

REGULAR MEETING PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE of May 28, 2019

Meeting of the Public Service Committee was held in the office of the DPW 50 Manca Drive at 4:41 pm, May 28, 2019.

Members Present: Councilor Nathan Boudreau Chairman Remotely by phone, Councilor Craig Cormier, Councilor James Boone, Administrative Assistant Denise Merriam

Attendees: Dane Arnold DPW Director, Chris Coughlin, City Engineer, Robert Oliva Assistant DPW Director, Jeff LeGros Conservation Agent

CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Nathan Boudreau called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm. Councilor Boudreau was present remotely by telephone.

OPEN MEETING RECORDING

ANNOUNCEMENT – any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the chair forthwith. All Documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to Secretary of the Committee, pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting. No one is recording the meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion to accept the minutes of the April 16, 2019 meeting as written Councilor James Boone second by Councilor Nathan Boudreau, all in favor motion carries.

ORDINANCE ISSUES

Public Service Committee reviewed each department's budgets with the Department Heads. Dane informed committee he may be back to ask for money in Water/Sewer budget just finalizing contract with employees, we are operating on old SUEZ budget may need money after all negotiations with Suez are completed. The Principal Debt Interest Inside and Out is an increase, Chemicals, Contract Operations, etc. Chris had one big discrepancy potential grant match for Wright's Reservoir (\$170,000). Also talked about the Storm Water Grant. Jeff Discussed the struggle with the Conservation Trust fund the City not putting anything back we spend \$1,200. Councilor Boone stated Jeff should ask the Mayor for funds from Free Cash.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Dane Arnold: Oak & Graham Streets have been milled and a leveler down we are working on the sidewalks, per hearing with the Mayor, we are doing both sides with concrete. Timpany Boulevard this week doing sidewalks and berm hope to pave in a week or two. Councilor Boudreau asked if the round-a-bout is dead. Dane could not get

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property from Salvadore, we will be installing new lights. Councilor Cormier so final work will be done within two weeks, Dane hopefully weather permitting. Had to go out to bid for paving existing contract expired and Mass Broken Stone won the bid for paving.

North Gardner woods all the roads are bad need to be paved it would take one million if use City money and Chapter 90 would take two years to pave. Dane we could pulverize make dirt roads. Councilor Boone have you had complaints, Dane yes. Councilor Boudreau no dirt roads. Councilor Boone is gravel an option, Dane two times a year we grade and level off. Councilor Boone if its better, Councilor Cormier ask residents.

We need to get sixty (60) water samples throughout the City from residents pipes between 1983-87 we need to offer an incentive get these samples 12 per quarter, suggest \$50 per year. We only have forty-five (45) houses, could Service Committee allow \$50 credit per year to homes that give samples. Councilor Boone asked if this was a onetime fee. Dane no Sixty 60 homes for first three (3) years and if no bad readings then go down to fifteen (15) homes. Motion made by Councilor Nathan Boudreau second by Councilor James Boone to approve payment of \$50 a year for homes doing sampling. All in favor motion passes.

Chris Coughlin: Route 2A & 68 there will not be round-a-bout only new traffic signals. Going with a Mass. Works Grant Private and Public Investment construction in 2020/21 or borrow. Councilor Boudreau Mass Works Project not in first go. August deadline for preliminary design. Councilor Boudreau does the City have any other going in, maybe Derby Drive. Chris not the same tier had room for this one. Uptown Rotary is on the TIP List is stuck on Right of Way can't prove we own all area. Working with law office to take property.

Jeff Legros: Complete streets funding out to bid in the next construction season.
Updated Committee on MVP Grant Climate Change Resiliency Program.
Tree Grant: Planted about 30 trees with volunteers Parks, Playgrounds etc.
Arbor Day: Thanks to Dane and his crew planted 6 trees.
Two solar projects: West Street at Templeton Line and Otter River Road moving forward.
Cedar Hills are being continued by applicant, sub-division issue with DEP come in front of con com for first meeting in June.

MONEY ORDERS

Dane had the following money orders:

Loan Order of \$11,000,000 for a Water Main Replacement Program. This is to replace approximately 22,000' of water mains throughout the City that date back to 1800's – 1930's. We will concentrate in the downtown area for the first year and move out from there. We plan to phase the project over 3–6 years. Last June we asked for money to do Acadia Road, Ryan St. to Clark St. Century Way, weather was bad and could not get done also Acadia Road was worse than expected had temporary lines for houses so we stopped project in late October. Got a break in the main on Main St. at City Hall Ave water went into sewer system and flooded business so we decided to take money from

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Acadia Road and to design downtown and go out to bid in June. Will have contractor come in large-scale project do phase I so we can reduce liability with downtown. Part of this request increases water rates \$5.26 go up 8% in July 2019 and increase every four years (4.5, 4.3; 4.8). Dane was asked how these rates match up to other towns, Dane every Town has different structure on fees they charge a lot up front and less quarterly. Councilor Boone asked if this needed Council approval and Dane said yes.

Sewer Department is requesting a \$1,750,000 Loan Order for two (2) Sewer Projects. 1. City Hall Ave. this would be completed while the water main project downtown is being completed. Currently there is an old 10" cast iron sewer main that runs under the Old Colonial Hotel and under several buildings in-between City Hall Ave. and Parker Street. It is never a good idea to have existing utilities under private buildings. The thought is to install a new sewer main on City Hall Ave. at same time as water main to not disrupt downtown in two separate times. (2.) Willis Road Sewer Pump Station: The City has completed a thorough inspection of the 30 +year old existing Sewer Pump Station. Based on the inspection the City hired a design engineer to develop a set of bid documents, plans and specifications that is ready to be sent out to bid. Our thought is to bid this out over the winter for spring construction. We already put in a new force main going from pump station to the prison.

Requesting \$93,908 from Sewer Surplus for the first payment on the \$2.5 million loan repayment. As you are aware, this is a twenty (20) year loan repayment that the costs are being shared between the City, Water Department and Sewer Department, for the construction of the DPW/City Engineer Administration Building, Cold Storage Building and remodeling the existing Municipal Garage. (Principal Outside \$78,204 and Interest Outside \$15,704).

Requesting \$93,908 from available Water Surplus for the first payment on the \$2.5 million loan repayment (Principal Outside \$78,204 and Interest Outside \$15,704).

Requesting \$125,000 from Sewer Surplus to Repairs to Mains for the paving of Willis Road where we replaced the 1,200' sewer force main.

REPORTS & REQUESTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councilor Boudreau: How easy is it to get a jersey barrier at the VFW someone broke part of the new fence cars are driving on walk afraid children will get hit? Dane will look at area.

Councilor James Boone: Asked when the Pleasant St. Bridge was going to start, Chris the preconstruction meeting was June/July after than can start anytime.

Motion made by Councilor James Boone second by Councilor Nathan Boudreau to adjourn meeting at 5:34 pm. All in favor motion passes.

Next meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

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All documents submitted at this meeting are stored in the office of the DPW 50 Manca Drive for any review.

Minutes approved at the July 29, 2019 meeting