

**TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022**

Draft

A meeting of the Southbridge Town Council was held on Monday, June 6, in the Council Chambers. Council Chair Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

AGENDA ITEM #1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Council Chair Daniel led the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM #2. ROLL CALL. Present: Daniel, Daou (tardy), Jovan, Lazo, Marketti, Steeves, Ryan. Absent: Cotrona. (8)

AGENDA ITEM #3. CONSIDER AND ACCEPT THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, MONDAY, MAY 23. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item as amended. There were several edits for spelling and vote counts. Vote by a show of hands, By 6-0-1 the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS (relevant minutes to be read at each agenda item).

a. GENERAL GOVERNMENT. Subcommittee Chair Ryan summarized a meeting that resulted in several items on tonight's agenda.

b. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS. Subcommittee Chair Marketti postponed a meeting due to a personal matter, but there is one item on tonight's agenda that was moved forward due to timing.

c. EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES. Subcommittee Chair Jovan summarized a recent meeting and noted that Councilor Cotrona was absent without notice. The meeting resulted in several items on tonight's agenda.

d. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. Subcommittee Chair Adams summarized a meeting that resulted in several items on tonight's agenda and he will also speak on the ARPA items and the Town Manager's evaluation tool.

e. PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY. Subcommittee Chair Lazo has an upcoming meeting on 6/8.

AGENDA ITEM #5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- Attended the Southbridge high school class of 2022 graduation and congratulated them on their success
- Citizens interested in serving on subcommittees are encouraged to apply
- 6/14- Local Election Day at the community center

AGENDA ITEM #6. TOWN MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- 6/25- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day at Casella

- The Town Manager's office will be putting together an up-to-date list of vacant board/commission vacancies
- Attended the annual MMA workshop last week

AGENDA ITEM #7. PRESENTATIONS

A. VETERANS COUNCIL OF SOUTHBRIDGE INITIATIVE BRIEF (DAVE ADAMS)

Veterans Council Chair Dave Adams updated everyone with his 6-month brief

- They are in the final design phase of the Dresser park
- They continue to brief private organizations, businesses, and non-profits on their projects and continue to receive support from the community
- They received two new monument requests for them to take in, one of which is the Polish American Monument and the other is a Jewish WWII plaque that has been safeguarded by an individual for a multitude of years. They will find a home for these plaques and monuments in town and are happy to have them
- They do not provide donor names unless the organization has asked them to do so, anyone who would like to see donor names that are available can check their website
- \$47,000-\$48,000 have been raised
- Council Chair Daniel thanked Councilor Adams for all the work the committee does

B. MVP CONSULTANTS PRESENTATION

- Town Planner Eric Rumsey and Mary-Kate from Beals + Thomas provided insight on the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program
- As an MVP provider, she's been trained by the State to work with municipalities to facilitate several months of workshops and report writing
- There were two workshops made up of a broad range of community members to help them plan their actions to reduce risks and build resilience based on what they determined to be the top hazards based in Southbridge.
 - Climate/ Weather/ Natural hazards determined by the workshops: Extreme heat, drought wildfire, inland flooding, erosion caused by extreme precipitation, winter weather and extreme cold, tornadoes and high winds
- Climate change projections indicate increased temperatures, precipitation, and drought
- Priorities:
 - Evaluate the capacity of drainage infrastructure at roadways and improve capacitor equipment and prioritize improvement or replacement
 - evaluate the capacity and condition of culverts bridges, and underground streams and prioritize improvement or replacement
 - Evaluate moratorium on ground-mounted solar arrays that involve significant land clearing, and revise solar bylaw to better protect against erosion

- Facilitate additional tree plantings through Opacum Land Trust’s Thousand Tree Initiative and enhance communication and participation in the program
- Facilitate acquisition of farmland and investigate additional protections for privately owned forested and underdeveloped land
- Next steps:
 - Provide the draft summary of findings report to the public
 - Incorporate feedback into their final report within the next few weeks
 - Once the paperwork is submitted, the Town will become eligible to apply for MVP action grants
 - Project categories include:
 - Planning, assessments, and regulatory updates
 - Nature-based solutions for ecological and public health
 - resilient redesigns and retrofits for critical facilities infrastructure
 - The next round of funding will be available in Spring 2023

C. TOWN MANAGER’S YEAR IN REVIEW PRESENTATION- This item will be included in item 35.

AGENDA ITEM #8. CITIZENS FORUM. Maureen Doyle of 771 Lebanon Hill Road is a limited participant in the LNG construction going on on Worcester Street, therefore if there are any issues about the blasting that is occurring they can let her know and she will relay the information to the appropriate channels. Ms. Doyle can be reached at 508-764-8062.

9. VOTE TO APPROVE A CONTRACT FINANCIAL ANALYST/AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) ADMINISTRATOR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$135,000.00 PAID OVER A 2.5-YEAR PERIOD THROUGH LOCAL ARPA FUNDS. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Steeves to vote on this item. Councilor Adams said there are various motions on tonight’s agenda brought forward by the ad hoc committee. They were all voted on unanimously to send to the Town Council for their consideration. Ms. Harnois is looking for someone to help oversee the recovery, disbursement, and planning of ARPA funds in Town. The position would be funded by ARPA and would not be expected to continue after the funding has been exhausted. This person would also be able to assist with some of the items that have fallen behind due to Covid and they will assist the town in staying compliant with rules and regulations. He noted that the next ARPA items would be handled by this position. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carried.

Amendment: Update the motion to say “up to \$135,000.00. A motion was made by Councilor Marketti, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands, by 8-0 the amendment carries. Vote on the item by a show of hands, by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #10. VOTE TO APPROVE PROVIDING THE UNITED WAY OF SOUTH CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS WITH UP TO \$150,000.00, PAID THROUGH LOCAL ARPA FUNDS TO ADMINISTRATIVELY SUPPORT SOUTHBRIDGE PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT STRICTLY SOUTHBRIDGE RESIDENTS SUCH AS

OPEN SKY, ST. LUKE’S HOUSE AND CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN’S ARPA ADMINISTRATOR. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Councilor Adams thanked Councilor Marketti for bringing these needs to his attention and doing extensive research. Ultimately this item would help provide assistance to those in town who are in need of assistance with housing, bills, and other types of services that can be housed under this funding. Since United Way already does this kind of work and excels at it, it felt like the most logical choice. Several Councilors support this item and thanked United Way for all of the work they’ve done and continue to do for the community. Councilor Adams also thanked Councilor Steeves and Town Manager McCall for their support and advice throughout this process. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #11. VOTE TO APPROVE PROVIDING THE TRI-VALLEY YMCA WITH UP TO \$50,000.00, PAID THROUGH LOCAL ARPA FUNDS TO ADMINISTER THE “WHAT’S FOR DINNER” PROGRAM WHICH WILL BE STRICTLY USED FOR SOUTHBRIDGE RESIDENTS AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN’S ARPA ADMINISTRATOR. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Councilor Jovan recused himself from this item and the following since he serves on the YMCA’s board. Councilor Adams summarized this program and says the YMCA currently provides free meal kits to the community on a weekly basis. This program started out to bring family conversation back to the dinner table and to give families the space to spend quality time with a home-cooked meal and has grown tremendously over time. This program is so successful that it needs extra support, which this item will help provide. A representative from the program shared some projections and said they are very fortunate that United Way helps support their program and Big Bunny helps reduce their costs to provide meals to these families and to help address food in security. Vote by show of hands: by 7-0 the motion carries with Councilor Jovan recusing himself.

AGENDA ITEM #12. VOTE TO APPROVE PROVIDING THE TRI-COMMUNITY YMCA WITH UP TO \$50,000.00, PAID THROUGH LOCAL ARPA FUNDS TO ADMINISTER THE “TEEN CENTER/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT” PROGRAM WHICH WILL BE STRICTLY USED FOR SOUTHBRIDGE RESIDENTS AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN’S ARPA ADMINISTRATOR.

A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Councilor Adams explained this program that helps the youth and provides a safe space for them to socialize, learn, and develop life skills. Councilor Lazo thanked all those involved with these programs and was grateful for the work Councilors Adams and Marketti do to make sure the needs of the community are met through these funds. Vote by show of hands: by 7-0 the motion carries, with Councilor Jovan recusing himself.

AGENDA ITEM #13. VOTE TO APPROVE PROVIDING THE TRUSTEES SOLDIERS, SAILORS, MARINES AND AIRMEN MEMORIALS BOARD WITH UP TO \$15,000.00

MATCHING FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR 2023 STATE HISTORIC RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD (SHRAB) VETERANS HERITAGE GRANT APPLICATION WHICH DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN'S ARPA ADMINISTRATOR.

A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Councilor Adams noted that the following two items are a little bit different from the previous three. He said that 1995 was the last time the Town Council approved any funding to help clean up any of the monuments in the community. Since the Trustees are responsible for the upkeep of these monuments, they need to be able to have the funds to do so. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #14. VOTE TO APPROVE PROVIDING THE TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE WITH UP TO \$4,500.00 FOR PUBLIC RECORDS SOFTWARE APPLICATION WHICH DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE TOWN'S ARPA ADMINISTRATOR.

A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Councilor Adams explained that this software would help the Town Manager's office with efficiencies for these records since it can be utilized online, tracked, recorded, and allows for a better user experience for those inquiring. This allows them to move their dated processes into this century. Several Councilors thanked Councilor Adams for all of his work to move these items forward and to better the community. The next ARPA meeting will be on 6/13 and they will continue to bring items forward. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #15. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE FOLLOWING TOWN MANAGER RECOMMENDED REAPPOINTMENTS AS LISTED IN THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT.

A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. The appointments were not included in the item but they were read off, which led to some confusion on how to vote accordingly. Councilor Ryan recommended holding the items they oppose and removing them from the vote. Those that were removed from this vote will be added to the agenda as items 15a-e. Vote by show of hands on the current list with a hold on the Agricultural Commission, Board of Health, Regional Planning Commission, Conservation Commission, and Planning Board: by 8-0 the motion carries.

15a. Agricultural Commission: Maureen Doyle. by 7-0-1 the motion carries with Councilor Steeves abstaining.

15b. Board of Health: Elizabeth Stephens. Councilor Adams and Councilor Lazo shared several concerns they have with this individual and will not support this appointment. They noted several examples where this person did not have the best interest of the town in mind, lacked leadership and public interest during the pandemic, didn't post meetings properly, and conducted herself in an unprofessional manner. Many of the opposing Councilors regularly support citizen members and don't favor voting against citizen involvement but felt they needed to do so on this particular item since this position is one of great responsibility for the Town. Vote by roll call: Councilors in favor: 0, Councilors opposed: Adams, Daniel, Daou, Jovan, Lazo, Marketti, Ryan Steeves. The motion fails by 8-0.

15c. Mass Regional Planning Board: Dave Adams. Vote by show of hands, by 7-0-1 the motion carries with Adams abstaining.

15d Conservation Commission: Maureen Doyle. Vote by show of hands, by 7-0-1 the motion carries with Steeves abstaining.

15e. Planning Board: Corey Bellrose. Vote by show of hands, by 7-0-1 the motion carries with Ryan abstaining.

AGENDA ITEM #16. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT ROBERT G. CAPRERA, ESQUIRE, ATTORNEY AT LAW, AS SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Mr. Pelletier said Mr. Caprera would represent them anytime they have a case that goes to court because he is not allowed to represent the town due to a change in procedure. Mr. Pelletier said they have a lot of cases being tied up because they need a lawyer for the near future. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #17. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION TO REAPPOINT KAREN HARNOIS AS THE ACCOUNTANT/FINANCE DIRECTOR FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE AUGUST 24, 2022 THROUGH AUGUST 24, 2027, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Several Councilors commended Ms. Harnois on her work ethic and the way she goes about supporting the Town's finances with such efficiency. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #18. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT MATTHEW DESJARDIN AS INTERIM/ACTING DPW DIRECTOR UNTIL SUCH TIME A FULL-TIME DPW DIRECTOR IS HIRED. A motion was made by Councilor Jovan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Town Manager McCall noted that part of Mr. Desjardin's job description indicates that he would act as the DPW director in the absence of one. He spoke highly of Mr. Desjardin and believes it is an important move at this time since they need someone sitting in that position in the interim with all of the projects they have going on. Councilor Lazo asked what they anticipated the term would be. Town Manager McCall is open to defining the term more, he left it open-ended so that it would cover the duration of the hiring process since historically it has taken a significant amount of time. There are 312 postings this month alone on the MMA website for municipal positions, so it's a difficult time to recruit quality candidates right now for a lot of these vacant positions. He noted that the MMA training highlighted that individuals are more reluctant to take positions post covid. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #19. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT JOANNE SAVIGNAC AS INTERIM/ACTING TREASURER/COLLECTOR FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 6 MONTHS. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item.

Amendment: Add and allow the town manager to sign all related documents to the end of the item. A motion was made by Councilor Adams, seconded by Councilor Marketti to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands on the amendment: by 8-0 the motion carries. Vote by show of hands on the main motion: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #20. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION TO REAPPOINT ANNA SMITH AS THE LANDFILL MONITOR FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING. A motion was made by Councilor Jovan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Councilor Jovan said the committee was curious why this was a three-year appointment, Town Manager McCall explained that in the past the appointment has been year to year and they'd be happy with that. They wanted to make the date closer to the closure of the landfill so they recommend a year to year or a two- years.

Amendment: update the term to be a 1-year term. Vote on the amendment by show of hands, by 7-1 the motion carries with Marketti opposing. Vote by show of hands on the main motion: by 7-1 the motion carries with Marketti opposing.

AGENDA ITEM #21. VOTE TO CONFIRM THE TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION TO REAPPOINT EVELYN RIVERA AS THE MUNICIPAL HEARING OFFICER FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023, STATE ETHICS IN GOOD STANDING. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands: by 7-1, the motion carries with Jovan opposing.

AGENDA ITEM #22. VOTE TO RATIFY THE AGREEMENT WITH MARK CARRON, EMPLOYEE OF CAPITAL ASSOCIATES, INC., AS THE ONLY PROPOSER, TO FILL A ONE-YEAR CONTRACTED POSITION AS REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONTINGENT ON BACKGROUND CHECK AND ETHICS TRAINING AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. CDBG Coordinator Peg Dean spoke highly of Mr. Carron and outlined what this role would entail. She noted that she's gotten a lot of positive feedback on Mr. Carron from the community and highlighted some of his notable experiences. Councilor Adams said the Town Council voted on this position last August and noted that it is crucial to the Town. Several Councilors support this item and look forward to seeing Mr. Carron thrive in this position. Mr. Carron is excited to re-energize the downtown core and wants to make sure that economic success and businesses can be cultivated. It's his belief that they are about to experience a local

renaissance of sorts and he looks forward to being a part of it. Vote by roll call, Councilors in favor: Daniel, Daou. Jovan, Lazo, Marketti, Steeves, Ryan. By 8-0 the motion carries.

23. VOTE TO RATIFY THE AGREEMENT WITH MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MASSDOT) FOR SHARED STREETS FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,544.00 TO PURCHASE SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT ON PEDESTRIAN WAYS AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Ms. Dean said the quote they originally got is older, therefore the new quote is higher at \$52,200.00 so they will need to go out to bid, but she will need to come back to Council for additional funds. She said they have some funds left over from the Central Street project that they can look to use when that time comes. Councilor Jovan thanked Ms. Dean for her consistent grant work. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #24. VOTE TO APPROVE APPLYING FOR THE PARKLAND ACQUISITIONS AND RENOVATIONS FOR COMMUNITIES (PARC) GRANT PROGRAM TO ACQUIRE 76 CENTRAL STREET AND CONSTRUCT A POCKET PARK TO BE REIMBURSED UP TO \$175,000.00 OR 70%, CONSISTENT WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS. A motion was made by Councilor Jovan, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Councilor Adams noted that \$75,000.00 would come from the miscellaneous CDBG funds, therefore the entire cost would be funded through these two mechanisms. Councilor Marketti would like to see more funds spent on improving other parks in the community and doesn't understand the rush on this particular item. He's concerned with the way they disperse funding to the parks in town since some seem to get more funding than others. Councilor Steeves believes an executive session should be set up to discuss this item further since they can't get into the appraisal publicly. Ms. Dean reminded the Council that they are following the urban renewal plan which is strategically mapped out by those who work on it closely. the reason this item is being brought to the Council now is that there can be delays with this kind of grant funding, this can be lined up with the TIP project, and they may be getting the best possible funding if they act now.

Motion: Postpone this item subject to executive session discussion. A motion was made by Councilor Steeves, seconded by Councilor Lazo. The motion and second were withdrawn so that other Councilors could continue to provide their feedback on this item. Councilor Jovan understands Councilor Marketi's points on other local parks. He noted that some of the fields in town are not controlled by them, since the school is responsible for them, but he did agree that Morris Street is part of the Town's purview and they should create an ad hoc committee to address the needs and vision for that park. Councilor Adams reassured them that Morris Street is still on their radar and they are looking for ways to address the issues that Councilor Marketti has brought to their attention. Councilor Daou believes they have entrusted Ms. Dean with this responsibility, yet they continue to delay moving forward with the Rail Trail every time she moves forward. Ms. Dean asked if holding off for two weeks would impact their ability to apply

for the grant, she indicated that it would not and she would be reluctant to continue with the full application if they did not want to greenlight this project.

The motion to postpone this item subject to executive session discussion on 6/27 was put back on the table by Councilor Steeves, seconded by Councilor Adams. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #25. VOTE TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY CENTER TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$130.45 FROM ACCOUNT #001549- 543000 M&I BUILDING TO ACCOUNT #001549-523000 WATER/SEWER TO COVER WATER/SEWER

ACCOUNT AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN THE DOCUMENT. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #26. VOTE TO APPROVE THE TOWN MANAGER’S TRANSFER REQUEST OF \$50.57 FROM ACCOUNT #001123- 530000 SPECIALIZED SERVICES TO ACCOUNT #001123-578000 MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE TO COVER

DEPARTMENT HEAD LUNCH 5/19/2022 AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN THE DOCUMENT. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Town Manager McCall said this was one of their first big in-person meetings and they wanted to show their appreciation and provide coffee, donuts, and treats for this meeting. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #27. VOTE TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$82,500.00 FROM PRINCIPAL ON LONG-TERM DEBT #001710.591000 TO INTEREST ON LONG-TERM DEBT #001710.591500 TO COVER THE FINAL DEBT PAYMENTS FOR FY

2022 AND ALLOW THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN THE DOCUMENT. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #28. ORDERED: THAT THE AUTHORIZED, UNUSED BALANCES OF LOAN ORDERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL ARE HEREBY RESCINDED:

AMOUNT	PURPOSE	DATE OF PASSAGE	
	SEWER GENERATOR TRANSFER SWITCH	JUNE 15, 2015	\$225,000.00
	WATER ENGINEERING LOW STORAGE TANK	JUNE 15, 2015	\$350,000.00
	CONSTRUCTION OF BIO-TOWER SYSTEM	JUNE 20, 2016	\$1,910,900.00
\$6,000,000.00	TOWN OF CHARLTON WATER MAINS	MAY 1, 2017	
	ELECTRICAL UPGRADES AT WWTP	JUNE 25, 2018	\$99.00
	MAIN ST. WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT	MAY 28, 2020	\$1,000,000.00

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED

A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. These are loan authorizations they no longer need in place and they can now free these up. Vote by roll

call, Councilors in favor: Daniel, Daou. Jovan, Lazo, Marketti, Steeves, Ryan. By 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #29. VOTE TO APPROPRIATE \$139,148.38 FREE CASH TO THE STABILIZATION FUND #0840. A motion was made by Councilor Jovan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #30. VOTE TO APPROPRIATE \$350,000.00 FROM FREE CASH TO THE OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) TRUST FUND PROJECT #83600. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Councilor Steeves will not support this due to his consistent opposition of OPEB and he'd prefer to see this money put towards current needs. Town Manager McCall said this area needs to be funded regularly for future plans because it impacts their bond rating. Councilor Jovan understands the impact of unfunded liabilities, but he says this is a prime example of outside agencies forcing them to spend a certain way. He also noted that this issue is not exclusive to Southbridge, there are many communities struggling with the same issues. Town Manager McCall said there is no minimum they have to put in on this like there is with retirement, which is why so many communities underfund this. Vote by show of hands: by 6-2, the motion carries with Lazo and Steeves opposing.

AGENDA ITEM #31. VOTE TO APPROPRIATE \$30,637.62 FROM FREE CASH TO THE DPW POLLUTION ABATEMENT PROJECT #0335 TO FUND AMENDMENT #17 WITH GANNETT FLEMING FOR ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Steeves to vote on this item. Councilor Marketti asked when they were going to clean this up since they continue to spend on this item. Councilor Steeves said the reason they continue to do this is that there continue to be changed to the capping proposal at the State and Federal levels that drag this issue out. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #32. VOTE TO APPROPRIATE \$422,884.66 FROM WATER RETAINED EARNINGS TO THE WATER STABILIZATION FUND #0845. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Town Manager McCall said the amount needs to be adjusted, therefore they'd ask to postpone this. Motion to postpone this item until 6/27. A motion was made by Councilor Adams, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands: by 8-0 the motion carries.

AGENDA ITEM #33. AMENDMENTS TO SOUTHBRIDGE ZONING MAP TO CHANGE THE FOLLOWING

- A. CHANGING 333 EAST MAIN STREET THROUGH 505 EAST MAIN STREET FROM MANUFACTURING TO GENERAL BUSINESS.**
- B. CHANGING 1, 6, AND 28 SANDERDALE ROAD AND MAP 44, LOT 17 FROM MANUFACTURING TO GENERAL BUSINESS.**
- C. CHANGING 23, 27, 31, AND 35 GOLF STREET FROM MANUFACTURING TO R2.**

- D. CHANGING 39 OLD WOOD STOCK ROAD FROM MANUFACTURING TO R2.**
- E. CHANGING 70, 78 JENNISON STREET FROM OFFICE RESEARCH TO R2.**
- F. CHANGING MAP 44, LOT 29, AND 37 (KINGSLEY STREET) FROM OFFICE RESEARCH TO R2.**
- G. CHANGING 72 DOUTY STREET, AND MAP 44, LOTS 47, 55, AND 56 (DOUTY STREET) FROM OFFICE RESEARCH TO MANUFACTURING.**
- H. CHANGING 66, 73, 94, 105, 121, 126, 134, AND 234 ASHLAND AVENUE FROM OFFICE RESEARCH TO MANUFACTURING.**

FIRST READING 05/09/2022
SECOND READING 05/23/2022
THIRD READING 06/06/2022

Motion: **UPDATE C. CHANGING 23, 27, 31, AND 35 GOLF STREET FROM MANUFACTURING TO GENERAL BUSINESS.** A motion was made by Councilor Steeves, seconded by Councilor Lazo. Mr. Rumsey noted that the Church plans to make numerous changes to that building to use it for their needs, which include removing the loading document. Councilor Steeves is concerned with rezoning this in case the Church no longer uses this one day and then it is zoned for residential and can't be used for business because it cannot change back. Several Councilors don't support this amendment. Councilor Jovan understands the thought process behind this decision and went for a ride to view the area in question, but he believes the property in question should be left as manufacturing despite being part of a residential area. Councilor Lazo withdrew his second on the amendment. There was no second for the motion, therefore the amendment did not advance.

Motion to eliminate item C. A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Marketti. Vote by a show of hands: by 7-1, the amendment passes with Councilor Ryan opposing.

AGENDA ITEM #34. VOTE TO ACCEPT THE AMENDMENTS TO SOUTHBRIDGE ZONING MAP. A motion was made by Councilor Daou, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by roll call, Councilors in favor: Daniel, Daou. Jovan, Lazo, Marketti, Steeves, Ryan. By 8-0 the motion passes.

AGENDA ITEM #35. DISCUSS/REVIEW THE TOWN MANAGERS PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND GOALS AND OBJECTIVES SCORING PACKET.

Councilor Adams reviewed the changes to the Town Manager evaluation tool which included updates from the ICMA guidelines for these evaluations. There were changes to the notes listed and the number system to include a score of 1-5. Councilors will need to provide a hard copy to the HR department by 6/17. Prior to completing the evaluation, it is recommended that members of the Council set up a time to chat with the Town Manager.

Motion to accept the Town Manager's Performance Evaluation Goals and Objectives. A motion was made by Councilor Jovan, seconded by Councilor Lazo to vote on this item. Vote by roll call, by 8-0 the motion carries

TOWN MANAGER’S YEAR IN REVIEW PRESENTATION- Town Manager McCall provided an overview of the work that’s been accomplished this past year to accomplish and/ or move along the goals and objectives that were outlined by the Council

- Personnel/ financial-
 - hired an HR director/ Assistant Town Manager & HR benefits coordinator
 - That department is working diligently to address several concerns
- Communications
 - The new website went live and has translation capabilities
 - They’re working to create social media accounts to work on push technology
- Infrastructure. Asset Management
 - Develop a strategy and implementation plan for the curbside collection program- there have been several presentations done on this and they continue to work on this timeline and data to be able to put a question on the ballot next year
 - Working to develop and present a stormwater plan
 - Provide an analysis of the town facilities study- they continue to outline a plan that includes creating a capital planning committee
 - provide an analysis for the building and grounds management study- this is challenging to implement while they are still under receivership, but they are working on a salary study and exploring the integration of job functions and responsibilities as well as collective bargaining
 - Provide analysis on the school facilities study- they are pursuing the MSBA funds
- In addition to working on those goals, he is also regularly responsible for management & oversight, human resources updates and restructuring, working on legislative regulations, procurement, information technology, ongoing legal matters, participation in several programs, briefings, training, and committees.

AGENDA ITEM #36. COUNCILORS FORUM

- Councilor Ryan reminded people to vote next Tuesday and encouraged people to watch the forum on youtube to learn more about the candidates
- Councilor Lazo
 - Thanked Councilor Adams for organizing the Memorial Day parade
 - The church on Ellis Road thanked Councilor Marketti for his work to help get the road resurfaced
- Councilor Jovan
 - Was unable to attend the Memorial Day parade this year, but commended all those involved
 - He congratulated the Southbridge High School graduates
 - Thanked all those running for Town Council and understands what a tremendous amount of commitment it takes to be on the Council. He encouraged members of the community to get out and vote
- Councilor Steeves
 - Attended graduation and congratulated the class of 2022
 - 6/8: Imagine 2050 Visioning session at the Library

- 6/16: The Dudley Grange is holding a Strawberry Festival
- Get out and vote!
- Councilor Marketti
 - Enjoyed the Memorial Day parade events and thanked all those involved
 - Asked for an update on replacing the Town Hall Carpet and on the reinstallation of the traffic lights at the intersection of Main and Elm streets
 - 6/11- Morris Street Yard sale! He will also be selling home items on Maria Avenue
 - He encouraged all registered voters to exercise their right to vote
- Councilor Adams
 - Reminded everyone of the events of D-day
 - He encouraged everyone to vote
 - The History Flight embarked on their journey today to raise awareness- he wished them the best of luck on their journey and encouraged people to wish those two men luck as they walk all the way to Oregon.

AGENDA ITEM #37. DISCUSSION OF NEXT MEETING DATE – MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022 - 7:00 PM.

AGENDA ITEM #38. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Councilor Lazo, seconded by Councilor Ryan to vote on this item. Vote by show of hands, by 8-0 the motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Darling
Recording Clerk

Documents used:

- Draft of Town Council Meeting Minutes, dated 5/23/22
- MVP Presentation
- Financial ARPA Admin Documents, item #9
- United way documentation, item #10
- Tri-Valley YMCA documentation, items #11&12
- Trustees Soldiers, Dailors, Marines, and Airmen Memorials Board, item #36
- Pricing proposal, item #14
- Reappointment documentation, item #15
- Redevelopment Authority memo & supporting documentation, item #22
- Shared Streets grant FY23 award, item #23
- PARC grant FY23 documentation, item #24
- Transfer request documentation, items #25-27
- Appropriation documentation, items #29-32
- Zoning map & amendment package, items #33&34
- Town Manager evaluation & goals and objectives, item #35