

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Minutes of October 8, 2019

Present: L. DeCiero, Geoff Donohue, Michael Pineo, Deane Day, Nick Paganella, L.R. Favreau, Paul Lyons, Blaine Bershad, Beverly Temple, P. Paganella, Gregg Aubin, Arden Sonnenberg, Charlie Brown, Lynda Kelly

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

Minutes of 9/24/19 meeting were read. Motion made by Larry Favreau to accept the minutes as read, Deane Day seconded, all in favor, the minutes were accepted.

### Public Session:

Blaine Bershad gave a VMP update. DPW Board members signed the VMP, procedural work right now. Blaine is meeting with other Boards to get signatures. Cathie Ryan working on providing a map showing the areas that can and cannot be treated. Blaine stated that the large colored map could cost up to \$200.

The DPW has received emails thanking the department for their efforts, quick turnaround, and positive end results for various requests that have been asked of the department which include: an email from the Police Chief with thanks for sprucing up the Memorial Park area for the George Peeso ceremony that took place September 19<sup>th</sup>, an email from Colleen Abrams on September 27<sup>th</sup> expressing her appreciation and thanks for the fall action items she requested to be performed on the Rail Trail. She went on to thank Paul Lyons for his time meeting with her and his kind support. An email was received on October 2<sup>nd</sup> from the Town Administrator expressing how great it looks around the tennis courts and that the DPW did a fantastic job landscaping the courts. On October 3<sup>rd</sup> Chuck Plaisted, Co-Chair Tennis Court Reconstruction Committee sent an email expressing the pleasure of working with the DPW staff and the department getting the job accomplished expeditiously.

Lynda Kelly inquired about the road work on Justice Hill Rd, was given the impression the job was temporary and not complete. She urged the Board for better communication in the future on major projects. The Board explained to her that the goal was to stop water from running into her yard and driveway and that was accomplished.

### Superintendent Search Committee Update:

The Town Administrator provided an email update on October 8<sup>th</sup> regarding the Superintendent Search Committee. The committee will include: Selectman John Kilcoyne, Fin Com Joe Sova, Holden DPW Director John Woodsmall, Recreation Director Kristen Dietel, Resident Steve Hesselton, Town Administrator Ross Perry, and a DPW Board member to be determined. To date, 14 applications have been received for the position.

### Superintendent Report DPW

- Justice Hill Road project is complete with just a few tailings around the edge and some signage. Paul Lyons, Interim Superintendent is pleased with the results. He stated that we did the best that we could.
- Quansit hut shored up with concrete blocks for winter salt storage. Cannot leave the salt outside and there is no other storage option ready for this year.
- Employee training certifications sent to Town Hall, training reduces costs for MIIA
- An employee left the department without notice, creating an open position.
- Paul Lyons, Interim Superintendent, stated that we have good people in the department who have gotten a bad rap.
- Paul Lyons stated employee morale is high and has never been this way for years. There is communication amongst the staff and Paul meets daily with the employees to discuss their daily assignments and to get their input.
- Paul Lyons stated as Interim Superintendent he would prefer to decide and to promote from within for the Assistant Superintendent position and advertise for a CDL truck driver position.
- Two DPW employees will be working on the Lakeshore Drive water main project, laying the line and back filling.
- Snow plowing routes will be reconfigured at a meeting with all employees giving input. Paul Lyons would like to use all DPW equipment first during storms and have outside contractors on call for large storms.
- Truck #9 has an ongoing undiagnosed electrical problem. The department did all the basic things to troubleshoot the electrical problem. Tuck's Trucks attempted to fix, Ricky's not interested in trying to fix. The truck is ten years old, not much mileage; will get it running one way or another.
- Truck #7 still runs good, get a couple more years out of it with money put into it.
- Sokolowski Trucking nearly finished with winter sand. Sokolowski believes there is enough material at the present site for next winter also.
- Paul Lyons stated the DPW will not keep burial vaults on hand at Hillside cemetery. The funeral homes have been made aware of this decision.
- Paul Lyons recommended a self-contained unit on the loader for roadside mowing as opposed to buying a new tractor just for mowing.

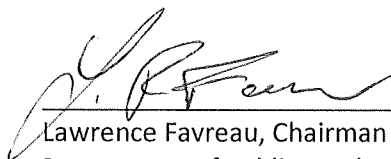
### Superintendent Report Water

- Lead and Copper testing failed third quarter, which will now require sampling 40 locations as compared to the current 20 locations.
- Lead and Copper information was posted on the Town's website, and the message was printed on the October quarterly billing.
- The DEP will provide to us procedures on how to proceed with required paperwork and testing for Lead and Copper.

Gregg Aubin made a motion to appoint Deane Day to the DPW Superintendent Search Committee, Larry Favreau seconded, Deane Day accepted, all voted in favor.

Next posted meeting date TBD

Motion to adjourn at 8:23pm



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Lawrence Favreau, Chairman  
Department of Public Works Board