

## West Newbury Capital Improvements Committee Meeting Minutes

**Meeting date & place:** 7:30 pm, September 23, 2020, Remote Participation via GoToMeeting.

**Members Present:** Via remote participation Julie Boria, Rick Parker, Elisa Grammer, Polly McDowell, Judy Mizner, Patrick McCoy, Town Manager Angus Jennings, ex officio. Also participating remotely, DPW Director Wayne Amaral.

At the outset, Acting Chair Parker read the following statement: “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 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the West Newbury Capital Improvements Committee will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible.”

### Call to order

7:30 pm

### Approval of Minutes

*By 4-0-2 roll call vote (Mr. McCoy and Ms. Grammer, not present, abstaining), the Committee approved the minutes of January 29, 2020 and February 27, 2020.*

### Committee Organization

The Committee discussed the need to select a Chair. Mr. McCoy discussed his biography and volunteered to chair the Committee. Mr. Jennings noted that Nathan Kelly, the Finance Committee representative member on this Committee, offered to serve as Chair. Ms. Grammer supported Mr. Kelly’s experience in this area and his insights from the Finance Committee. Mr. Parker suggested that Mr. McCoy could serve as Vice Chair. *By unanimous roll call vote, the Committee elected Mr. Kelly Chair. By 5-0-1 roll call vote (Mr. McCoy abstaining), the Committee elected Mr. McCoy Vice Chair. By 5-0-1 roll call vote (Ms. Grammer abstaining), the Committee elected Ms. Grammer Clerk.*

### Capital Improvement Item: \$240K DPW Dump/Plow/ Salting Truck

Mr. Amaral noted that this item had been approved in the last cycle but had not made it into the Town Meeting. Mr. Amaral confirmed that 1) this truck should last 10-15 years; 2) DPW has a program for regularly cleaning these trucks to minimize rust from salt; and 3) this truck will have a more precise ability to aim salt dispersal, so that less salt should be used (resulting in cost savings) and excessive salt spray should not occur at the roadsides (resulting in environmental benefits).

In response to Mr. Parker’s query whether there has been any opportunity to examine alternatives to salt, Mr. Amaral said that he has been attending conferences on these matters. A brine solution can be used, but converting to that method can be costly.

*By 5-0-1 roll call vote (Mr. McCoy abstaining), the Committee approved supporting the expenditure of \$240K from the Stabilization Fund for the new dump truck.*

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm

**Meeting Documents**

[Description of dump truck article](#)

Respectfully submitted

Elisa Grammer