

Department of Public Works Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2018

Commissioners Present: George Balco, Tomar Waldman, Earl Littlefield, Cheryl Doble, Larry Gomez, Christina Colarusso

DPW Director: Ray Tattersall

Attendees: Mary Ellen Larsen, Jay Grande, Bob Rafferty, Jim Fitzgerald, Adam Turner, Bill Veno

Department of Public Works Advisory Board Called to Order by George Balco at 4:00 pm

Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2018:

Postponed till next meeting . . . did not receive

Lighting of all US flags at night with solar lights:

Larry Gomez: Why don't we light up our flags at nighttime, sometimes they don't get taken down during the day and I believe the protocol is the flags at nighttime should be lit

Ray Tattersall: Right

Earl Littlefield: I think that got changed . . .

Larry Gomez: I'll look into that, but he showed me some solar lights that are \$50.

Jay Grande: My recollection is that the Friends of Owen Park did not want it up at night.

Larry Gomez: I'm not disagreeing but we are talking manpower now . .45 minutes to put up and 45 minutes to take it down

Ray Tattersall: When we do the flags we do the trash too.

Larry Gomez: We talked about this a while back and we should look into it.

Ray Tattersall: We will have to change the flagpoles because you don't want the ropes all the way to the bottom so no one steals the flags.

Larry Gomez: I'd like to look into it – if Oak Bluffs can do it so can we. Don't tell me what you can't do tell me what you can do.

Christina Colarusso: How many flags are there?

Ray Tattersall: 3.

Jay Grande: You can't leave it out in the rain. I think the flags should come down in the evening. I'm surprised to see this on the agenda and I don't think it should be #1 priority.

Larry Gomez: No it's not, I didn't want it to get lost

Ray Tattersall: I'll look into and I have all the lighting information.

All cemeteries: trees and planting :

Larry Gomez: When we take down a tree do we put up a tree?

Jay Grande: I think what you should do is at a future agenda look at the Cemetery Master Plan and see if it addresses that issue.

Ray Tattersall: Cheryl and I were gonna meet with Avery and figure out a planting list.

Jay Grande: All along Pine Tree Road if you allow those cars to continually park there, they compact the soil next to those trees, you're not gonna have those trees in 30 years. If you're going to let parking occur it should be more defined so it doesn't damage the root line. I'd like to see it on the next agenda.

George Balco: We'll put that on the next meeting agenda. Ray, can you give us a report on where you are heading on this.

Jay Grande: It's a great issue: Replacement of trees, not just the cemetery but town wide.

Cheryl Doble: We'll set up a meeting with Avery and bring a report back to this group.

Ray Tattersall: Tree inventory will tell you existing conditions - the size, health, etc.

Jim Fitzgerald & Bob Rafferty Presentations:

Bob Rafferty: I will be presenting the Drainage Master Plan and I'll segue into Jim's stuff (transportation & roadways) because everything has to coordinate as well as your sewer – you don't want to dig up the street you just paved. We sent a crew with GPS equipment and opened manholes and catch basins to see what we could find – trying to trace drainage system so we could map that. We came up with a Capital Improvement Plan – Master Drainage Plan to identify the worst areas in town for drainage that need to have more maintenance than normal and looked at the funding and it goes hand in hand with all your other projects. If you're gonna dig up the road you may as well do it one time. The better your drainage system functions the better all your other assets will be. Sand is the devil here – it gets into the catch basins and turns almost as hard as concrete - 5 Corners it was a constant effort. We did the mapping and the assessment and then we do modeling of the area to see what your system can handle – helps decide how big the pipes should be, if we can infiltrate storm water rather than sending it to the ocean. We have Lake Tashmoo and Lagoon Pond which are nitrogen impaired waters so we don't want to send storm water runoff to those because it carries nitrogen. We have to put our arms around the whole thing – where is the water coming from, how fast, etc? We found over 700 structures all in various stages of acceptability/use – a lot of it was clogged with sand. If the structures are made out of masonry or fieldstone, the cement that holds them together, they break down over time - 25% - poor which have been fixed. Catch Basins – 470, Manholes – 180 every one needs some maintenance. There was a committee formed to try to prioritize: what's the biggest impact – how many people does this affect? Is it a commercial problem? Is it a tourism problem? Does it happen a lot? What are the obvious problems? Endanger people? Interfere with EMS? We came up with a list of those and then came up with these fact sheets – We don't know what our costs are gonna be until we go in and see what the problem is. So we look at can we leverage some CPC funds, can we look at where we gonna do some other work and combine the projects? What funding programs are out there? Is it something easy the DPW can do or do we have to contract it out? Short List of Priorities: 5 Corners, Main/Union, Delano Rd, TFD/EMS (discharges to Lake Tashmoo), Lake St, several other neighborhood issues – erosion, etc.. 5 Corners and Union/Main are connected – so one large project – 3 years out – gets stretched out with fiscal year, etc and then every other project gets bumped a year behind that and while this is going on we are doing more maintenance.

Jay Grande: What type of projects do you see at 5 Corners?

Bob Rafferty: 5 Corners hope to infiltrate upstream or to redirect – that being bowl is at times below sea level, no matter what you do, unless you put in a pump which is by far the most expensive solution. If you are gonna do that you should put in the smallest pump and try to get it to go other places – minimize the problem before we have to do something every very expensive.

Jay Grande: 5 Corners should have Beach and State in parentheses . . . we're hoping it can be a Transportation Improvement Project putting it on the TIP schedule.

Bob Rafferty: We took all these areas and made 1 model so you know exactly what you have, what you're gonna do with it and what it's gonna cost – then you can just pick those projects and schedule them. You have 3 priorities to fix in the first year then you can get right into designing and fixing all these problems. So we want to coordinate so we can look at all the funding opportunities and try to make it work all together.

Jay Grande: Is there some design level that overall you would be satisfied with systemwide in terms understanding a 100 year storm is the ultimate . . .

Bob Rafferty: Mass DOT would be the 10 year storm and at some point you just can't build the pipes big enough to handle it. When you have the topography it flows fast, but one of the things we can do is hold it back, make it soak in someplace. But at some point, it's gonna overrun the system.

Jay Grande: I think the Advisory Board should update the list – EDG/VH Road is TIP potentially eligible and there's a lot of drainage, as it relates to elderly housing. What can TIP pay for (usually construction) but how do you get it there - Chapter 90 money? This whole area – Water St Union St, you may be able to get some Embarcation money to pay for some of your design work – you need a funding source column.

Bob Rafferty: You have to have your finger on a lot of the funding.

George Balco: Would you be able to summarize into one page - simple & straightforward with a direct timeline to submit to the selectmen.

Jay Grande: These are future projects, we should have a current one too.

Bob Rafferty: Once you have the master model you can look at the available funding and what the effort is to get the grants.

Jay Grande: You want the warrant articles listed too that the town meeting can appropriate.

Cheryl Doble: We need to look comprehensively . . . what is that timeline? That will be the key to looking for funding for these projects – I would add Lagoon Pond Road because that is part of the 5 Corners flooding and could also be part of detention strategy.

Christina Colarusso: 2 short term fixes – ruler & floats that are implemented to indicate that 5 Corners is flooded so they can take the detour before getting to it.

Bob Rafferty: There are 10 or 11 that are the real issues and from that all the projects will fall out.

Jay Grande: What's not here is the current projects that we are working on. Maybe we should have a low hanging fruit list. Ray, you should update that list with all that you have done so far

Bob Rafferty: He's really stepped up the maintenance, so everything functions better.

Ray Tattersall: Historically Fred was doing about 40 a year. We've done all 471 basins at least twice in less than 2 years. We are continually cleaning the problem areas.

Jay Grande: Is anyone here going to work on storm water with the consultant to update that list? It needs some focused energy.

Christina Colarusso: What would that entail?

Jay Grande: Meeting with the other members that if there is a drainage issue that's not on the list and letting you know and how do we evolve the funding. We should at least hypothetically identify the funding source.

Bob Rafferty: We are actually working on that now. Pulling together the funding opportunities and schedules.

Jay Grande: How fast can we get these designed enough in order to get a real cost estimate, real appropriation, and real funding request.

Cheryl Doble: I think under the solutions then understanding the various funding sources that are out there would be a huge help for us. You need time to prepare and then helping us prepare those grant requests so that they have the technical data on it, the detail, the approach so they become competitive grants.

Bob Rafferty: Frankly, a lot of the grants are not responding to the RFPs when they come out. The only way you get the grants is to have your representatives talking to them ahead of time – have your elected officials involved.

Cheryl Doble: We're seeing these things so close to the deadline we haven't had time to apply

Bob Rafferty: That's where our funding calendar will come in. You'll have it a year ahead of time.

Jay Grande: I would like to see the storm water plan evolve to the place of the sewer plant that there is enough to ask for a bond to get it done – that's the challenge to get it to that point.

Jim Fitzgerald: It's critical to tie in all these drainage with the transportation so that we are not ripping up the roads one by one. I'll run through ongoing projects through the town and at the end get to the point of the matrix and how the drainage component plays into it. Pavement management extends the life of the roadways – preventative maintenance saves the town money and we can plan so there's more transparency as to when the roadways are going to be addressed. There are 22 miles of roadway in town - 73 out of 100 pavement condition index which is not bad. We're coming up with a capital improvement plan so we are looking at the pavement condition, as well as how important that roadway is and how expensive it is going to be to do that roadway. Sign inventory was done for the town – trying to minimize clutter, consistency with signage, compliance which is governed for safety reasons. Only 7% of the signs are compliant in the study area so that's pretty low (14/210). Center Street Reconstruction: focused between Franklin & Main – addressing pedestrian issues along roadway, ADA deficiencies, and the drainage system is a problem. Installing a sidewalk at William/Franklin (doesn't currently exist) adjacent to cemetery. Reconstruct sidewalk east to Main (ADA). William to Main will be a full def reconstruction project while replacing the drainage system. It is well under design – anticipating to get this project out to bid later this month. The goal is to address before this winter – at least binder and pavement. Ultimately to be complete with construction by Memorial Day on Center Street. Main Street Curb Extension Project - providing bump outs which has benefits to traffic calming & improves sight distance for pedestrians. Making it safe and a more comfortable place with the ability to provide pedestrian accommodations on the corners.

Larry Gomez: Will we be losing any parking spots on Main Street?

Jim Fitzgerald: We are very aware of that concern and while we are still in the design stage it is one of our goals to maintaining the number of parking spaces – stay tuned. Main Street schedule is somewhat flexible, think we can have a bid document Spring /Summer 2019 depending on the overall plan – construction for FY2020. As far as construction funding, we don't have a firm number yet, we are still designing the project – as a placeholder we are using \$530,000. We might consider Complete Streets Funding, which the town already has and can't refile until all construction is complete and reimbursements have been filed. Owen Park Project – looking at western part from the flag pole to the roadway – still in the design phase - funded by CPC. Woodlawn Avenue – sidewalk improvements to complete gaps which involves the bushes issue (which is on town property) at 1720 House which is up for sale.

Motion to notify 1720 owner by letter that this area is town property - Larry Gomez, Earl Littlefield – 2nds, Unanimously Approved (Tomar Waldman abstains)

Jim Fitzgerald: Complete Street Funding received for a few small stretches of roadway – Water Street circle by ferry, Water, and at Cromwell. On Water reducing the 3 lane to 2 lane (1 in each direction) . . town did a barrel study with video.

Ray Tattersall: No issues whatsoever unless the traffic officer did not turn around and see if a bus was waiting. We did after 4th of July and a rainy Friday.

Jay Grande: Once it's in if it's really bad we can always pull it. We don't want to. I think we will get immediate reaction but I don't think we should react to it. We need to leave it long enough in place to truly evaluate.

Christina Colarusso: Where are we with the Cromwell Project on the timeline?

Cheryl Doble: We're hoping fall. We have the final drawings that just came in

Ray Tattersall: We're jointly doing that with the Commission. We got money through a pilot program for the engineering.

Jay Grande: When you put stuff out to bid you never know what you are gonna get and that may affect the schedule.

Jim Fitzgerald: Project List Funding Source List Handout – transportation based and we tied in the drainage element.

Jay Grande: MassDOT suggest that there is funding for congestion management that might be applicable to 5 Corners and other intersection at State Road.

George Balco: Could we bond all this stuff and then use the funds from the other sources to repay the bond if they come through?

Jay Grande: I think you need to have a separate meeting to talk about funding strategy.

Cheryl Doble: Usually on the grants there's a local share. We did put money on warrant for Complete Streets because you have to pay and it's reimbursable.

Jim Fitzgerald: The other one is MassWorks grants because you have a population of <7000.

Bill Veno: Is it possible to make these presentations available somewhere?

Jay Grande: DPW website once it's refined.

Cheryl Doble: If Ray had a copy of it we could look at some of the slides to take out for now since it's so preliminary. I think it could be edited. Has the commission done any traffic numbers for Main Street and Beach?

Bill Veno: I can't remember if it was 16 or 17 but we have some. Once we have automatic counters we can put them at multiple places.

George Balco: Thank you very much Jim, I would see a formal timeline on these things that we can approve, change, amend -

Cheryl Doble: I would like to volunteer to work with Jim on this comprehensive piece on how all these things come together.

Jay Grande: Can Bill or Adam be involved since it's going to overlap with regional?

CRAPO issues:

George Balco: It's where our trash goes in Dartmouth, MA. They have recently told us that we are exceeding our agreed upon shipping there and that prices are going to have to go up. They are up to their limit and pretty soon we are going to have to look for some different place.

Ray Tattersall: There was never an agreed upon amount. They said bring whatever you can up to 30 tons a month. We're only bringing 15 tons but they have new people on their trash council and they don't want as much of our stuff that we're bringing.

Larry Gomez: They won't take the 15?

Ray Tattersall: They don't want all of what we're bringing. ABC wants back in which will now limit us daily.

Jay Grande: We don't know all the contractual agreements they have with communities.

George Balco: It's possible that our materials are being added on to enroute

Ray Tattersall: There's 2 different contracts. Bruno's says all municipal waste must be taken to CRAPO but CRAPO's it's only Tisbury and Oak Bluffs municipal waste. We know Bruno's is bringing in commercial waste beyond that and so everything is going over there. It's become an issue so we have been talking with Bob Rittenour and Richie Combrie from Oak Bluffs trying to resolve it with Greg and understand why are they taking extra from what we are giving them? They are going to give us exact numbers of what we bring and what Oak Bluffs bring and that will give us a better understanding. They weren't putting in our LDO, our trash truck, they weren't putting in a lot of stuff that we do. They just don't want any more than what they we are allowed to bring. They didn't figure a contingency for a year of trash inflation. We're just trying to come to a resolution and what's it gonna be if we can bring more than that, are they gonna charge Bruno's more per tonnage. It's \$20 more a ton more for everybody else than it is for us. We just have to figure out how much are we over.

George Balco: But they are reaching their capacity. We don't have too many years to look . . .and the SSA is still actively looking barging which opens up a lot opportunities for moving somewhere else at some point in time.

Jay Grande: This contract expires in 4.5 years.

George Balco: Yes, but we're gonna have to start looking now for other places.

Tomar Waldman: What about composting . . .all the trash

Ray Tattersall: West Tisbury Fair article saved 30% on trash 6 dumpster loads – food waste, trash, and recycling.

Tomar Waldman: It can take cardboard, paper, and if we change the way restaurants operate with their disposal making it compostable . . .

Ray Tattersall: But what do we do about the residents, they're the ones we need to worry about.

Christina Colarusso: What about SeaMass where they just burn it. How can it be better to put it in landfill when you can bring it someplace and they can create energy.

Ray Tattersall: That's where the refuse goes and it's expensive. We're under contract right now and we have a great deal with CRAPO. When we were dealing with the recycling and China didn't want it anymore it went up \$10/ton.

Jay Grande: Our curbside recycling doubled and it used to be free. It's \$250 now.

Ray Tattersall: The biggest problem with recycling is if they are contaminated and it's detected they go into the trash and won't be picked up.

George Balco: We're gonna have to keep talking about this CRAPO situation.

Schedule Next Meeting:

George Balco: Motion for next meeting Monday, October 15 @4pm. Earl Littlefield– 2nd. Approved by all

Earl Littlefield: Motion to adjourn DPW Advisory Board Meeting Tomar Waldman– 2nd. Approved by all.

Meeting adjourned September 17, 2018 at 5:50PM

