

Advisory Board of Public Works, March 7, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

Item 1 | Call to Order: Chair Chris Tarr called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Present: Board Member Elena Proakis-Ellis, DPW Director Joe Conway, DPW Business Manager Ann Waitt and Clerk Anna Amatucci. Absent: Vice Chair Maria Palomino

Item 2 | Call to Public Participation: None

Item 3 | Betterment – Marla Lane:

Mr. Sherman made a presentation on the scope of work betterment of Marla Lane. Advisory Board will approve project if the proceed to town council and become an article at town meeting in May. Residents are voting on 5 years or 20 years, frontage or equal shares. There are eight abutters in total. Two on Lowell St. and six on Marla Lane. Engineering Department would sponsor article at town meeting. The following residents were present at meeting:

494 Lowell St	Andrew and Linda Slusarz
500 Lowell St	Julio Vaca and Marisol Goncalves
5 Marla Ln	James Marino
6 Marla Ln	Richard Smith
7 Marla Ln	Carolyn Wheaton no
8 Marla Ln	Peg Feetham
9 Marla Ln	Matthew Kelley
10 Marla Ln	Elizabeth Williams (not present)

Vote for project:

5 Marla Ln	yes
6 Marla Ln	yes
7 Marla Ln	no
8 Marla Ln	yes
9 Marla Ln	yes
10 Marla Ln	not present/no
494Lowell St	yes
500 Lowell St	no

Vote equal shares or frontage/20 yrs.:

5 Marla Ln	frontage/20 yrs.
6 Marla Ln	frontage/20 yrs.
7 Marla Ln	frontage/20 yrs.
8 Marla Ln	frontage/20 yrs.
9 Marla Ln	equal/20 yrs.
10 Marla Ln	not present
494 Lowell St	equal/20 yrs.
500 Lowell St	equal/20 yrs.

Revote equal shares/frontage:

5 Marla Ln	equal
6 Marla Ln	equal
7 Marla Ln	equal
8 Marla Ln	frontage
9 Marla Ln	equal
10 Marla Ln	not present
494 Lowell St	equal
500 Lowell St	equal

Revote for project:

5 Marla Ln	yes
6 Marla Ln	yes
7 Marla Ln	no
8 Marla Ln	no
9 Marla Ln	yes
10 Marla Ln	not present/no
494 Lowell St	yes
500 Lowell St	no

Town Engineer Mr. Renault stated since it's a 4-4 deadlock vote, project will not move forward. Ms. Proakis questioned 10 Marla Lane as not being present to vote and Ms. Wheaton mentioned the letter all the residents received from Mr. Sherman stated that if a resident is not present, his/her vote is counted as a no.

Mr. Tarr said he appreciated the neighborly tendencies residents showed each other and the respect towards each other. Ms. Proakis seconded what Mr. Tarr said.

Mr. Tarr also stated how appreciative he was of all the work done by Town Engineer Bill Renault and Engineer Eric Sherman.

Item 4 | FY23 Warrant Articles:

FY23 Warrant:

201-203 Vernon St.: **town-wide drainage improvement** from Vernon to Daniel Rd. \$475,000 for work.

Vernon to Wayland: \$25,000k manhole work excavation.

Roads program funds: \$400,000

Quiet zone improvements – maintain quiet zone FRA noted Dec 2020 extended May 2021 FRA response.

Hart's Hill-fund design and replace water storage tank on top of Hart's Hill. Coming up on centennial mark 100 yrs., debt service \$5 million to fund.

Mr. Tarr asked how many gallons? Mr. Conway said 640,000. Mr. Tarr also wanted to know if the cost would affect ratepayers to which Mr. Conway said there is a potential \$70,000 need debt coming in FY24, but he will ask the council for adequate funding to come into budget neutral.

Refuse and recycling: cost of \$2.3 million -up around \$92,000. Mr. Conway said \$25,780 was saved by renewing trash contract the same time as recycling.

There was a 3% increase on disposables and refuse. There will be no education program due to the enrichment educator retiring and ongoing Covid ramifications. Mr. Tarr asked if the sustainability committee can step in to do something to which Mr. Conway said due to time constraints, the DPW might offer a poster contest. Mr. Conway also said there is a tonnage offset of \$100,000 due to trend lines of the last five years. Refuse is heading in right direction and tonnage is starting to drop recycling is on the increase. The initiative to implement bulk fee and tonnage drop there's \$100,000 that we don't have to plan for in the tax levy.

Eminent Domain – property/easements to facilitate public work initiatives.

Ms. Proakis made a motion to advance articles to town meeting warrant with an affirmative recommendation from committee as presented. Mr. Tarr seconded. Motion carries 2-0.

Item 5 | New Business:

Mr. Conway said Mr. Sherman is putting together a water main bid, which will be ready soon.

Ms. Waitt reported on the status of the Black Earth bins, stating 198 residents have purchased them so far and there are 2 left. She is also working with apartment buildings to try and provide smaller buckets or one large community totter. Ms. Waitt also mentioned trying to get elementary schools back onto Black Earth pickup, hopefully by Sept. 1st.

Item 6 | Next Meeting:

To be determined

Item 7 | Adjournment:

Mr. Tarr thanked Councilor Ed Dombrowski for attending the meeting to which Councilor Dombrowski said as the DPW liaison please feel free to reach out anytime. Mr. Tarr entertained a motion to adjourn. Ms. Proakis seconded the motion. Motion carries 2-0 Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.