

A JOINT MEETING OF THE D.P.W. SUBCOMMITTEE and TOWN COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, May 3, 2022 at 600 PM
VETERANS ROOM
Minutes

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call: Subcommittee members in attendance, Councilor Mike Marketti (Chair), Councilor Gus Steeves, Citizen members Kevin Splaine and Steve Lazo. Absent: Councilor Joe Daou. Also in attendance, DPW Director Heather Blakeley, Town Manager Michael McCall, Steve Gregoire (Water Dept), Council Chair John Daniel, Council Vice Chair Dave Adams, Citizens Derek Julian (PPP subcommittee), George Chenier, Korey Chenier.
3. Consider and approve Joint DPW/Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2022. Lazo first, Splaine second vote 4-0.
4. Citizens Forum –None
5. Discuss award for West Street Infrastructure Improvements Project for \$3,108, 577 to Ludlow Construction. Project to be funded from Water, Sewer, CDBG and Chapter 90. Entertain a motion to recommend to Council for approval to enter into a contract with Ludlow Construction for \$3,108,577 and allow the Town Manager to sign associated contract documents once completed. (Engineer bid summary and recommendation will be provided via email prior to meeting and copies provided at meeting).
Discussion: Heather confirmed the Town received four bids and Ludlow Construction offered a good price and was also supported by Tighe and Bond. Heather stated the work with minimum change orders. There is sufficient funds to start the project. A question regarding why we are ordering materials now when work will be done in June of 2023. The availability of materials would be a factor. Also a question of using plastic pipes which could save money was discussed and Heather stated Town has little experience with plastic pipe while iron pipes have proven to be most durable. Entertain a motion to recommend to Council for approval. Splaine first Lazo second. Vote 4-0.
6. Discuss award for Engineering Design Services for Crane and River Street. Three bids were received on 4/27/2022 and copies have been provided. A detail analysis is being completed and will be provided prior to meeting with a recommendation. Entertain a motion to recommend to council for approval of selected Engineer.
Discussion: Heather stated she sent out for 4 bids and VBS was chosen as Engineer. Discussion followed regarding the need for oversight (full time vs. part time). Heather stated she will need to consult with VBS with regards to oversight options as she indicated the Town does not have to bid out for oversight so we are not breaking any procurement laws. As this is a CDGB project there is oversight built in. A motion was made to pay VBS \$255,000 for Engineering Design and oversight. Splaine first Lazo second. Vote 4-0.

7. Discuss approval for using excess funds in the DPW Salary and Wage Account 01499-511000 to hire for the new position of Maintenance Man/Equipment Operator included in the FY23 budget. The cost to fund the new employee from May 16 to the end of June, would be \$6,687 (7 weeks) based on the current Union contract. There is a candidate with a Class A license and 2B hydraulics license to fill the position immediately. Entertain a motion to recommend to Council for approval.

Discussion: Discussion indicated it is possible, due to budgetary constraints, the hiring of this individual is contingent on the passing of the FY23 budget. A friendly amendment was made to change the starting date from May 16 to May 24. Motion made by Lazo seconded by Splaine. Vote 3-1.

8. Discuss IMA payment to Town of Charlton for FY21 of \$123,208.34 from Water account 610450.569300 Town of Charlton IMA Payment as required by the Charlton IMA. Entertain a motion to recommend to Council for approval.

Discussion: Heather explained this is surplus funds from increased usage from Charlton, a section of Southbridge and increased usage from Masonic Home. Motion made by Lazo and seconded by Splaine. Vote 4-0

9. Discuss transfer from Water Retained Earnings Account to 610450.569300 to Town of Charlton IMA Payment for \$123,208.34 to pay the FY21 IMA fee. Entertain a motion to recommend to Council for approval. Motion made by Splaine seconded by Lazo. Vote 4-0

10. Discuss Change Order No 2 South Street Transmission Main Improvements and Road Reconstruction Project with Ludlow Construction for a time extension only as a result of delay for pipe and water main materials due to manufacture delay issues associated with COVID. There is no cost increase associated with this change order. Entertain a motion to recommend to Council for approval.

Discussion: Heather confirmed there has been delays on this project since Day 1. Project runs from the Southbridge Town Line to Westville. Motion made by Lazo seconded by Steeves. Vote 4-0.

11. Discuss Road Improvement list and possibly vote to recommend Council approve roadway projects for this year.

Discussion: Heather had a list of roads to be completed this year. They include Ellis Road and Torrey Road. North and Mechanic with mill and overlay, Moon and Coombs Streets. Durfee, Eastford and Elm were discussed and Heather confirmed at the intersection of Coombs and Main the large opening will be repaired.

12. Discuss Main Street Walk-through. Heather confirmed scheduled for 1 pm tomorrow.

12. Adjourn Motion made by Splaine and seconded by Lazo. Vote 4-0.

Respectfully submitted by Subcommittee Chair Councilor Marketti.