

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
171 Worcester Rd  
Sterling, MA

Minutes of November 24, 2020

Present: Gregg Aubin, Blaine Bershad, Deane Day, Paul Lyons, L DeCiero, Gary DeCiero, Paul Gerardi, Darren Borge, Sean Hamilton, Joe Curtain, Susan Genereux and Arden Sonnenberg (zoom)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Gregg Aubin, Deane Day, Blaine Bershad present

Minutes of October 28, 2020 were read. Gregg Aubin made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Blaine Bershad seconded the motion. All in favor 3-0.

#### Superintendent Report Water

- SMLD members Darren Borge, Sean Hamilton and Joe Curtain attended the meeting to discuss the Eaton Metering System. Sean distributed hand-outs listing the questions and answers to the DPW Board concerns about the Eaton Metering System at the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. The discussion continued but no decision was made. Blaine Bershad was looking for stronger language pertaining to billing integration with water and electric bills. SMLD and the DPW getting adjusted meter cost for further discussion. Paul Lyons stated that going with the Badger Systems there is no cost for training. Arden Sonnenberg stated we need to consider pulling data vs drive-by data collection. The future is based on how data is collected, also the life cycle of technology is between 13 to 18 months. Lisa DeCiero asked "How is Eaton reputation with water metering system?" They have a good rating with electric. Training and support system not there and Badger is a proven system and they are local. Paul Lyons spoke of concerns about being able to control cost and the AMI has not been around long enough to gauge how well the new system will work. Also the install for drive-by meters is cheaper. Gregg Aubin would like to have any cost adjustments presented before making a decision.
- A motion was made and a vote was taken to change the title of Executive Assistant DPW/Water to Sr. Executive Assistant DPW/Water with a Grade IV pay scale. Gregg Aubin and Blaine Bershad voted in favor of the motion. Deane Day voted not in favor of the motion. Motion passed 2-0. Paul Lyons stated that he was told by the town administrator and the selectboard chairperson that a vote weighs heavily on future decisions.
- Late Fees policy look back period is three years.
- PFA's still no results, confirmation needed to apply for grant money.
- Test Well site study – next step site review to apply to DEP for a 8" to 12" test well pump test.
- Risk and Resiliency Study – need a response program to get through emergencies.
- Completed Badger training for everyone.

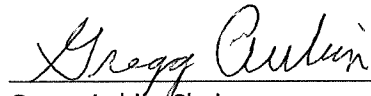
#### Superintendent Report DPW

- Shared Streets & Winter Spaces creates an opportunity to make the temporary changes with the money spent using Shared Street & Spaces to permanent. Paul Lyons mentioned the Senior Center, the Library and other locations will benefit from this program.
- Brush dump has ended for the fall season. The brush dump is getting full and needs cleaning. Clear Summit is willing to come in to assist with this project.

- Basin repairs are ongoing- normally 1 to 2 completed yearly, there have been 17 culverts and 13 basins completed to date this year.
- Ride on leaf blower tested- very powerful will save a lot time and man hours.
- Vote on Curbside trash contract was delayed – DPW Board members discussed ways in which the Town could save money recycling. Blaine Bershad wanted to hold off on vote until after a December 9<sup>th</sup> seminar.
- Paul Lyons stated that there are grants available and he would like to speak to the new Town Administrator about the town matching funds. Paul would like to be proactive and start planning for street repairs that are needed. This will also lower cost and get a jump start for this spring.
- DPW budget paying for gas and maintenance for Town vehicles. Departments pay for parts, but not labor. Arden mentioned billing departments to show them their savings.

Next posted meeting date TBD

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 PM

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gregg Aubin", is written over a horizontal line.

Gregg Aubin, Chairman

Department of Public Works Board