

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
171 Worcester Rd
Sterling, MA

June 12, 2023

Present: Andrew Parker, Blaine Bershad, Deane Day, Ryan Mouradian, Paul Gerardi, Michael Tomaiolo, David Rembetsy, Richard Maki and Laura Ricci

Zoom: No One

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM

Andrew Parker, Blaine Bershad, and Deane Day present

Mr. Bershad made a motion to approve the Minutes of May 23rd as written
Mr. Day seconded
Motion passed 3-0

Public Session: A concerned Citizen came before the Board to discuss the following:

1. The process for approving the installation of signs
2. Traffic issues due to parents picking up their children after school on Boutelle Road.
3. Dana Hill Road intersection- doesn't agree with the Town consultant's study of not changing the timing allowing vehicles taking the left hand turn more time.

17 Mortimer Road Tree Request

Resident requested the ability to take down healthy trees which are blocking her line of sight when pulling out of her driveway. Board agreed to hear her request and review the State's policy regarding the removal of healthy town tree. Also as a result of this discussion the Board believes that any request to remove a tree or trees moving forward would be a case by case basis.

Water Rate Discussion

- o A Public Hearing to raise water rates requires a month in advance notice and reads as following: The Town of Sterling Department of Public Works Board will hold a public hearing at 7:15 PM on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 in the upstairs conference room of the Sterling Department of Public Works, 171 Worcester Road, on proposed revisions to the Water Rate Structure and Rates. Interested persons are invited to attend. Sterling Department of Public Works Board

Cemetery Roads to be Paved- FY'24

- o \$10,000 will be taken out of perpetual care to repave Cemetery Roads and the Board was asked their opinion where the best place was to start. This work will be done over a period of time starting with Oak Hill Cemetery.

LED Flashing Signs- FY'24

- o 4 Stop Signs placed last year at Beaman Road and S. Nelson Road along with 2 stop ahead signs have proven to be very effective. Mr. Mouradian suggested putting additional stop signs at Heywood Road and Upper North Row Road. The other location suggested was Route 62 and Princeton Road.

Paving Plan – FY24

- o Updating ten miles to the Road inventory and upgrading the roads from the work completed last year has brought our pavement management score from a 71 to a 74. The goal is to raise the score to at least 80. Immediate needs are to look to the Northwest corner of town Justice Hill Cut-Off, Lucas and Ridgewood Road. Mr. Mouradian plans on earmark \$50,000 annually for crack sealing to help protecting our roads. He also plans on exploring alternative paving options such as Bonded Wearing Course which is an alternative to hot mix asphalt that seals the underlying road thereby protecting it from water infiltration and slows down the aging process. Future projects include a complete paving of Greenland Road.

Project Updates and Superintendent's Update:

- Road Work – Reclaiming Route 62 has begun- starting at Greenland and now past Wilder
- Road work – Route 140- scheduled to start a week from Tuesday. DPW crew doing drainage work with the help of Lazaro.
- Main Street Project moving forward with drainage issues being addressed
- Water Meter replacement program working quite well, over 200 meters installed
- Water Public Hearing next month
- DOR designing for 10 year storm plan. Further discussion with Consultant coming in for a presentation on downtown stormwater.
- Crowley Road Source- Pump test scheduled for the fall
- Line painting completed in the Downtown area
- Precast basins installed and two new ones installed on Lower Meetinghouse Road
- Lazaro helped install a culvert on Boutelle Road
- DPW crew put 2 weeks for prepping cemeteries and planting flowers by the Water Dept. for Memorial Day
- Water Dept. installed a temporary flow meter on Lower North Row Road. This meter will measure actual flow through pipe itself. This was given to us through a grant.
- Town Beach set up today
- Street sweeper completed June 1st
- Excavating and paving Greenland Road from Boutelle Road to Muddy Pond Road
- Road side mowing in progress and will continue
- Wooden guard rails will be installed with the help of the SMLD –Fair Banks culvert and the newly created Boutelle culvert
- Casella using summer interns to check recycling material
- Mr. Mouradian on vacation next week
- Truck #5, #18 and the Water Trucks have been ordered
- New Excavator is ordered and Road Plates will be ordered after July 1st.
- Wide Area Mower exploring options

Future Agenda items:

- Discussion of Rules and Regulations for future meetings
- Budget
- GIS System
- Next DPW meeting is July 11th

Motion to adjourn at 8:38 PM

Next posted meeting date TBD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Parker', is written over a horizontal line.

Andrew Parker, Chairman
Department of Public Works Board