

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

171 Worcester Rd
Sterling, MA

November 9, 2022

Present: Deane Day, Andrew Parker, Blaine Bershad, Ryan Mouradian, Paul Gerardi, Mike Tomaio,, David Rembetsy, Laura Ricci, Linda DiPalnia , Todd Raymond and Dana (unkown last name)

Zoom: No One

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

Deane Day, Blaine Bershad and Andrew Parker present

Public Session: Three residents came forward to extend their concerns. The first was minutes updating on website and the company Onyx not clearing the roads of sand. Mr. Day stated that question was best suited for the Onyx Company. The second resident questioned the new textile laws and how best to recycle them. Mr. Mouradian stated it would be best to take them to the Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycle Center. Linda also shared that after her trash bins have been emptied they roll into the road because of her steep driveway. Mr. Mouradian took her information and said he would research the problem and get back to her. The third resident expressed her concern about not enough space in trash receptacle. Also asked about excess brush and bulk items.

5 Lakeshore Drive-Request for reduced water connection fee

- Resident wanting to hook up to Town Water- doing the work himself. No DigSafe was requested and proper procedures were not followed. Two weeks before the new rates went into effect the gentleman was notified of the coming changes and failed to move forward until after the rates were voted and approved. The Board, after reviewing all the information made the decision to deny the request.

Mr. Bershad made the motion to charge the current (new) rate.

Mr. Parker seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

Trash & Recycling Implementation

- A handout from Casella- Recycling Commodity Update- the value of recycling commodities has declined sharply over the past few months. Cardboard and paper which comprises almost 60% of overall residential recycling stream, have declined roughly 80% since April 2022.
- The Town's first recycling audit was extremely successful, with a rating of 8% to 11% of contamination. New programs normally have ratings in the 20 percentile for their first audit.
- Just a reminder if anyone has a question on what is recyclable please visit www.recyclesmartma.org for more information. Carts will still have to be placed at curbside by 7 AM each morning.

Route 140 @ Dana Hill Traffic Study

- Mr. Mouradian suggested to the Board to proceed with the traffic study for Dana Hill this year, rather than wait until FY'24. Green International Affiliates, INC. will collect data during peak hours and analysis traffic evaluating existing and proposed traffic signal timing. The cost for the data collection, analysis and plans is \$4,200.

Main Street Line Striping Plan

The Town was awarded a grant for Shared Winter Streets and Mr. Mouradian presented a plan to the Select Board. The original plan for upgrading was not feasible because of the drainage issues and other repairs needed before the renovations could begin. A temporary solution would be to use some of the money for a more detailed Line Striping Plan. This plan would increase the parking from 38 spaces to 46 spaces, by moving some spaces further down the road and making the crosswalks more visible. These changes will make it safer for pedestrians.

Mr. Bershad made a motion to move forward with the plan including additional signs.

Mr. Parker seconded the motion.

Motion passed 3-0

FY'24 Draft Capital Budget

- Provided each Board member with a copy of the 5 Year Capital Plan- must be submitted by November 23rd.
- The DPW plan includes new equipment, upgrades for existing equipment, road plates, DPW Route 140 & Route 62 Intersection and continuing funding for a new DPW Facility.
- The Water plan includes a Water Wheeled Excavator (Cost to be split with the DPW), Water truck replacement, new West Sterling Generator Replacement and a New Water Source Development.
- Some funding for updating and replacing vehicles will not impact the tax rate because the DPW will be using money from sales of vehicles and equipment in 2022.
- Some funding upgrades will come from exiting funds and Water Enterprise free cash.

Project Updates and Superintendent's Update:

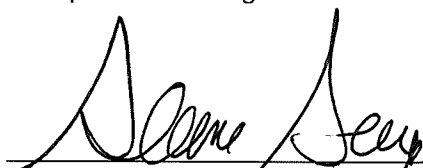
- Lazaro continues to work on Osgood Road, Beaman Road and Kendall Hill Road- partial road closing until work is completed. All streets in binder, aprons work on Friday and gate boxes have been raised on Kendall. Top will take 3 days- 2 for Kendall Hill and 1 for Osgood Rd and Beaman Rd. and a quick mill job on Route 62.
- Main Street Revitalization- Bill Caldwell obtained a Mass Works Grant that will help fund a storm drain system for Downtown area.
- We should see 900 water meter transmitters in the coming weeks that are greatly needed.
- Crowley Road- pump testing ongoing- yielded half of what was anticipated. Pumping 103 to 140 gal/min vs the 300 gal/min they were hoping for. Creating a Well Field (anything over 2 wells) the 3 wells will work simultaneously.
- Campground Water Main Replacement- Possibly a joint meeting with their Board on November 30th to discuss service responsibility.
- Redstone Water Main Replacement- Conservation permitting underway.
- Snow and Ice- 8 salt trucks ready to go
- Taking truck #7 to a Seminar that will show Mr. Donohue and Mr. Mouradian how to calibrate spreader
- DCR Grant- \$10,000 and DPW matching funds will enable us to purchase 5 sets of movable blades for the plows.
- Two Water breaks since last meeting one on Kendall Hill Road and Shady Lane. Thanks to folks on Kendall- how gracious they were. Shady Lane was a quicker fix.
- Dan Armstrong gave his resignation last Monday- last day Saturday brush dump. A valuable employee. Grateful for the time he was here at the DPW.
- Last meeting- trash cans on the Town Common- Casella driver has been emptying trash cans. We have removed pedestal trash cans and replacing them with new bins.
- Mr. Bershad wanted to thank the DPW for help breaking down voting
- Mr. Day wanted to thank all you worked on the Water breaks- Job well done!
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Future Agenda items:

- Trash & Recycling Updates

Motion to adjourn at 9:05 PM

Next posted meeting date TBD



Deane Day, Chairman
Department of Public Works Board