

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 6, 2020 at 6:30pm**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER/OPENING**

Chairwoman Sandra Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. Chair Sandra Wilson, Vice-Chair Harry Brooks, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair Rick Antanavica, Selectwoman Dianna Provencher, Selectman John Shocik, Town Administrator David Genereux and Assistant to the Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg were in attendance.

**1. Engineering Design Discussion – Fire & EMS Headquarters Retention Ponds**

Luke Boucher with VHB discussed his review of the water issues at 3 Paxton Street. To resolve the site drainage issues, VHB recommends converting the infiltration basins to detention basins where water would flow over the top of the basin into a pipe system which flows through one of three properties on Warren Ave, down Harberton and into Sargent Pond. The largest basin behind the building will be expanded and the bottoms of the basins would be raised above groundwater and outfitted with impermeable liners so the only way water can escape is through the structure and into the pipes. The largest pond at the back of the building will be expanded. Mr. Boucher noted the existing closed drainage system on Warren Ave is not in great shape and does not have adequately capacity to handle the additional flows from the site. Chapter 90 funds will be used to repair this system. An existing culvert on Warren Ave in bad condition would also be replaced. The goal of proposed solution is to intercept all water that lands on the Fire & EMS Headquarters site.

Mr. Boucher noted several other options were explored including utilizing the existing culvert and swale but this falls within a wetlands area and would require extensive permitting and proof that there is no viable alternate. Mr. Boucher noted the proposed concept has been endorsed by the Select Board and a field survey has been conducted. The next step is the design development phase, during which the route the pipe will take through the neighborhood must be determined. The faster the Town can obtain an easement from one of the residents at 20,22 or 24 Warren Ave, the faster the design can move forward into construction. Mr. Boucher estimated completing design and heading to permitting in the fall, undertaking procurement in the winter and beginning construction in early spring, barring any delays.

Town Counsel Chris Petrini noted the Town is seeking recovery of as much of these costs as possible from the project architect on the project. Town Administrator David Genereux noted the total project cost is estimated at \$535,000, of which, approximately \$180,000-\$200,000 will be paid for using Chapter 90 funds. The remaining funding will come from the \$400,000 Town Meeting borrowing authorization for site remediation. Highway Superintendent Dennis Griffin stated he believes this is the best plan, noting it has been tweaked to result in a savings. The majority of natural water from the lower elevations and slopes will now be under full control and discharged from the property in a contained system.

Questions from the public included:

- Will there still be water to the north of fire station? The area is a jurisdiction wetland and had water before so there will still be water but this project will eliminate any water coming off the site.
- Can permits be sped up because this is a Town Project? The goal is to seek all permits at the same time, hopefully in two meetings. Permitting and design are time consuming and even if the design was expedited and complete in late June, there is not enough time in this construction season to complete the project.
- Will digging in the neighborhood cause any changes to the underground veins that will cause water to go elsewhere? VHB will look into this, noting clay dams can be used to prevent water from following a new path.

- Will the project cause the new house on Harberton to be flooded or create any new problems? VHB noted the existing channel is well defined, runs downhill and has not overflowed before but they will take a look at the existing pipes to see if any need to be replaced near the corner of Harberton and Warren Ave.
- Which properties are being looked at for a possible easement? 20, 22 and 24 Warren Ave

Residents also expressed concerns about new species of weeds in their yards.

Mr. Genereux stated the Town will do a full write up of the proposed solution and will mail it out to affected residents along with a site photo showing the proposed solution.

## **2. Vote to Award Contract – Town Hall Parking Lot Stairs Project – Ardent Group**

Mr. Genereux noted the Town may not be able to receive an extension from the State for this project and the \$200,000 earmark is set to expire on June 30<sup>th</sup> so the Town must move forward expediently. If awarded, the low bidder could start design immediately. A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to award the bid for the Town Hall parking lot stairs project to Ardent Group for \$88,898. Roll call: 5:0:0. A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract with Ardent. Roll call: 5:0:0.

Mr. Genereux noted a joint letter from the Select Board and the Board of Health will be sent to the Meadows urging them to test all staff. Representative David LeBoeuf and Senator Moore will also send a letter.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Provencher at 7:55pm. Roll call: 5:0:0.