

Advisory Board of Public Works, March 1, 2021, 5:07

Item 1 | Call to Order

Item 2 | Public Participation: None

Item 3 | FY22 Budget and Articles Review:

- Mr. Conway presented the FY22 Budget Review
- Ms. Palomino asked what happens to Snow & Ice budget if it is not entirely used. Mr. Conway explained the remaining funds goes into the general fund account.
- Ms. Proakis requested an explanation for reduced admin position and information on the position now being added in at half the salary. Mr. Conway discussed the need for admin support in Engineering so that engineers could focus more of their time on designing and working on large scale projects.
- Mr. Conway stated \$27,000 was added for cleaning program at Farm St. pumping station. Ms. Palomino inquired about the pumping station and its role. Mr. Conway explained 80% of what goes down drains heads to the pumping station, thereby collecting in wells and pushed through to Deer Island for treatment. If we proactively keep up with cleaning wells reducing problems that could potentially occur down the line. Ms. Proakis asked if there is backup power at station, to which Mr. Conway responded yes.
- Mr. Tarr inquired about the budget for roads, specifically concerns with development around the town and overuse of roads. Mr. Conway said things look good and we have the \$10 million bond. Unless something unforeseen happens, a bid will be going out first week of April for road repairs. Mr. Conway also mentioned the best plan at the moment is to focus on bringing the roads up to 80 grade. He also mentioned the goal in the next few years is to present to town council and financial committees a regular budgetary figure for road upkeep due to depreciation.

-Mr. Tarr made a motion to approve budget as presented. Motion carries 3-0.

a) Eminent Domain: \$1.00

b) Refuse & Recycling \$2,284,011: Budget increase of \$10,000 to restore yard waste processing, haul some material out and gain space, all due to increased usage of the site during COVID. The increase also includes a small adjustment to retain services and overtime rate fluctuations. Mr. Conway mentioned that, due to the uncertainty of what schools will be like in September, funding of \$32,000 for the third grade education program, which is presented as a large-scale activity, has been deferred. Ms. Proakis would hope that perhaps there could be some school interactions videos over zoom or something on a smaller scale next fall so as not to lose momentum of the

program. The concern being we could lose the funds for this program and that would be unfortunate.

- c) FY2021 Supplemental DPW Budget Appropriation:** Mr. Conway has included a supplemental budget appropriation of \$192,000 to address the August storm, which unexpectedly caused a lot of tree damage.

-Ms. Proakis made a motion to recommend the town meeting articles, as presented, or otherwise modified by the Town Council pending their discussion. Mr. Tarr seconded the motion. Motion carries 3-0

Item 4 | Other Business: Council will review the proposal the board voted on last meeting related to trash and refuse. Ms. Palomino inquired about status of portion of intersection of North Ave. and Broadway. Mr. Conway said at this point the Federal Railroad has all information the town can give them. We are expecting a response from the representative in D.C., since the comment period expired on February 22nd. The Town Engineer is in frequent contact with representative in the northeast.

Item 5 | Next Meeting: Ms. Palomino made a motion to set the next meeting date for Monday, April 5 at 5:30.

Item 6 | Adjournment: Ms. Palomino made a motion to adjourn at 6:07. Ms. Proakis seconded the motion. Motion carries 3-0.