



**Town of West Newbury
Board of Selectmen
Monday, April 26, 2021**
381 Main Street, Town Office Building
www.wnewbury.org

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
WEST NEWBURY, MA
2021 JUL 13 AM 11:09

Minutes of Meeting

Open Session: 7:22 p.m. by remote participation (see below)

Addendum to Meeting Notice regarding Remote Participation

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 23, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the West Newbury Board of Selectmen will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible.

Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Town of West Newbury website, at www.wnewbury.org. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so in the following manner:

GoToMeeting

Phone: (646) 558-8656

Access Code: 921 8207 1308

Passcode: 819557

Or from computer, tablet, or smartphone:

<https://zoom.us/j/92182071308?pwd=TEdBcnl5NFBhaFpFTjMrN2lHYzBmUT09>

No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town of West Newbury website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as practicable after the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:22 p.m. by Chairman David Archibald.

Participation at the Meeting:

- ❖ Board of Selectmen: David Archibald, Richard Parker and Glenn Kemper
- ❖ Town Manager, Angus Jennings
- ❖ Town Clerk/Counsel & Procurement Officer, Michael McCarron
- ❖ Dennis Cataldo and Rob White, Cataldo Ambulance
- ❖ Chief Durand
- ❖ John Dodge
- ❖ Vanessa Johnson-Hall
- ❖ Rose Vetere
- ❖ Dena Trotta

Announcements:

- Virtual Arbor Day Celebration, Friday, April 30th and Saturday, May 1st – See Tree Committee Webpage for Details (See page 2 for information)
- Town-Wide Cleanup in Celebration of Earth Day – Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2 – Stay Tuned for More Details (See page 3 for information)
- Early Voting by Mail applications for May 3 Town Election due by Tuesday, April 27. Applications available in Town Office Building lobby or on Town website under Town Clerk's page News & Announcements. Signed applications (original signatures only) may be left in tax payment box in lobby or scanned/e-mailed to Town Clerk.
- Town Election Monday, May 3rd – 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Annual and Special Town Meetings: Saturday, May 22, 2021, time to be determined.
- Reminder to Subscribe for E-mailed Town News/Announcements at <https://www.wnewbury.org/subscribe>

REGULAR AGENDA

A. Review of Greenbelt Proposal for Parking on River Road to Access Conservation Land:

Dave Rimmer, Director of Stewardship of Greenbelt, informed everyone on this topic. (See Exhibit A, pages 4 through 6 for information) Stated that Greenbelt has many publicly accessible properties and has worked closely with the Town of West Newbury for many years.

The newest property they're trying to open up is down on River Road where they're looking to create a modest pull-over parking area for about three vehicles on the opposite side of the road from the river. Stated discussing it tonight because a portion of the work that needs to be done is within the Town's layout of River Road. Showed preliminary plan and explained the plan. Stated will require a full Notice of Intent with the Conservation Commission and perhaps some other reviews by other Town Boards.

Chairman Archibald asked if this area would be close to an area where there might be the ability for someone to launch a canoe or kayak, there or across the street. Stated that the thought for launching is a little bit down the street, not directly across but approximate in a relative sense. Stated that the initial focus is on parking for the trails and that perhaps phase two could look into a launch area since there are more permitting issues associated with a launch area. Stated that this is the only realistic spot for a trailhead and is a reasonable yet modest parking area.

Selectman Parker stated that he looked at it and thought it looked pretty good. Stated that down further where a launch area could be proposed, there is a large new utility pole right on the edge of the road on our other frontage area. Selectman Kemper stated he has no objections as long as work in concert with Wayne from DPW to make sure he's aware. Greenbelt needs the Board's consent to submit the application.

Motion made by Selectman Kemper to authorize Greenbelt to submit an application on the Board's behalf. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Yes 3, No 0

B. Consideration of Proposed Renewal of Ambulance Contract with Cataldo:

Chief Dwyer, Dennis Cataldo, and Rob White updated on this topic. (See Exhibit B, pages 7 through 35 for information)

Dennis Cataldo and Rob White from Cataldo Ambulance were in attendance at the meeting. Dennis Cataldo stated that they have been in the community for a number of years, going back to 2012. Has a lot of experience servicing West Newbury, works very closely with Chief Dwyer regularly, as well as working closely with police and fire. Provides continuous performance reporting to the Chief and feels that they've been able to handle the needs of the community very well. Looking to renew the contract under similar conditions that have had in the past, stated haven't aren't aware or haven't had any issues, and happy to be in the region providing service to West Newbury, Salisbury, Newburyport, etc.

Rob White stated that he submitted a report regarding response times and the number of calls they did. Stated the response time for Newburyport have been good for the most part, some of the longer response times have been due to weather, snow, etc., and always works with the Chief if there's going to be a storm to try to try to work with West Newbury to keep response times down. Stated that Chief Dwyer has called them on a number of occasions to provide ambulance stand-by for vaccination clinics, for Town Meeting in the parking lot, etc.

Chairman Archibald asked how the response times are to the west end of town since the ambulances are coming from Newburyport. Rob White stated that Crane Neck is about a 12-minute response, that the closest truck is always sent. Stated changing their base location, will be further up, 18 Graf Road rather than Parker Street, so will be a bit closer to West Newbury.

Chief Dwyer stated that he's been happy with the team at Cataldo and Atlantic. Any issues had have been brought directly to his attention immediately and have been able to work through any concerns that they've had. Regarding response times, stated that can be a challenge depending on the day and the location in Town. Have been utilizing mutual aid, as well, from either Merrimac, Georgetown, or Newbury if they're unavailable or going to have any extended response time. Also been helpful with staffing when doing Page School vaccination clinics, provided the service to the Town for no charge, as well as support to the Town in a non-emergency fashion has been provided.

Selectman Parker inquired as to the Middle Street Bridge and whether the loss has been an issue. Rob White stated that the only people affected was Georgetown, so not really going over the bridge that often unless had to cut over to Georgetown.

Motion made by Chairman Archibald, as outlined in the contract beginning on page 8 of the agenda, to renew the contract of Cataldo Ambulance for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, as specified in the draft contract. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Yes 2, No 0 (Kemper abstained, son works for Cataldo)

C. Request for Appointment of Members to Board of Fire Engineers:

Town Manager Jennings stated no new inquiries. (See Exhibit C, pages 36 through 38 or information) Stated will be an appointment through April of 2022.

Motion made by Selectman Parker to reappoint Dave Evans, Mike Dwyer, and Benjamin Jennell to the Board of Fire Engineers. Seconded by Selectman Kemper.

Yes 3, No 0

D. Public Hearing to Consider Proposed Amendments to Personnel Policy (Bereavement Leave):

Town Manager Jennings summarized the proposal. (See Exhibit D, pages 39 through 42 for information) Stated would standardize the approval for taking bereavement leave to be the Town Manager rather than the Department Manager for consistency and would also expand the type of immediate family that would be eligible for bereavement leave to include grandparents, grandchildren, stepparents, step siblings, stepchildren, parents-in-law, and siblings-in-law. Proposal has been posted for the required amount of time and circulated to all staff for at least ten days.

No comments received on the proposal but included two recent requests that had come in for bereavement leave from people who had no knowledge that this proposal was in the works. So, would ask the Board to consider, in addition to the proposed language in front of them, if they do approve it, would be comfortable retroactively authorizing the bereavement leave for these two instances, because in both cases, people took time off not knowing if it would count or not, but did take the time for the funerals.

Motion made by Selectman Parker to modify the bereavement leave, as written, to include additional family, beginning March 1, 2021. Seconded by Chairman Archibald.

Yes 3, No 0

E. Review of Potential Revised FY22 Police Budget to Account for Anticipated Costs of Police Reform Law:

Chairman Archibald stated that the legislature passed and the Governor signed a police reform law, ramifications and requirements are still being formulated (See Exhibit E, page 43 for information) Stated that the message as far as how it will affect West Newbury is that reserve officers are going to have to have additional training, which is a good thing. Also will have to spend time at Bridge Academy and people who go to that will be okayed, and that the requirement for academy training will be mandatory for everybody after three years.

Stated that this is going to entail additional costs to the Police Department due to less people being available, training costs, etc. So, in the interest of time, the Chief and Town Manager have estimated that the additional cost in FY22 through the budget that was already prepared but will perhaps add additional cost around \$25,000 to the budget.

Chief Durand stated don't know about the ramifications yet, that the Post Commission just met about three weeks ago, and the latest memo that went out on March 22nd stated that in the weeks

and months ahead they're going to try to get this training down the way they want it. So, right now, it's 200 hours for each reserve officer with additional expenses for firearms training, not sure there's an additional cost associated with the Bridge Academy. Also stated that officers have to go alphabetically by their last name, and unfortunately, the five reserves have now are going to have to go this first year and still trying to hire additional reserves.

Town Manager Jennings stated that if reserve officers are unavailable for 200 hours to cover shifts, will drive up overtime if covered with full-time officers. Also talked about leading up to the proposal was whether they feel the Town ought to pay reserve officers under their employment to go to the training and felt strongly that we should since it would become a new requirement of doing the job, not realistic to expect people working on a temporary part-time basis to pay to spend five weeks in training, so that's what drives the \$25,000 cost. Also not sure what the tuition, if any, would be to attend the academy, so wants to be clear that the estimate that was prepared doesn't carry anything for tuition. If there is tuition and if it can be absorbed within the operating budget, will do that, but if it's more significant and can't absorb, may still need to go to the Finance Committee for reserve fund transfer.

Motion made by Chairman Archibald to increase FY22 budget by \$25,000 to apply to police salary and wages. Seconded by Selectman Kemper.

Yes 3, No 0

F. Request for Appointment of Members to climate Change Resiliency Committee:

Town Manager Jennings stated that Wendy Reed withdrew her name from consideration, so the list before you should be amended to withdraw Wendy's name. (See Exhibit F, pages 44 through 46 for information)

Motion made by Chairman Archibald to appoint Elisa Grammar, Elizabeth Callahan, Richard Parker, Patricia Reeser, Arthur Wallace, Nancy Pau and Thomas Craig to the Climate Change Resiliency Committee with an appointment through June 30, 2022. Seconded by Selectman Kemper.

Yes 2, No 0 (Richard Parker abstained)

G. Request for Authorization to Pursue Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant:

(This topic was not discussed)

H. Referral of Proposed Acceptance of Cortland Lane to Public Meeting Pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 82, Sec. 22:

Chairman Archibald stated that several years ago, Cortland Lane was accepted at Town Meeting and was voted, and for some undetermined reason, Cortland Lane has not been officially accepted as a Town road, so has to be redone. (See Exhibit H, pages 47 through 49 for information)

Town Manager Jennings stated that it was 2006 that Town Meeting voted, the Street Acceptance Plan needed to be recorded within 120 days of the vote and didn't happen for undermined reasons. So, worked with outside counsel and stated need to go back to the beginning of the

process, so at the April 12th meeting, Select Board did vote its intention to layout Cortland Lane, which was a requirement of M.G.L. c. 41, §§81G and 81I. Was then referred to the Planning Board for comment, also a statutory requirement. Planning Board met last Tuesday, and on page 49 of the packet, they did favorably recommend action on acceptance of Cortland Lane. Next step would be for the Select Board to refer this to a public meeting, and would recommend if do that, to do so for the next meeting, May 10th, and would send legal notice to each abutter of property adjacent to Cortland Lane, and any abutter is entitled to receive at least seven days advance written notice of the date of that meeting.

Motion made by Selectman Kemper to refer the acceptance of Cortland Lane to a public meeting to be held on May 10th, 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Selectman Parker stated he wants to make a note that because it wasn't understood that the recording of the ownership of Cortland Lane by the Town hadn't taken place, the Town essentially has been maintaining and plowing this road illegally for the last few years, which we obviously can't continue to do, so it's imperative that this gets done to continue to be able to provide services to the road. If the roadway is under private ownership, it's illegal for the Town to provide services on the roads.

Yes 3, No 0

I. Review of FY22 Budget as Recommended by Finance Committee; Board Recommendations (if any):

Chairman Archibald stated very small changes. (See Exhibit I, pages 50 through 59 for information) No other comments from anyone.

Town Manager Jennings stated that already taken up the recommended police budget change and gave the Finance Committee notice that would be considered tonight so they would be asked at their meeting tomorrow night to either recommend or not recommend that change. The other recent potential change may want to recommend is regarding the assessing budget in order to restore the wage for the full-time at the previously budgeted level rather than the reduced budgeted level.

Motion made by Selectman Kemper to add \$11,581 to FY22 assessing sales/wages budget. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Yes 3, No 0

J. Board Recommendations Regarding Proposed Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles not Already Considered (STM Articles 9, 10; and ATM Articles, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14):

(See Exhibit J, pages 60 through 80 for information)

K. Vote to Approve and Sign Warrants for Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting on May 22, 2021:

Chairman Archibald stated still a few Special and Town Meeting warrant items not yet made a determination on. (See Exhibit K, pages 81 through 89 for information)

Special Town Meeting Articles:

Article 9, to see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$100,000 to fund unbudgeted costs associated with the operation and administration of public health clinics to administer the COVID-19 vaccine or to take any other action related thereto, by request of the Board of Health. Funds would be coming from free cash but could possibly be refunded by other communities participating in the clinic (Amesbury and Newburyport). Town Manager Jennings stated that FEMA they would backstop 100% of eligible clinic costs. Approved 5-0 by Fin Com.

**Motion made by Selectman Kemper to recommend the amount stated in Article 9.
Seconded by Selectman Parker.**

Yes 3, No 0

Article 10, to see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$90,000 to fund unbudgeted personnel costs, or take any other action related thereto. Chairman Archibald stated there are contract negotiations going on now and a wage claim going on at the moment, and all are unclear as to how they will affect the budget line items, so have to have a contingency to cover what Town Manager Jennings had factored in for these items, which isn't covered by the regular line item, for example, if the contract negotiations are such that it costs more than what was budgeted, have to have a way to cover for FY22.

Motion made by Selectman Kemper to approve the amount stated in Article 10. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Yes 3, No 0

Annual Town Meeting Articles:

Article 3, to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate for defraying the expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year and for the payment of Town debt. Town Manager Jennings stated already recommended the budget, so no action needed.

Article 4, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 38 of the acts of 1936, to see what instructions, rules, or regulations the Town may wish to impose on the Board of Water Commissioners. Chairman Archibald stated nothing needs to be passed or no comments needed. Want to keep it on.

Article 5, To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, in anticipation of Water Department revenue, the sum of \$863,649, of which \$280,038 for salaries and wages, which include \$1,700 for Water Commissioners' stipends, \$47,248 for insurances, \$339,399 for expenses, \$124,068 for debt service, \$20,000 for extraordinary and unforeseen expenses, and \$52,896 for indirect costs, or to take any other action related thereto.

**Motion made by Chairman Archibald to approve the amounts stated in Article 5.
Seconded by Selectman Kemper.**

Yes 3, No 0

Article 6, to see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$500,000 to be placed in the water stabilization fund in order to fund capital expenditures for water related projects or take any other action related thereto. Chairman Archibald stated that it's in the Water Department free cash account at the moment and would be available for capital expenditures for the Water Department, including debt service related to some of the big projects such as the water tank project that is ongoing now.

Motion made by Chairman Archibald to approve Article 6. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Selectman Kemper stated that it can be used for that, but we can't earmark it going in there. Selectman Parker stated there is a huge additional capital needs for the water distribution system. Selectman Kemper stated that they have been taking money on water rates, specifically increased them to pay down debt that has already occurred, and now not going to use that money and they're using it now on other things and going to increase it again when the debt really starts to occur when increased the payments more than just interest. Town Manager Jennings stated it's an important point because while it is accurate to say that the proposed addition of a staff person would not need to increase rates for FY22, would have every expectation rates will need to increase the next year because of any issues that have been raised in FY23 due to debt service.

Yes 3, No 0

Article 7, to see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$270,000 for all costs and expenses pertaining to improvements of the Pipestave Hill Water Tank. Approved by Fin Com 5-0. Sunset would be 6/30/2024.

Motion made by Chairman Archibald to approve Article 7. Seconded by Selectman Kemper.

Chairman Archibald inquired as to whether this is from the Water Department free cash, and Town Manager Jennings stated that's correct, the year-end balance as of June 30th was just over \$1,000,000, so between the \$500,000 just recommended to transfer and this, would leave the water free cash balance a little over \$200,000, adjusted by what happens to the current fiscal year we're in. Selectman Parker stated that the tank is currently leaking, so needs to be dealt with.

Yes 3, No 0

Article 14, full text of Article is on page 86 of draft warrant, narrative on page 76, to see if the Town will vote to transfer from Community Preservation Act funds, in accordance with Mass General Laws 44B, the sum of \$175,000 to purchase a conservation restriction on approximately 30 acres of real estate located to the rear of property located at 28 Coffin Street, a conservation restriction in conjunction with Essex Count Greenbelt Association, Inc., on two parcels of real estate located to the rear of the property located at 28 Coffin Street, generally consisting of approximately 11 acres and 10 acres, respectively, said purchases to be subject to the approval of the conservation restriction by all parties, and that the Board of Selectmen is to be authorized to execute, acknowledge, and deliver all grants, agreements, and such other such instruments, including but not limited to the conservation restrictions in accordance with Mass General Laws, Chapter 184 and any other applicable statute or regulation as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of West Newbury to effectuate the purchases herein mentioned.

Motion made by Chairman Archibald to approve this Article for discussion. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Town Manager Jennings stated, just to clarify the point, the source of the money would be 100% CPA money, but there's not going to be a sufficient balance in the open space reserve for this, so it would also come a portion from the undesignated CPC budget. Page 80 of the packet has information on this topic and figures. Chairman Archibald stated that Greenbelt would be contributing an additional \$75,000 to the purchase and managing it afterwards.

Selectman Kemper stated that he has heard that some people are upset due to parking concerns. Town Manager Jennings stated have gotten some correspondence and should hear more at the next public meeting. Knows there's some concern but not any out and out opposition. Selectman Kemper also inquired as to whether Cortland Owners say they don't want their road public due to parking concerns. Town Counsel McCarron stated could acquire the property by eminent domain, otherwise would have to get a deed from the Applewood Farm Association Trust.

Selectman Kemper stated that CPA funds, which is fostered through the CPC committee and then brought to Town Meeting, they approved the \$175,000, and even though he personally believes it should be lower, because the process is in place, should bring this to Town Meeting because it's gone through the process. Also wants to commend the neighborhood group for stepping up and getting the process rolling.

Chairman Archibald stated that he thinks the Town was brought into the process for determining the cost of this particular conservation restriction after the fact, the Town was given a number and wasn't part of any negotiation to change that number, and he takes the fiduciary responsibility, even with CPA money that is partially not from West Newbury taxpayers, but some is, and that we weren't part of the process to come up with the number that the Town is spending. Stated that the Town goes through the process for purchasing to get values, and especially on a property that is going to be problematic in its accessibility at the moment due to parking and physical layout of the property, still going to be difficult to be accessible by almost anybody. Completely in favor of the voters making their decision on this property, but feels that the price is too high, for financial reasons, not for conservation reasons even though it's a great piece of property to conserve, just at a lower number, so he will vote no on this.

Selectman Kemper stated that in the past, we were brought in from the beginning on a proposed Greenbelt purchase to talk about the total price. Selectman Parker stated that at any point, could have poked our nose into what was going on, and have had so much on our plate, as well as Town Manager Jennings and the Finance Department, and never attempted to do that, so can't point a finger at somebody else because we didn't participate in the negotiation. Still thinks the lower number has validity, but just imagine what would have happened if five months ago Chip Hall had offered to protect the land for \$250,000. Selectman Kemper stated we're not getting all the land. Further discussion was had on this topic.

John Dodge stated that there is the consensus that the price is too high, but just wanted to remind everyone that in 2007, bought the development rights and a CR on Chestnut Hill Farm, and looking at the open space map, it's under 10 acres, and paid \$250,000 for a CR for less than 10 acres, so 51 acres for \$250,000 is a steal, three times as much land being preserved. Chairman Archibald stated that this land is inaccessible and under high tension wires.

Vanessa Johnson-Hall stated that Greenbelt did commission an appraisal to appraise the value of the land that is being acquired, both the conservation restriction that the Town is acquiring and the land, the 30 acres that Greenbelt is acquiring, and the independent appraisal that looked at comparables, did a thorough assessment of what land is selling for and what that land could potentially be developed as, and the conclusion of the appraisal is that the value that we are acquiring the land for is a below fair market value sale, so wants to reaffirm for the public record that the Town is not being asked to overpay, and Greenbelt does not believe that we are overpaying for this land based on this appraisal.

Yes 1, No 2 (Archibald, Kemper opposed)

Chairman Archibald stated that agree with the whole process in principal, just feel that the dollar is too high. Vanessa Johnson-Hall inquired as to whether if the Select Board votes no on the warrant and then the Fin Com votes no, does that mean the warrant article doesn't go forward to a Town Meeting vote? Chairman Archibald stated it's still going forward. Selectman Kemper stated only recommendations, recommend or don't, but it goes forward. CPC voted for it to go forward.

Vanessa asked if there is a number to which the Selectmen would be comfortable voting to recommend the article and would that be a change to propose on the Town Meeting floor or is the only option to go forward with a no vote. Town Counsel McCarron stated that the number can be down in the motion, somebody could make a motion for a lesser amount, just can't be higher, and in the event the motion had the higher number and was voted down, at some point during Town Meeting, someone could move for reconsideration at a lower number, which might pass. Further discussion was had on this topic and how things would work.

Rose Vetere inquired as to how binding is the Purchase & Sale Agreement between the Greenbelt and the Town, and was the Town Council involved in developing this agreement? Vanessa stated that the Purchase & Sale Agreement is between Greenbelt and the LLC, the Town is not a party to the Purchase & Sale Agreement. Further discussion was had on this topic.

Motion made by Chairman Archibald to approve the updated Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants as shown on pages 84, 85 and 81 through 83, and inserting on page 81 and 84 the time of 10:00 a.m. Seconded by Selectman Kemper.

Yes 3, No 0

L. Request from Superintendent for Input Regarding Potential Change to School Bylaws Regarding Term for School Committee Chair:

(See Exhibit L, page 90 for information) Chairman Archibald stated that what he read made a lot of sense, should be a learning curve before taking on someone else, so having a Chair be in there for two years makes sense. Dena Trotter stated that everyone agreed, she was not the person who brought it up, was brought up by a Merrimac rep who thought that should be done for continuity. Further discussion was had on this topic.

M. Discussion of Recent Unauthorized Cutting of Trees on Parks/Rec Land on Bachelor Street:

Chairman Archibald stated he happened to notice that this particular property has several large pieces of wood available for burning. (See Exhibit M, pages 91 through 110 for information) Town Manager Jennings stated the land is under the care and custody of the Parks & Rec Commission and wants to know what that means. There was further discussion on what "care and custody" means and who has what authority, and what remedy should be sought.

N. Meeting Minutes: March 15, 2021; March 29, 2021:

(See Exhibit N, pages 111 through 131 for information) Selectman Parker commented that on page 114, middle of page, "Municipal Monetization Act" should be "Municipal Modernization Act."

Motion made by Selectman Kemper to approve all minutes with correction. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Yes 3, No 0

TOWN MANAGER UPDATES

O. Receipt of Proposals for Affordable Housing Consulting Services; Affordable Housing Policy Presentation:

Town Manager Jennings stated wanted to make everyone aware have gotten a couple of good proposals for affordable housing consulting, so going to help to have someone under contract, and will be interviewed on Thursday. (See Exhibit O, pages 132 through 135 for information)

P. Anticipated Financing/Borrowing Schedule: Water Project Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs), S&S Building:

Town Manager Jennings updated that the anticipated timing for the reissuance of bond anticipation notes to continue the financing for the \$1.1 million of water infrastructure costs. (See Exhibit P, pages 136 through 138 for information)

Q. Update on Selection Process, Page School Playground Designer/Contractor:

Town Manager Jennings stated that did get three bids, and going to have a daytime meeting on May 10th to have each of the proponents propose their design, which would be open to the public in order to get public input on what people like about the designs.

R. Middle Street Bridge:

Town Manager Jennings updated that following the last meeting, did resume the design work which had taken a brief delay, so continuing to work on that. Upcoming hearing dates with the Conservation Commissions in both towns are listed. (See Exhibit R, pages 139 through 140 for information)

S. Upcoming Visit from Police Accreditation Commission:

Town Manager Jennings updated on this topic. (See Exhibit S, page 141 for information) Stated that there is a visit scheduled so the Department will be well prepared.

T. Updates on Other Active Projects; Follow-up Meeting Assignments; and Placing Items for Future Agendas:

(No discussion was had on this topic)

Thanks all around for Selectman Kemper and his service on the Select Board. Selectman Kemper also commented that one of the most important things with being a Selectman is that everyone needs to be different, everyone brings strengths and weaknesses, and when that happens, best for West Newbury.

Motion was made by Selectman Kemper to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Parker.

Yes 3, No 0

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Lobie, Certified Electronic Transcriptionist
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Approved 3-0 by Select Board on July 12, 2021