

**Select Board Meeting  
April 16, 2024 – 7:00 PM  
Sanford Hall  
155 Village Street**

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

**Absent:** Todd Alessandri, Clerk.

**Staff Present:** Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Allison Potter, Assistant Town Manager; Peter Pelletier, Department of Public Works (DPW) Director; Cheryl Houle, Human Resources Coordinator.

**Others Present:** Eversource: Christine Cosby; David Travalini, Conservation Commission, Chair.

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

**Public Comments:** There were none.

**Introduction: Cheryl Houle, Human Resources (HR) Coordinator**

*There were no materials for the Board to review.*

Mr. Boynton introduced Cheryl Houle as the new HR Coordinator noting he has been impressed with her to date. She came from the Town of Holliston and was working in the same role there. Ms. Houle explained her background including her thirty years of HR experience, her career starting at Sun Life where she worked for ten years, her work at a dentist office for twenty years after starting her family, then Holliston for three years prior to coming to Medway. The Select Board welcomed her to her role here in Town.

**7:00PM Public Hearing: NSTAR ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY for obtaining a Grant of Location to install approximately 109± feet of conduit at PM#8293 on Flintlock Lane**

*The Board reviewed the (1) letter requesting this grant of location, (2) order for location for conduits and manholes, (3) the petition, and (4) plan.*

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board open the public hearing. Ms. White seconded. No Discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

Ms. Cosby explained the specifics relative to need for and the location of the placement of this conduit on Flintlock Lane. This is to allow for connection to a new home. It was noted that the conditions DPW puts in the permit is adhered to by Eversource. Mr. Crowley stated a resident wants to know why two new poles were put in behind these houses. Mr. Crowley will provide the resident's name so this may be investigated further. Mr. Trindade asked for public comment. Ms. Arlene Doherty of 11 Heritage Drive asked if any trees are being taken down. It was noted that this will not occur.

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board close the public hearing. Ms. White seconded. No Discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board approve the grant of location to install approximately 109± feet of conduit at PM#8293 on Flintlock Lane as discussed. Ms. White seconded. No Discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

**Discussion: Medway High School Athletics**

*There were no materials for the Board to review.*

Mr. Trindade stated that he requested that this item be added to the agenda as a lot of people have reached out to him regarding the turnover of coaches at the high school. Mr. Rossi recused himself as he was an eleven-year high school lacrosse coach. Mr. Trindade stated that the residents do not want to speak up as they fear retaliation directed toward their children. He asked if the Board would agree to send a letter to the superintendent to investigate this issue. Mr. Crowley noted the recent turnover in football, lacrosse, and hockey coaches. He stated that, as representatives of the residents of the Town, he supports a letter to the superintendent requesting an investigation of causation. It was noted that the cheerleader championship competition will be aired at the next Select Board meeting.

**Ms. White moved that the Board vote to request the development of letter to be sent to the School Committee relative to the coaching situation at Medway High School.** Discussion: Christina Oster of 10 Gray Squirrel Circle is a twenty-year Medway resident, has been on the Zoning Board of Appeals for six years, and has been a clerk for the Medway High School football and cheer boosters. She has a son who is a junior and a daughter who is a freshman. She noted that the cheerleaders won the state and New England regional cheerleading championships. She referenced the need to provide feedback in a constructive manner. Mr. Crowley asked for confirmation that the cheer coach is no longer a coach and thanked her for coming before the Board. Ms. Oster confirmed. **Mr. Crowley seconded. VOTE: 3-0-1. Mr. Rossi abstained.**

**Approval of Minutes: March 4, March 18, and April 1, 2024**

*The Board reviewed the draft minutes of March 4, March 18, and April 1, 2024.*

**Ms. White moved that the Board approve the minutes of March 4, 2024. Mr. Rossi seconded.** Discussion: Mr. Crowley asked that on page 4, line 30, that “with renovation” be added between building and would. **VOTE: 4-0-0.**

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board approve the minutes of March 18, 2024. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board approve the minutes of April 1, 2024. Ms. White seconded.** Discussion: Mr. Crowley requested that his full response relative to Mr. Alessandri’s statements be included in the minutes. **Mr. Rossi withdrew his motion.**

**Authorization to Expend Donation: Conservation Trust Fund for Habitat and Eco System Improvements - \$5,000**

*The Board reviewed the (1) memo from Bridget Graziano, and (2) authorization to expend donation form.*

Mr. Travalini explained the donation would be utilized to plant trees for habitat and eco system improvements on conservation land.

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board accept and authorize the expenditure of the donation as discussed. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

Mr. Travalini explained the proposed project as part of both conservation and energy and sustainability. He noted that the Timber Crest developer has been very professional, did what he said he would do, and offered this funding in support of this project.

**Contract Approvals:**

- **Contract with North-Eastern Tree, Inc. for the Pesticide Application Project – Not to Exceed \$25,000**
- **Contract with Kimball Sand for the Highway Materials & Services Project – Not to Exceed \$50,000**

*The Board reviewed the (1) memos from Peter Pelletier, (2) bid results, and (3) contracts.*

Mr. Pelletier stated this will be the third year that we will utilize the company for our vegetation management plan. Mr. Rossi asked how the rates work. Mr. Pelletier stated that they have not worked five days straight, which would incur the larger rate, and they help us with invasives. Mr. Rossi asked what was spent last year. Mr. Pelletier stated he believes \$10,000.

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board approve and authorize the Chair to execute the contract with North-Eastern Tree, Inc. as presented. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

Mr. Pelletier stated the Kimball contract relates to the previously approved contract with Lorusso, as their cost for sand is less.

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board approve and authorize the Chair to execute the contract with Kimball Sand as presented. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

**Discussion: Road and Sidewalk Plan**

*The Board reviewed the proposed road and sidewalk plan.*

Mr. Pelletier explained the first page was last year's work, which was very busy. He said the contractor has been great and we will need to go out to bid next year as this is their third contracted year. Mr. Rossi asked about the carryover amount not spent. Mr. Boynton explained it is both the timing of the reimbursements from Chapter 90 and conservative estimating. Mr. Pelletier further explained that we put in contingency as well as estimates for police details that we do not always need. He then reviewed what was planned for next year including Oakland Street from Main Street to Village Street, including existing sidewalks, and extension of the existing sidewalk to the Senior Center. Mr. Rossi asked about the second-year difference in budgeted and planned expenditures. Mr. Boynton stated that this is due to bandwidth noting that we try to work geographically to save funding. Mr. Boynton explained the steps involved in creating this plan. Mr. Rossi stated that our roads are phenomenal compared to our neighboring towns. Mr. Crowley explained the four sources of funding including the \$800,000 of Exelon funding for a total of over \$2 million and that in the next three to four years we may not want/need to fund this as robustly. Mr. Crowley asked about the "Fair Share Program" and why it is not included in the years further out. Mr. Boynton stated that he does not want to assume that this state funding will continue to be available. Mr. Crowley asked why the sidewalk will be added on Shaw Street. Mr. Pelletier stated that it is a safety issue as this is an active bus stop. Mr. Crowley noted that there is also a safety issue on Ellis Street since the bus fees moved out to two miles. Mr. Boynton stated that they will take a look at Ellis Street.

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board approve the five-year road plan to be placed on the Town website. Ms. White seconded. No Discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

**Discussion/Vote Recommendations: May 13, 2024, Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants**

*The Board reviewed the (1) draft May 13, 2024, Special Town Meeting Warrant, and (3) draft May 13, 2024, Annual Town Meeting Warrant.*

**Special Town Meeting Warrant**

ARTICLE 1: (Prior Year Bills)

It was noted that there are no prior year bills at this time and Mr. Boynton would like to leave this on.

ARTICLE 3: (Free Cash Transfer: Snow and Ice Deficit)

It was noted that there is no deficit in this budget line item at this time and there is \$190,000 remaining. The Board would like to leave this on and would like Mr. Boynton to explain this at Town Meeting.

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board make a motion to pass over Article 3. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

ARTICLE 7: (Repurpose Water Project Funds)

Mr. Boynton stated that we received two bids on the Oakland Street pump house with a total bid of \$1.2 million.

**Mr. Rossi moved that the Board approve Article 7. Ms. White seconded.** Discussion: Mr. Crowley asked if the \$2.7 million federal grant will be used for this. Mr. Boynton stated the grant was expended on the treatment plant construction freeing up funds for these components of the project. **VOTE: 4-0-0.**

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

ARTICLE 12: (Capital Stabilization Transfer: Memorial School Roof Replacement)

It was noted that the cost of this project is yet to be determined as the bid opens this week.

**Action Items from Previous Meeting**

*The Board reviewed the action items dated March 18, 2024.*

This agenda item was not discussed.

**Town Manager's Report**

*There were no items for the Board to review.*

Sanford Dam Study Application: Mr. Boynton stated we have made an application to the state with Franklin to explore the status of the dam. We will need to notify those living at the mill. The state will be doing a formal inspection in May or June. We have made the state aware that Medway and Franklin have no desire to own this dam. We did reach out to our legislators, as well as the Franklin Town

Manager. The dam is physically attached to the mill, so anything done needs to take that into account. He noted that we have an obligation to those who live downstream, as well as at the mill.

Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS) Rule Changes – Pilot Study Next Step: Mr. Boynton noted the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has come out with water standards allowing four parts per trillion, but their goal is zero. We are at seven. We will need to hire an Owner's Project Manager (OPM) and designer which will cost \$250,000 for the engineering work. The first step is the pilot study, and we would like to start a dialog with our current consultants. Mr. Crowley noted that we have the \$2.7 federal grant funding, \$1.2 million for the Oakland Well with \$1.5 million left, so asked if we will have enough left over or will we need to increase the water rates. Mr. Boynton stated that we may need some type of rate increase. He requested a consensus of the Board that we talk to the current consultants. The Board agreed. Mr. Rossi asked if PFAS class action litigation was truly settled. Mr. Boynton stated one or two communities in the nation still want to continue and not settle. There was further discussion about potential changes in the allowable PFAS levels.

Treatment Plant & Village Well Testing (Successful): Mr. Boynton stated we are going through testing noting the Oakland Street well was successful and are now doing Village Street. We plan to be on-line in July.

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

- Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – Doctor (AM)
- Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – Personal Day
- April 29 - May 1 - Vacation

NEXT Select Board Meeting – May 6, 2024

### **Select Board's Reports**

*There were no items for the Board to review.*

Mr. Crowley asked about status of food pantry parking. Signs are ordered but not in. He referenced the beaver dam issues causing the Maple Street flooding issue in Milford. He noted Milford must provide Medway documentation to allow the issue to be addressed, but they never provided us with the documentation. Milford called in the state and did not invite Medway to this meeting. Mr. Boynton stated that we could lose the culvert on Alder Street if these are not breached properly. This is on private property in Milford, and we have not been provided with permission to access that property.

Mr. Rossi stated the final school budget advisory meeting is on April 25<sup>th</sup> and he and Mr. Crowley will report back. They requested that Mr. Boynton attend meeting.

**At 8:38PM, Mr. Rossi moved to adjourn. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 4-0-0.**

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