

Department of Public Works Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2018

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

DPW Director: Ray Tattersall

Attendees: Mary Ellen Larsen

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 13 & September 17, 2018, October 15, 2018:

Larry Gomez makes motion – Earl Littlefield 2nds: Unanimously Approved.

Tashmoo Beach – impact of Land Bank Purchases:

George Balco: I've passed around a map and properties 2.1 & 2 are the properties the Land Bank just purchased. The town owns the beach of which Dukes County owns 30? 35%?? . . .

Ray Tattersall: 13%

Larry Gomez: Is that both sides of the road?

George Balco: Yes and these 2 properties – 1 is 3.1 acres and the other is 1.6 acres – here are the sheets for the taxes. They bought both for 1.9 but I've also heard there's some tax deal in the background to carry forward. My concern is we can enter into some agreement that all this land is open to the public, as the beach has been and that the Land Bank doesn't restrict access.

Larry Gomez: They create small parking areas . . . we should have some sayso in this. We are going to be losing 30K in taxes – the least they could do is put some ample parking on the side of the road.

George Balco: I'd like to see if we can come up with a recommendation for the BOS on this.

Larry Gomez: I think we should strongly word a modification to the selectmen that before they write off the free taxes, they demand some kind of parking for that property. They are gonna be asking for "payment in lieu of taxes".

Ray Tattersall: Do they have to come to the town about the taxes?

Larry Gomez: Yes, the selectmen have to agree to that.

George Balco: Good, then that's a negotiating tool.

Christina Colarusso: Beside parking, what else . . .

George Balco: Another part in question is the life guard situation . . .

Ray Tattersall: Who's watching that part of the beach now?

George Balco: Does the Land Bank provide?

Christina Colarusso: No, they sometimes have parking lot attendants . . .

Cheryl Doble: They usually limit their parking lots because they don't want anyone swimming if there's no guard.

Ray Tattersall: We would have to delineate that area that our life guards would be responsible for.

Larry Gomez: Are they going to knock down the 2 properties?

George Balco: They put out an RFP to demolish it – the Mink Meadows Association sent a letter saying, “when your trucks take away the demolition, please do not use Mink Meadows Roads”. Which is the other point, now that they have 2 separate locations down there we should start asking them for some money to maintain Herring Creek Road. We accidentally found out that they town owns a small portion of the right side of Herring Creek Road.

Ray Tattersall: It's a very small section at the triangle. It's still a private road.

Larry Gomez: I heard it was another in and out for emergencies into Tashmoo Woods.

Cheryl Doble: The Land Bank will be coming to the town to talk about . .

George Balco: No, they bought it. The town was interested that we were dealing with it and wants to hear from us.

Cheryl Doble: The only reason I'm bringing this forward is the #1 (in our survey for improvements with Parks & Recreation) is increased waterfront access. #2 is bike access to get to some of these places.

George Balco: I think everybody agrees with that but what we have is an overcrowded town facility which is going to end up with is a 4 times bigger facility.

Ray Tattersall: It's not a town accepted road.

Cheryl Doble: It's not going to be on the road – we're going to get money for a bike path

Ray Tattersall: We have no easement . . .

Cheryl Doble: Uh – oh no easy answer!

George Balco: Can we expand our recommendations to the Selectman to include . . . 3 points now?

Christina Colarusso: Parking, life guards, money for maintenance of the road. . . .

Mary Ellen Larsen: Ray, can you put out rope from where Land Bank starts and town ends?

Ray Tattersall: I'd put a buoy system out there. . . . It becomes an issue – if someone needs to be saved.

George Balco: We have a motion on the floor to recommend to the BOS that they talk to the Land Bank about their newly purchased properties pertaining to parking, lifeguards, and financial matters concerning road maintenance.

Earl Littlefield puts it into motion – Christina Colarusso 2nds. . . .

Larry Gomez: I think there should be a strongly worded letter presented to the BOS before the Land Bank meeting. I think the BOS may not be thinking the way we are and give up something.

George Balco: Can you write it and I can edit it

Ray Tattersall: We'll have Beth write it.

George Balco: Any further discussion on this one? – unanimously approved.

Ray Tattersall: The next one is on the 27th – I'll see if Jay can get us on there.

George Balco: I've mentioned it to 1 or 2 BOS and they are concerned.

Non Agenda Short Discussions/Concerns:

Lifeguard / Tornado / Park & Ride / Design& Engineer Piece – where does that fit into next year's plans/budgets

Design/Engineer cost /timeline estimates for next year's projects so we can get bonds and schedule

DPW Staffing / England's Waterway (drainage) Solutions / Lake Street Grant

Schedule Next Meeting: TBD after the holidays (2019)

George Balcom: Motion to adjourn November 19, 2018 at 4:50 pm – Earl Littlefield 2nds – unanimously approved.