

**Select Board Meeting
March 20, 2023 – 7:00 PM
Sanford Hall
155 Village Street**

Present: Dennis Crowley, Chair (via phone); Glenn Trindade, Vice-Chair; Frank Rossi, Clerk; Todd Alessandri, Member; Maryjane White, Member.

Staff Present: Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Allison Potter, Assistant Town Manager; Peter Pelletier, Department of Public Works (DPW) Director; Carol Pratt, Finance Director; Sandra Johnston, Communications Director.

Others Present: Conservation Commission: Dayna Gill, Vice-Chair; Cultural Council: Gail Hachenburg, Co-Chair, Jordan Warnick, Co-Chair, Crystal Buckley, member; Historical Commission: Jeanne Johnson, Co-Chair; Attorney Adam Costa.

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

Public Comments: There were none.

Mr. Trindade shared his past experiences with Joanne Williams and then read a proclamation in her honor.

Mr. Boynton noted that two retired members of our Police Department, Arthur Mill and Bill Boultenhouse, are dealing with significant illnesses and requested that we keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Approval of Minutes: March 4 and 6, 2023

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of March 4 and 6, 2023.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board approve the minutes of March 4 and 6, 2023. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Appointment Considerations:

- **Conservation Commission (ConCom) – James Dacier**
- **Cultural Council - Jyoti Ranjan**

The Board reviewed the (1) letter of interest, resume, and letter of ConCom support of candidate's appointment, and (2) letter of interest, resume and e-mail notification of Cultural Council support of candidate's appointment.

Mr. Dacier shared his background and interest in this committee. He is a long-time Medway resident, as is his family, would like to get involved in the Town, his family uses all the Town's open spaces, has participated in some ConCom meetings, works for Dell who supports volunteer efforts, and wants to assist the Town. The Board thanked him for stepping forward. Ms. Gill stated that ConCom met with him and reviewed his qualifications. She noted that he has young kids like her, they have the same goals, and ConCom is recommending his appointment.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board appoint Mr. Dacier to the Conservation Commission for a term expiring on June 30, 2025. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Ms. Ranjan shared her background and interest in this committee. She moved to Medway in 2015, loves the Town and community, wants to contribute to the Town, which has openly accepted her family, has a great interest in arts and science, is a neuroscientist, and wants to work on introducing programs for students to showcase their science skills. The Board thanked her for stepping forward. Mr. Rossi asked how many members are currently on the Cultural Council. Mr. Warnick stated they have thirteen and two or three whose terms end in June.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board appoint Ms. Ranjan to the Cultural Council for a term expiring on June 30, 2026. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Ms. Hachenburg asked if she can investigate the possibility of negating the two-term limit with Mass Cultural Council. The Board agreed.

Review and Approve Artwork for Utility Boxes on Route 109

The Board reviewed proposed artwork from Cultural Council.

Mr. Crowley stated that he, Ms. Buckley, and Mr. Eustis have been working on this and there needs to be a decision made so these artists can get to work. The Cultural Council had a lot of submissions and the artwork submitted to the Select Board was agreed on by all. There are twelve utility boxes, six will be art and six will be wrap historical scenes. Ms. Buckley reported the community has been very vocal on what they would like and which artists they would like to be involved. Mr. Trindade noted that they went through a very public process. Mr. Alessandri noted that it was also a blind process. Mr. Rossi asked how many were submitted. Ms. Buckley stated fourteen noting some admissions were from out of the United States. She noted that the artwork is not in its final form and there may be adjustments made based on the location of the utility box. She then went through each of the selections as well as where they would be located. The first selection was submitted by a Medway High School student and depicts historical and other iconic Medway scenes. Mr. Rossi asked if the art will be sealed. Ms. Buckley stated the boxes will be primed by the Town (DPW) and when finished will be covered with a graffiti free topcoat like the Choate wall. The second selection is from a Medway Middle School student who has experienced intense things in her short life; she is in the sixth grade. Ms. Buckley has been assigned to be her mentor. Ms. White asked where each of the images will be placed on the box. Ms. Buckley stated that has not been decided yet. Mr. Crowley noted, as impressive as the art is, the story behind the artist is also. The third selection is from a professional artist who is a Medway resident and was the most enthusiastic unanimous decision by Cultural Council. The fourth selection will be located at Restaurant 45, as it lent itself well to their sign. It is Ms. Buckley's design and represents maintaining our natural environment. Mr. Crowley noted that when he and Mr. Eustis looked at these, Ms. Buckley did not divulge that she was the artist. The fifth selection is by a graduate of Medway High School who is in art school and would be put in front of the Shaw's Plaza. The artist wanted to show what activities Medway residents enjoy. This was also a unanimous decision by the Cultural Council. The sixth selection is from a professional artist who is a Holliston native. She thought sunflowers show endurance, hope and unity and wants to inspire people.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board approve the renderings as presented by the Cultural Council with final details to be worked out by the Committee prior to installation. Ms. White seconded. No

discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Discussion/Vote: Safe Routes to School Program

The Board reviewed the (1) proposed letter to Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), (2) proposed Holliston Street sidewalk plan, and (3) scenarios document from Peter Pelletier.

Mr. Boynton stated five years ago we made an application to the Commonwealth to this program to replace the Holliston Street and Cassidy Lane sidewalks. He recognized the amount of work the design team and State put into this. He stated there were parts of the project we thought would be included in the State funding but are not. It became a daunting task for the Town to move forward based on what was not included in the State funding. We would also need to accelerate the water main replacement schedule on Holliston Street. The State would provide \$2 million but the Town would need to spend over \$5 million. We met with the design team and State, and this is a reality check on the financial issues. We do not need to do the water line on Holliston Street at this time but do need to meet the new per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) requirements. MassDOT asked us to make a decision right away. We asked for a waiver for sidewalks to be just on one side and they did not agree. Mr. Boynton explained the four options provided to the Select Board. It was noted the entire sidewalk does not need to be replaced. He stated we would respectfully ask MassDOT to stop the Safe Routes to School Project if the Board did not want to pursue this further. Mr. Crowley noted he met with Mr. Boynton and Mr. Pelletier to review these scenarios. He stated he is supporting Mr. Boynton's plan to fix the sidewalk temporarily and complete the permanent fix when we do the watermain replacement. The Board was also concerned about the cost for easements, taking of property, and relocation of telephone poles. The State versus Town share of cost for each scenario was clarified. Mr. Boynton stated it was not the scope that was originally planned when the Town made the application. Mr. Crowley stated the fix to the sidewalk from Kenney Drive to Village Street can be done if we move \$250,000 from Snow and Ice to Roads and Sidewalks.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board vote to respectively advise MassDOT that the Town will cease moving forward on the Safe Routes to School Program at this time. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Mr. Boynton stated the short-term solution is an asphalt berm with asphalt sidewalk until we do the watermain work.

Approval: Contract with Woodall Construction for Road Repair and Drainage – Not to Exceed \$200,000

The Board reviewed (1) memo from Pete Pelletier, (2) bid summary, and (3) contract.

Mr. Pelletier stated every three years, we do this contract, and we normally use CJP, but Woodall Construction came in for less. They have a lot of experience in working with towns and these towns have had positive experiences working with them. Mr. Crowley asked why there is the small difference between the first and second bidders. Mr. Alessandri said it was the cost of adjustment and asked what that is. Mr. Pelletier stated that reflects the cost of dealing with manholes. There was discussion about being able to go with CJP and the possibility for bid protest. Mr. Alessandri asked if there is a list of current projects. Mr. Pelletier stated there is not an existing list as this is for dealing with issues that come up during road projects.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board authorize the Vice-Chair to execute the contract with Woodall Construction as discussed. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Discussion/Vote: Request to Remove a Portion of 86 Holliston Street from Agricultural Land Classification (MGL Ch. 61A)

The Board reviewed the (1) notice of intent to convert agricultural land G.L. c. 61A, and (2) memo from Chris Park.

Attorney Costa stated this is a standard notice of intent to change this land from its MGL Chapter 61A classification, and the Town has a right of first refusal. The hope is that the Select Board does not exercise its right of refusal. Mr. Trindade explained MGL Chapter 61A and stated this land is next to Walgreens and a medical building is proposed that will be sharing the driveway with Walgreens. Mr. Trindade noted this is good for the Town and its economic development. Mr. Crowley asked the timeframe relative to the rollback on taxes. Attorney Costa stated it is a five-year rollback. Mr. Crowley asked how the process happens as the Cassidy family would need to pay these taxes. Mr. Boynton stated the total amount is \$1,077. Attorney Costa said it is usually done at the time of the sale and the landowner is interested in doing this at that time. Mr. Crowley stated his support of moving this out of Chapter 61A. Mr. Rossi noted where the lot is located and that the farm will remain. Attorney Costa stated it is a 2.3-acre portion of that property and the Planning and Economic Development Board has supported this.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board vote to not exercise its right of first refusal. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Approval: Enterprise Funds Fiscal Year 2024 Indirect Cost Allocation

The Board reviewed the proposed FY24 enterprise funds indirect cost allocations.

Ms. Pratt stated this is a routine annual budget exercise, the same model has been used for many years, the Department of Revenue likes our model and suggested other communities adopt it. Mr. Crowley noted the agreement to look at changing some items next year. Mr. Trindade explained the enterprise funds and the cost allocation to those funds.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Enterprise Funds indirect cost allocations as discussed. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Action Items from Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the action items dated January 3, 2023.

Updated Road and Sidewalk plan: The due date for this was changed to March 2024.

Trotter Drive/109 Intersection Improvements: The due date for this was changed to March 2024.

Select Board's Reports

There were no items for the Board to review.

Ms. White reported she attended the Jack Ryan tree dedication along with a plaque at the Senior Center and it was very well done.

Mr. Trindade asked to add an agenda item to the next meeting to discuss a change to the capital plan to buy the piano for the High School.

There was a question on the amount of taxes owed for 86 Holliston Street under MGL Chapter 61A. It seems that \$1,000 is too low and the Board requested this number validated.

Town Manager's Report

There were no items for the Board to review.

PFAS – EPA Proposed Regs Update: Mr. Boynton stated the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued draft regulations last week which are in the comment period now which change the PFAS threshold to zero. It is currently at 20 parts/trillion, Medway is 10 parts/trillion, and there is currently no test for anything below 4 parts/trillion. There are many questions still outstanding. Hopefully there will be contingency funding in the budget to transfer into the Water Treatment Facility project to look at the possibility of addressing this before the building is closed. Mr. Alessandri asked for the timeline. Mr. Pelletier stated the comment period is sixty days from last Friday and the EPA would not start enforcement until January. Mr. Crowley reported on his discussion with Mr. Pelletier and Mr. Smith noting that this is another unfunded mandate, and he would like to see if any funding is coming in, as well as look at the comments before we take any action. Mr. Trindade reported that Mr. Harris stated if it does move forward, it may be difficult to get the equipment so we would need to start doing that now. Mr. Boynton noted that the Water Treatment Facility Committee needs to meet with our Owner's Project Manager (OPM) and see if any equipment currently exists that will totally remove PFAS and can we do it without delaying the project timeline. There was further discussion about the timing of dealing with this issue and the need for more information.

Facilities Feasibility Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Update: Mr. Boynton stated this RFQ was for municipal buildings noting we received two responses. He asked Ms. Potter to reach out to Mr. Harris to see if the Facilities Committee would take the lead to meet with the two firms noting the need to interview them in the next two to three weeks so that we will know the number needed for vote at Town Meeting. He would like a Select Board member to participate. Mr. Trindade recommended Mr. Crowley. Mr. Boynton stated the intent is for the vendor to examine the existing three facilities, complete a future space needs analysis, evaluate the existing locations, and determine potential locations at 120 Main Street.

Snow and Ice Update: Mr. Boynton stated \$220,000 has been spent to date.

Town Manager Out of Office: Mr. Boynton stated he will be off as follows:

- March 23-31 – Vacation – Ms. Potter is Acting Town Manager

NEXT Select Board Meeting – April 3, 2023

At 8:21PM, Mr. Alessandri moved to adjourn. Ms. White seconded. No discussion. It was voted by roll call: Alessandri aye; Crowley aye; Rossi aye; Trindade aye; White aye. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Langley
Executive Assistant
Town Manager's Office