

TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE

A JOINT MEETING OF THE D.P.W. SUBCOMMITTEE and TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 6:00 PM VETERANS ROOM

Meeting Minutes

1 Call to Order

2 Roll Call - Subcommittee Members Councilors Mike Marketti (Chair), and Gus Steeves, Citizen Member Kevin Splaine. Also in attendance Councilor Dave Adams, DPW Director Heather Blakeley, Residents George Chenier and Maureen Doyle

3 Consider and approve Joint DPW/Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2022. Councilor Steeves noted Stantec was spelled incorrectly. Motion to accept minutes as corrected made by Kevin Splaine and seconded by Councilor Steeves. Vote 3-0

4 Citizens Forum – George Chenier noted he posted information on Facebook regarding trash piling up on Ash Street to High Street and Main Street. George stated the Board of Health has not been responsive to citizens requests and the Board members have been feeling intimidated citizens. George also mentioned West Street Field having a large hole at third base. Having no response from Heather, George received email from Town Manager. Heather noted the field was too wet for the equipment so had to wait for it to dry out. George stated he and other parents of Little Leaguers took to cleaning the field. Although she indicated she did not go there she asked the Recreation Director to be more proactive.

5 Discuss and recommend to Council approval of Change Order #1 Wastewater Treatment Facility-Conveyor Upgrades Project with the Contractor Scherbon Consolidated, Inc. for a time extension to the contract for 84 days as a result of manufactures delays of the conveyor equipment. There is no cost increase for this change order.

Discussion: DPW Director Heather Blakeley stated the contractor has now requested approval of the change order as needed materials had slowed and due to Covid, shipping. Councilor Steeves asked if the materials have now been shipped and Heather confirmed they had which is why they are moving ahead now with the Change Order. Motion made by Kevin Splaine and seconded by Councilor Steeves. Vote 3-0

6 Discuss the deterioration condition of the road and sidewalk at the intersection of Benefit Street and Lens Street. DPW Director Heather Blakeley confirmed the owner has called multiple times. The weather has played a factor in the ability to fill the pot hole which is too deep and keeps being washed away by rain. The DPW has been prepping the sidewalk. The tree is not town owned. Councilor Steeves questioned the status of the hydrant at that location and was told it is fine and not moving. The Water Department confirmed the hydrant is fine. As for the delay in paving in town the company in Charlton has been closed due to weather conditions (rain and cold conditions). They should be open and ready by next week per Heather. The pothole will be fixed but Heather noted the sidewalk is raised due to tree roots and confirmed again the tree is not town owned.

7 Update on Road Improvement Program including Main street walk-through. DPW Director Heather Blakeley will advise councilors of date and time for walk-through. Heather stated she had it swept and is ready for walk through. Kevin Splaine requested the pothole at Central and Main be filled. Heather

confirmed she would have Lynch review would include Everett Street. Heather also explained we are still negotiating with Lynch. Heather said Lynch would most likely agree the area from Pine Street to Everett Street needs to be reground and the asphalt problem needs to be rectified. Heather stated that Lynch will either come back with an alternate offer or agree the road needs to be redone. Heather confirmed to Kevin Splaine that the Town is required to go to Lynch for repairs. Councilor Steeves and Kevin Splaine discussed with Heather various streets and different sealants. Kevin asked for update on South Street. Heather confirmed West Street is out to bid Bidding has been extended and a review shows it will take 36 weeks (brings to Christmas) and then extended to next June. Heather stated can still do sewer and drainage work. Kevin asked about PVC pipe and questioned if we can use as it is very hard to get. Heather stated she previously pulled pipe out of Charlton due to contamination. Heather stated we will wait for bids for West Street which have already been submitted. Heather has a meeting on the South Street project. Per last meeting she stated are still on track. Mike and Heather discussed roads program this year versus last year.

8. Discussion about felled trees on Morris Street and removal plans. Councilor Marketti asked about trees on Morris Street. DPW Director Heather Blakeley stated she thought they had been removed and will follow up with DPW workers and Heather will follow up tomorrow.

9. Discussion of possible removal of trees at Oak Ridge Cemetery. DPW Director Heather Blakeley indicated she reviewed and calculates it would take approximately \$12,000 to remove the trees in questions. She indicates the DPW does not have \$12,000 to remove trees. Heather confirmed one lot sells for \$600.00. Heather did confirm she would send out for bid.

10. Adjourn at 6:58 PM. Motion made by Kevin Splaine and seconded by Councilor Steeves.
Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by Subcommittee Chair Councilor Marketti.