/appraisals of the property are done noting these are not tied to the Town budget. Mr. Park is responsible not to generate revenue, but to ensure that the value of the Town is appropriately dispersed among the over 4,000 residential properties as well as the commercial, industrial, and agricultural properties. The second piece relative to the budget is that once Mr. Park's piece is completed, there is a key revenue number that Town Meeting ultimately determines needs to be raised. He noted we are now in that process for the next fiscal year and this number will go through the Select Board and Finance Committee before it is ultimately brought to Town Meeting. He stated the tax rate is set yearly in a public hearing at the end of November/beginning of December.

Mr. Park reviewed his PowerPoint presentation explaining the process for determining the assessments of single-family homes. He explained the definition of assessment as the value placed on a property that reflects its "full and fair cash value". Full and fair cash value is determined each fiscal year by analyzing the prior calendar year's sales. For example, for Fiscal Year (FY)23, properties sold during calendar year 2021 were analyzed. He then went over what is being reviewed in these sales including if the sale is a fair market transaction, i.e., not a sale from parent to child. He noted that every month the Assessors compare sales recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds to a Multiple Listing Service (MLS) to ensure that the sales we use in our analysis constitute a fair market value. They also review the previous year's sales yearly in September and analyze them for market trends including the following variables: (1) neighborhood, (2) style of building, and (3) square footage. After completing the sales analysis, any changes to the values in the sold parcels are entered into the Town's property record system, Patriot Properties. This program then takes the data and applies it to every parcel in the Town. He then reviewed the assessments for specific sections of Town as delineated on the included color-coded map showing like neighborhoods in Medway noting there are six major residential neighborhoods, including 3, 4, 5, 6, 6a, and 7. He stated that neighborhood 6 saw the most sales in 2021. He then explained the specific neighborhoods including the, (1) reasoning for grouping like streets, (2) percent of overall changes in assessed value to the neighborhood and the cause, if known,

i.e., 39 Main Street in neighborhood 3, (3) percent of overall change in assessed value for a single home, and (4) gave a specific home sale example for each. He stated that they need to have and adjust their assessments to be closely related to the actual sale prices of homes. He noted that: (1) 97.43% of parcels increased in value since FY22 (2) residential property values increased by 14%, (3) commercial and industrial values increased by 8.3%, (4) Class 1 Residential properties saw approximately a \$300 million growth from last year, (5) Class 3 Commercial properties saw approximately a \$11 million growth from last year. These increases created a total value of the Town of \$2.992 billion. He reviewed how these increases related to residential, commercial, and personal property values noting the strength was with the residential market, noting we are at a 78.4 to 21.6 percent ratio of residential versus commercial/ industrial/ personal property.

Mr. Boynton then reviewed the next piece of this two-step process noting that once the values are established by the Board of Assessors, they are submitted to the Department of Revenue (DOR). DOR looks at the formula, methodology, and all the pieces that go into this assessment and must approve these values. The Town cannot set the tax rate until this occurs, meaning the fair assessment of these values across the town have been approved by the State. If something is wrong, DOR will immediately contact the Assessor's Office. The valuation tells us how the revenue to be raised from taxes will be spread out. He then reviewed a synopsis of what the Town has done with our property and personal property taxes, i.e., the tax levy since FY17. He stated the Board has spent a lot of time both pre and post Exelon money coming in making sure that the Town does not fully exercise its levy capacity and noting Medway is one of the few communities in the State that does not tax to the full levy capacity. He explained the impacting factors this year, including we had to capture more revenue for additional operational costs, the acquisition of property, and the need to deal with the fuel increases in the DPW budget. Mr. Boynton then explained Proposition 2 ½, noting in 1980 the State set a limit on the amount of new revenue that the Town could raise. That is 2 and ½ percent of the prior year's tax levy. There is a tax levy capacity, but the tax levy limit is what dictates to the Town in terms of new revenue. He referenced FY22 and explained the levy growth and what statutorily the Town is allowed to raise in revenue the following year, as well as what was available if taxed to the levy limit, noting \$727,965 was left and residents were not taxed on that amount in FY23. He stated that number is important as the prior year's amount was \$1.6 million. He also pointed out what was left in the other prior years noting what happened in FY23 also occurred in FY20. In FY19, there was \$2.055 million left that could not be captured in FY20 so in FY20, there was again a large fluctuation in taxes. He explained the components that resulted in the \$1.6 million left if FY22 including a \$600,000 difference in anticipated new growth, State Aid, and the unused levy amount resulting in the tax fluctuations this year. He then explained how the tax rate is calculated as the \$727,965 unused levy amount meant the Assessors were told we needed to raise \$47,692,000. Using that amount divided by the property values divided by the total valuation of the Town, etc. gives us the tax rate which was \$15.97/1,000. He noted when he first came to Medway, the tax rate was over \$18/1,000 because the property values were so much lower. With the property values skyrocketing, plus the amount to be raised, that amount dropped to \$15.97/1,000. He stated the driving force in tax bills, especially in neighborhood 6, is that we needed to spend a little more money this year, which was approved at Town Meeting, as well as the property values going way up. Mr. Crowley explained that this and past Select Boards did not go to the full levy limit as it would have raised taxes for residents. He noted most towns go to the full levy limit. He stated this year we needed to capture more of that to fund the budget so were only able to leave the \$727,965 of the tax levy. Mr. Boynton stated we are following the Board's policy and attempting to set budgets as best as possible when we go to Town Meeting in May with our best guess on what that number will be. He stated in September when we know the final State Aid and new growth numbers, that will dictate what we do moving forward, as if we leave a lot of levy capacity on the table and drop that amount the following year, this is going to happen year over year. He noted from FY21 to FY22 the net tax impact on

the average homeowner was \$166. Mr. Crowley stated it was like the perfect storm in that we needed to capture \$800,000 more in revenue and the property values increased so much. Mr. Boynton confirmed.

Mike Griffin of 26 Green Valley Road asked who determined what streets and residents went into each of the neighborhood locations on the map that was presented. Mr. Park stated the Assessor's Office and explained how these are grouped by market value. Mr. Griffin verbalized his specific issues especially with the neighborhood groupings. Mr. Boynton reiterated the data that is utilized to determine these groupings noting that all Towns utilize this same process. Mr. Crowley asked about how the land value is determined. Mr. Park explained the process of how the value of the house and land is determined. Mr. Rossi noted that the Assessor's Office is utilizing actual market sales data to determine the valuations. Gary Neubauer of 4 Ohlson Circle asked why he is included in neighborhood 6 as it states these are new neighborhoods as his was build 46 years ago noting the percentage of increase in this home and land. He stated his further issues with the methodology used including someone with over 5 acres of land and his of slightly over 1 acre should be taxed higher than currently done noting this is not using common sense. Mr. Boynton stated his issue with the commonsense statement noting that Mr. Park must run his data and methodology and obtain approval through the State DOR. He noted that Mr. Park can relook at the Ohlson Circle neighborhood and residents can apply for an abatement. There was further explanation of why residents must go through the abatement process once the tax bills are committed. There was further discussion about taxing more for more acreage noting the Town follows DOR guidelines. Mr. Neubauer asked about the relationship between Proposition 2 ½ and the 14% increase in residential property values. Mr. Park noted that there is none and it is not factored into this methodology. Mr. Boynton explained Proposition 2 ½ relative to the levy limit, not overall residential property tax increases. There was further explanation on the total property tax levy amount and calculations for FY22 and FY23. Mr. Neubauer asked if all residents' properties were reevaluated. Mr. Park confirmed. Mr. Neubauer asked for the total revenue for excise tax and meals tax. Mr. Boynton stated we are estimating \$3.57 million. Mr. Neubauer asked if that could be added in to decrease the tax impact. Mr. Boynton stated it is already factored in noting we use local receipts, State aid, and the tax levy. Mr. Neubauer asked for the total unpaid taxes. Mr. Boynton stated he did not have a hard number and that some of these will go into tax title, some will be able to have a payment plan, etc. Mr. Trindade explained the process needed if we do not meet the total property tax levy. Mr. Neubauer asked what the Town does to try and collect unpaid taxes. Mr. Crowley explained they are packaged and sent to auction. Mr. Boynton explained that at auction they purchase the tax title right and take over the foreclosure process. Mr. Trindade explained the efforts the Town takes to develop payment plans and, if those homes are sold, the Town receives the unpaid taxes due. Mr. Neubauer asked how the Town makes up for this loss in tax revenue. Mr. Boynton explained the methods utilized noting that we do not make other residents pay for this loss. There was further discussion about what areas were included in neighborhood 6 and how the different neighborhoods were classified. Mike Griffin of 26 Green Valley Road asked how long the abatement process takes once an abatement is filed. Mr. Park stated the DOR allows for up to three months. Mr. Trindade asked how long the Patriot Properties system has been in place. Mr. Park stated twelve years, since 2010, noting that neighborhoods are updated based on the market as needed.

Report from the Energy Committee

The Board reviewed the PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Dietrich stated they will present an update on what they have been working on since they last presented to the Board including Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), green energy initiatives including electronic vehicles and charging station opportunities, solar arrays, and the success story on

solar at the DPW facility. He directed the Select Board to Stephanie Carlisle for any specific questions related to the DPW facility. He stated the committee is in overall support of BESS noting it is a better solution than building a new power plant as our energy needs will continue to grow. He noted that Medway Grid LLC is not proposing green energy solutions to their building and would encourage the Town to require this of any future facilities. He noted the importance of the Medway Grid environmental impact review. Mr. Boynton noted that per Town Counsel neither the Town nor the Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) can compel them to do that. Mr. Dietrich stated the committee felt funds should be set aside from the Host Community Agreement (HCA) for green energy initiatives, i.e., charging stations, etc. They also suggested a natural barrier to the Medway Grid facility versus a wall. He then referred to the Committee's concerns some of which include safety, impacts on the environment, and noise, etc. Mr. Boynton noted what was included in the HCA relative to these stated concerns.

Mr. Travalini reviewed the second area their committee worked on which was fleet requirements. He noted that Police and light duty Fire vehicles are no longer exempt from State fuel efficiency requirements. There was a meeting with Needham and Medway Fire and Police officials with a positive result relative to Ford Explorer hybrids. Needham fleet management stated that although the vehicles are more expensive, this is offset by the gas savings, and they also require less repair. He noted that due to the lag time in availability, he would suggest that we start the process for the purchase of the three Police vehicles for FY24 sooner. Mr. Boynton stated the Town is 100% supportive of this direction noting that some of the requirements are ahead of the availability. Mr. Travalini stated the infrastructure can be installed for practically free via the Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program (MassEVIP) and Eversource. He noted that the committee would also like to look at the replacement of all other Town vehicles with electric vehicles.

Mr. Fair reviewed the committee's work on where the Town is with power including successes and potential proactive actions. He noted the Town uses 4.5 million kilowatts per hour (kwh) annually, 63% is utilized by the schools, and the largest non-school user is DPW. He noted that the new DPW building just received certification as a net-zero building. He noted the four current locations of solar canopies, which are leased, including Fire Station 1, the High School, and the Middle School. He stated that the committee would like to be included in any new Town building projects and new asset acquisitions to ensure that efficient energy initiatives are included to decrease utilization and environmental impacts including investigating available rebates and grants. He noted that to get to net zero today, the Town would need 121,000 square feet of solar panels, and 2.7 acres would be needed. He reviewed the potential areas where these could be added including all schools, parking lots, Town Hall, Oakland and Choate Parks, Thayer Homestead, Ide House, library, police station, and VFW. He reviewed the pros and cons for these locations, where panels could be located, the potential implementation systems, and cost and budgetary impacts. He noted there are only two years left on the Town's energy use agreement of \$.08/kwh. Mr. Travalini explained if net metering goes away, then the Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) we have with our existing solar panels goes away; based on the State requirements for net zero by 2050, we will be paying for all of that ourselves.

Mr. Dietrich noted that the PowerPoint last slide answered the question Mr. Crowley had about the DPW facility. He stated that, yes, we are receiving the money paid back as we anticipated. The details of the numbers are on that last slide. Mr. Crowley stated we spent \$900,000 and were supposed to receive grant money to pay for that. Mr. Boynton stated we qualified for the Smart Program at allocation 2. That funding comes in through the electric bill, not directly to the Town. Eversource is utilizing that funding to reduce our cost for that energy. Mr. Crowley stated that with the solar panels at DPW we are paying \$25,000 per year and asked what we would be paying if we did not have them. Mr.

Boynton stated \$85,000 per year. He noted that in addition to that savings, there is a payback from the Smart Program. Mr. Trindade explained the many energy efficient design features of the DPW facility.

Ms. White asked if these are the only areas in Town for potential solar panels. Mr. Fair said these were the ones identified with the most ease of connectivity to the grid, amount of potential sun, etc. Ms. White asked if there was Town owned open space that could be used as well. It was noted that would be a potential option. Mr. Trindade asked Ms. Dietrich if the School Committee is opposed to the use of the school parking lots for solar canopies. Ms. Dietrich stated it was discussed and looked at in depth by the School Committee noting that they will have four new roofs in the next six years so would like to focus on panels on those roofs once replaced as that is a lower cost. She further stated that they have three years of capital projects they are carrying over as well. Mr. Alessandri asked, relative to BESS, about their recommendation about a natural barrier versus a wall and the impact on fire safety as the natural barrier would be preferred. Mr. Boynton noted this and will ask Medway Grid. Mr. Crowley and Mr. Trindade noted the wall is also a sound barrier. Mr. Alessandri then asked about the timing related to the fleet replacement schedule noting the need to factor in the additional cost. Mr. Travalini stated that Needham reported the added cost of \$4,000 but they saved \$3,200 in gas in year one and they also recommended purchasing the extended warranty at a cost of \$2,500 to alleviate the burden on our fleet manager. Mr. Dietrich noted that since we are in the budgeting cycle for FY24, we may need to think about these costs now. Mr. Alessandri noted the need to also consider the life span of the vehicles relative to that of Electric Vehicle (EV) batteries when prioritizing which to initially purchase. Charlie Myers asked if Medway Grid reached out to this committee. Mr. Dietrich stated they did not. Mr. Myers reported that responses are due back from Medway Grid to intervenor questions this Thursday noting EFSB is on a fast-track schedule. February 9th is the last day for the Town to ask questions during the hearings, which would include the responses that come in this week. Mr. Crowley asked when the deadline is for Police to convert to EV. Mr. Dietrich stated July 1, 2023. Mr. Crowley asked about EVs for front line Police. Chief Kingsbury stated they could not go fully electric and would need to go hybrid for front line Police. Mr. Crowley asked for a rough number for the return on investment of putting a solar canopy in the McGovern parking lot. Mr. Fair explained how to calculate that based on the information provided in the PowerPoint slides. There was further discussion about the frequency of this committee coming before the Select Board. All questions should be forwarded to this committee so they can group and present the answers as efficiently as possible to the Board.

Report from the Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (IDE) Advisory (IDEA) Committee

The Board reviewed the PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Kerls reviewed the mission of the committee, their milestones to date, and definitions of diversity, equity, and inclusion. He noted their aha moment was the broadness of what is included in diversity, far more than race. He then reviewed their key findings noting the three categories of concern including housing, accessibility, and information sharing. Ms. Dietrich then shared the recommendations of this committee based on the identified problems. Problem one was Medway not having a resource for residents with IDE concerns. Recommendations included, (1) making this a permanent committee noting their recommended composition, (2) repeating the IDEA survey every two years possibly with the annual census mailing as a progress measurement, and (3) maintaining the IDEA community feedback form with the committee responsible for review and results sharing to relevant Town entities. Problem two was residents do not understand how the Town works and how to become involved. Recommendations included updating the Town website with a Welcome to Medway section detailing specific information to be included. Problem 3 was residents' lack of awareness of available resources. Recommendations included creation of a centralized resource page/guide on the website with the ability to search based on the type of help or service needed and a listing of key town government functions. Problem four was

the lack of resources for the increasingly diverse residents. Recommendations included language/translation services, event planning with an IDE lens, and to audit existing IDE training of employees. Ms. White asked what the specific duties of the IDEA committee would be moving forward as a permanent committee. Mr. Kerls stated to continue to serve in an advisory capacity to other Town entities, champion how to update the website, review ongoing feedback, assist with implementation of recommendations, etc. There was further discussion on the searchability of the website. Mr. Crowley asked if the funding was available would the IDEA committee work with the website designer to implement these changes. Ms. Dietrich and Mr. Kern confirmed. Mr. Crowley stated that he believes when someone has a question, they call Town Hall versus searching the website so there needs to be some education for the residents as well. Mr. Boynton stated the Town has the ability to address these four problems. He envisions that this committee could also address the disability commission that we have not been able to get anyone to volunteer for. Mr. Boynton noted the past event "Town Government 101" and his willingness to do this type of event annually. He stated the intent of having this committee and Town employees work on the last three problems noting Sandy Johnston, Communications Director, and Rich Boucher, Information Services Director, would both be on point to address the website and informational issues. The first phase relative to the website would be assessment of what we have, which does not have an associated cost, and to have Ms. Potter gather Department Heads to understand/assess where we are. He stated he felt the IDEA Committee would be the one to determine the additional language(s) for Town signage.

Action Items from Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the action items dated January 3, 2023.

This agenda item was not discussed.

Town Manager's Report

There were no items for the Board to review.

FY24 Budget Process: Mr. Boynton stated all departments have submitted their budget requests and he and Ms. Pratt have made their first pass going over them. He will be meeting with Department Heads next week for further review. He noted State aid projections have been level funded and that we have positive experience with our new health insurer. We are still \$694,000 off. There is a \$300,000 - \$400,000 increase due to increased enrollment at Tri-County and the additional \$200,000 for Medway Public Schools over and above what we did last year. He noted they are working with every department to see what can be cut.

Town Manager Out of Office: Mr. Boynton stated he will be off as follows:

- Wednesday, January 18 – Norfolk County Managers Meeting – Dedham
- Friday, January 20 – MMMA Conference – Boston
- Friday, January 27th – MA Fire Academy – Stow Deputy Fasolino CFO Grant

Mr. Boynton reviewed his lunch meeting with the Tri-County Superintendent noting the vocational schools are working on legislation relative to Proposition 2 and ½, as well as two additional pieces of legislation, one Federal and one State. The State is sitting on \$3 billion of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and there is a request that some of that be set aside for vocational school construction. There is a request that the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) program be changed so there is greater coverage for vocational school items. Mr. Crowley stated this is going to a ballot question in October and wanted to know if we will have an answer for the residents by then. Mr.

Boynton stated the legislative agenda is being filed next week but does not know how fast this will be taken up by the legislature.

Mr. Crowley moved that the Board vote to extend the meeting past 10PM. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

There was further discussion about the ARPA money relative to the Federal debt ceiling, noting the need of the State to allocate these funds so the moneys are not taken back. Mr. Boynton noted that if the vocational school legislation is passed, the Select Board as the local funding authority would need to take action. Mr. Rossi asked about the status of the new building project. Mr. Boynton stated they are submitting it to MSBA. They are targeting October for the vote noting it would be premature to go to vote before MSBA approves the project. Mr. Trindade noted the need for the Select Board to get this information out to all the residents including the importance of voting on this ballot question. There was further discussion about the potential amount Medway would need to provide should grant funding be available. Cape Cod Technical High School and Minuteman Technical High School both recently went through the MSBA process.

NEXT Select Board Meeting – Monday, February 6, 2023.

Select Board's Reports

There were no items for the Board to review.

This agenda item was not addressed.

At 10:09PM, Mr. Trindade moved to adjourn. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

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