

IN BOARD OF SUDBURY SELECTMEN

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019

Present: Chairman Robert C. Haarde, Vice-Chairman Daniel E. Carty, Selectman Patricia A. Brown, Selectman Janie Dretler, and Town Manager Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues.

Absent: Selectman Leonard A. Simon

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Town Hall.

Opening Remarks by Chairman

Chairman Haarde called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and announced that the Town Emergency Preparedness Handbook is now available on the Town website. The Annual Town Election is March 25 and the voter registration deadline is 8:00 p.m. tonight in the Town Clerk's Office. The deadline to register for an absentee ballot is Friday, March 22.

Reports from Town Manager

Town Manager Rodrigues thanked the DPW for their clean-up work during this week's storm.

Reports from Selectmen

Vice-Chairman Carty congratulated Boy Scout Troop #65, and recognized that Sudbury is the first town on the Mayflower Council to move forward with the admittance of 13 girls into the Boy Scout troops.

Vice-Chairman Carty attended the COA meeting which voted unanimously not to support the new Fairbank Design plan. He included that COA is requesting a stand-alone Senior Center building to be connected to the side of the Atkinson Pool.

Selectman Brown attended the Ponds and Waterways Committee meeting last week and said this committee is working to transfer responsibilities of the Hop Brook Protection Association to the Conservation Commission. The committee also expressed appreciation for the briners keeping the salt on the roads.

Selectmen Brown and Dretler also thanked the DPW for their work regarding this week's storm.

Selectman Dretler attended the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association Regional Meeting and the focus was on recycling. She participated in a Sudbury COA road trip visiting various neighboring Senior Centers. She announced the Civics Bee sponsored by the League of Women Voters will be held on April 7. 2:00 p.m. at Weston High School.

Citizen's comments on items not on agenda

There were no citizen's comments.

Joint meeting with the Finance Committee and the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee

Present:

Capital Improvement Advisory Committee (CIAC) members: Chairman Jamie Gossels, Susan Asbedian-Ciaffi, Thomas Travers, Matthew Dallas, and Susan Abrams.

Finance Committee (FinCom) members: Chairman Bryan Semple, Lisa Gutch, Jeff Barker, Susan Berry, Eric Poch, Jean Nam and Glenn Migliozi.

Absent:

Capital Improvement Advisory Committee (CIAC) members: Michael Cooper, Joseph Scanga
Finance Committee (FinCom) members: Jeffrey Atwater, Adrian Davies

Discuss capital and financial articles on Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Town Manager Rodrigues stated that the total amount of capital requests totals \$545,000 and the FY20 Town Manager's Capital Operating Budget totals is \$1,370,000 (non-debt).

Town Manager Rodrigues described the smaller (under \$100,000) articles:

• Various Building Improvements	\$45,000
• Park and Recreation Improvements	\$40,000
• Capital Request – Mini Excavator	\$85,000
• Capital Request – All Terrain Vehicle	\$35,000
• Curtis School HVAC	\$30,000
• Curtis School Plumbing	\$48,000
• Haynes School Kitchen Equipment	\$40,000
• Noyes School Baseboard and Heating Valves (multi-year)	\$40,000
• Noyes School Kitchen Dishwasher	\$35,000
• Kubota Tractor for the High School	\$55,000
• Water Bottle Filling Stations for Parks and Fields	\$12,000
• Loring Parsonage – Gas, flooring, fireplace, IT	\$84,000

Chairman Semple of FinCom asked who is running the Loring Parsonage project. Town Manager Rodrigues responded that Facilities Director Bill Barletta and the Permanent Building Committee (PBC) are supervising the project. She added that there were several unexpected expenditures associated with the project.

Resident and Sudbury Historical Society member Keith Funston stated that the Parsonage received \$110,000 for the stabilization of the foundation and basement, and the unexpected items were discovered when the demolition took place.

Ms. Nam suggested implementation of a contingency fund for the next stage of the project.

Vice-Chairman Carty stated there has been considerable private fundraising contributions. Mr. Funston stated that the total of monies put toward the Parsonage project is approximately \$1.7 million, with \$726,000 from Sudbury Historical Society fundraising. Additional funds came from the state, from town trusts and from Community Preservation funds.

A group discussion on Capital funding and tax levies took place.

Ms. Nam asked about funding for Loring Parsonage wiring and phones. Katina Fontes, President of the Sudbury Historical Society, stated that the electrical and IT wiring must be completed at this stage of the renovation.

Article 19 – One Ton Dump Truck

DPW Director Dan Nason presented Article 19 – One-Ton Dump Truck. He detailed that a one-ton dump truck would replace a nineteen-year-old unreliable truck. The new one-ton dump truck would be suitable for multiple uses both at the cemetery and on the highway.

Article 20 – Concord Road Culvert Design

Mr. Nason presented this article and explained that the culvert replacement program can be used to work on multiple culverts and prioritize the replacement of aged and deteriorating drainage conduits. His department has assessed over 162 culverts/crossings townwide, and identified those that should be monitored and addressed over the next ten years. The Town owns about 132 of them. Mr. Nason estimated that construction to repair these culverts might cost approximately \$3 million at today's prices, but that emergency repairs following a failure are significantly more expensive than planned repairs.

Mr. Nason stated that the first phase of replacement is design, and the second phase of the project is the construction phase. While developing the design, the headwall of the Concord Road culvert collapsed and DPW has done substantial work to stabilize it. He is requesting design funds now with the construction funding request to come at a future town meeting. Ms. Gutch asked whether the \$125,000 request is only for the design of the Concord Road culvert. Mr. Nason affirmed that this article would only cover the design aspect of the Concord Road culvert.

Mr. Barker asked if this aspect of the project would be reoccurring. Mr. Nason replied that various culverts will need repair and the objective is to avoid complete failure.

Selectman Dretler appreciated the continued efforts of DPW in regards to the work on the culverts.

Mr. Barker asked about the #3 priority status of the culvert project. Town Manager Rodrigues responded that typically a status #3 is a significant department priority. Mr. Barker asked about the mentioned wings and plows on the truck, and Mr. Nason replied that these are included in the price of the truck.

Ms. Nam questioned the flooding of culverts. Mr. Nason explained that the flooding occurs at a separate location and that culvert work and cleaning in that area would have to wait until the spring.

CIAC Chairman Gossels stated that the CIAC voted unanimously to support both article 19 and 20.

Article 23 – Funding of CWMP (Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan)

Mr. Nason and Consultant Scott Medeiros from Woodard & Curran presented the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP). The plan is a 20-year planning document for the entire town which engages the state regulatory agencies and completes all the wastewater planning done to date. The plan cost is estimated at \$500,000.

Selectman Dretler asked about the related project loan amount and timelines. She asked what the benefits of the plan might be if the Town does not implement the entire plan.

Mr. Medeiros indicated there would be an emergency plan in place if issues of poor soils, high water tables and drinking water become problematic. He added that the plan could be implemented in phases.

Ms. Nam asked about the timeline regarding validity of data. Mr. Medeiros indicated that the data would be valid for a long time.

Selectman Dretler asked for a listing of local towns that have recently gone through the process. Mr. Medeiros responded that the towns of Billerica and Nantucket have recently done such a project.

A discussion regarding potential tax implications and loan rates took place.

FinCom Chairman Semple asked about the protection of water supply. Mr. Medeiros replied that the Rte. 20 – Zone 2 is at its maximum regarding water disposal.

Chairman Semple suggested that the cost might be less if the focus at this time was on the Zone 2 – Rte. 20 area.

Mr. Poch suggested further evaluation of options at today's prices, and asked what was the Board's priority.

Chairman Haarde stated that the project information would help determine economic potential on Rte. 20 and establish the risks and the benefits. The suggested loan rates for the project are very good and costs could be spread over time.

Mr. Migliozi inquired about new establishments coming into town. Chairman Haarde replied that many new establishments would likely not be allowed if the Board of Health determines that wastewater capacity is tapped out.

Article 21 – Purchase of Fire Truck

Fire Chief John Whalen presented Article 21. The new fire truck would replace an existing fire truck which is 22 years old, and currently the estimated annual repair cost is \$17,000. Chief Whalen mentioned that the new truck would have more reliable performance, and water carrying capacity would increase and maintenance costs would decrease.

CIAC Chairman Gossels stated that the CIAC supports Article 21.

Article 24 – Fairbank Community Center Design and Construction Funds

Town Manager Rodrigues presented Article 24 and stated that the new design plan reflected 47,500 square feet, and the current building encompasses 40,900 square feet.

Town Manager Rodrigues stated that the COA rejected the new plan and recommends a 14,000 square foot standalone structure where the basketball courts are located. The stakeholders must provide consensus by March 19. Town Manager Rodrigues stated that the Selectmen will be discussing the Fairbank Community Center at their March 12 meeting.

Ms. Berry inquired about the size of the proposed new gym. Town Manager Rodrigues replied that the size would be comparable to the existing gym.

Mr. Migliozi commented that the size of the new COA design looked small, and maintained that it is important to retain senior residents in Sudbury.

Selectman Brown stated that there was a sentiment at October Town Meeting that we should not separate design and construction funding, but should present the entire package as one item.

Selectman Dretler stated that she participated in a trip to the Marlboro and Hudson COA sites. The Marlboro building is currently being expanded. She maintained that it is important to build something that has potential for expandability in the future.

Article 25 – Camp Sewataro Acquisition

Town Manager Rodrigues stated that the Sewataro discussion would not take place at this time.

Article 26 – Amend Article XXV Capital Planning

Town Manager Rodrigues stated that the Capital Planning bylaw would be amended to include that all articles over \$100,000 will be reviewed by CIAC.

FinCom Warrant Discussion and Trends that Affect the Town of Sudbury

FinCom Chairman Semple presented the discussion regarding trends that were not included on the meeting agenda to include:

- Cost of Wages driven by Public Employees
- Health Care Benefits – COLA
- OPEB
- Special Education Spending
- New Revenue Sources
- Percentage of School Age Residents
- State Agreements on Funding of Regional School Budgets
- Sudbury and Lincoln School Systems – Inefficiencies

Selectman Brown suggested that identifying which cost center negotiates the generous Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA's) would be beneficial. She pointed out that the school committees approve the COLA's for their cost centers.

Vice-Chairman Carty remarked that it would be best to look at the total school age population in proportion to overall population rather than the percent of households with school age children as that metric does not accurately reflect how many children there actually are.

Selectman Dretler asked if FinCom has met with Lincoln boards or committees. Chairman Semple said not.

Ms. Nam mentioned that the L-SRHS football field would be worked on and suggested that the committees discuss this aspect. Selectman Brown spoke of field rental user fees. A discussion took place.

Chairman Haarde commented that it is an enormous effort to change the state school formula, but discussed how some other districts are proceeding to request changes.

Close joint meetings with FinCom and CIAC and resume Board of Selectmen meeting

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To close joint meeting with the Finance Committee and resume Board of Selectmen meeting.

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To close joint meeting with the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee (CIAC) and resume Board of Selectmen meeting.

Town Center Stone Wall project - from Grinnell Park to 29 Hudson Road

Selectman Brown opened the discussion and stated that the Town Center Landscaping CPC project has about \$90,000 outstanding. It is time to finish and close the project. The former Sudbury Center Improvement Advisory Committee wanted to extend the stone wall and relocate the transformer on First Parish property. She wondered if moving the transformer required legal advice.

Vice-Chairman Carty asked why the work on the Town center wall ceased. Town Manager Rodrigues replied that stopping the work was due to bidding issues. Selectman Dretler asked if there were still bidding issues, and Town Manager Rodrigues replied not.

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To finish the Town Center Stone Wall project from Grinnell Park to 29 Hudson Road.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Attest: _____

Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues
Town Manager-Clerk