

**Select Board Meeting
January 6, 2025 – 7:00 PM
Sanford Hall
155 Village Street**

Present: Frank Rossi, Chair; Todd Alessandri, Vice-Chair; Dennis Crowley, Clerk; Glenn Trindade, Member; Maryjane White, Member.

Staff Present: Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Allison Potter, Assistant Town Manager; Fire Chief Jeff Lynch, Deputy Fire Chief Michael Fasolino, Deputy Fire Chief Paul Molla; Stephanie Carlisle, Sustainability Coordinator, Peter Pelletier, Department of Public Works (DPW) Director; Nolan Lynch, Deputy DPW Director.

At 7:00 PM, Mr. Rossi called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Rossi stated the interviews for the Municipal Complex Building Committee (MCBC) have been moved to the next meeting on Tuesday, January 21st.

Public Comments: Ms. Dietrich asked if the MCBC interviews will be broadcast live on Medway Cable. The Board confirmed. Stephen Brody of 39 West Street noted he is a resident and a prior employee. He read a statement about an investigation of him back in November of 2021 stating he was no longer an employee at the time. He asked what right the Town has to hire a Private Investigator (PI) to investigate him. Mr. Boynton stated Mr. Brody has active litigation against the Town and suggested the Board not make any comments. Mr. Brody asked if hiring a PI is what is done when someone is out on an injury.

Introduction of New Deputy Fire Chief Paul Molla

Mr. Boynton noted this position is for the Risk Reduction Deputy Fire Chief and reviewed the employee's background as a career Fire Captain in Franklin with over twenty-three years of experience. The Board welcomed Deputy Chief Molla noting they take public safety seriously. Mr. Crowley asked what he does in the Town. Deputy Chief Molla stated his role functions as a school liaison, Senior Center liaison, completing inspections, and fire prevention activities.

Approval of Minutes: December 16, 2024

The Board reviewed December 16, 2024, draft minutes.

Mr. Trindade moved that the Board approve the minutes for December 16, 2024. Mr. Alessandri seconded. Discussion: Mr. Rossi asked on page 6, line 20 that "amount" change to "unfunded liability". Mr. Crowley asked on page 5, line 26 that "proposal" change to "forecast" and "This was confirmed by Mr. Pelletier" be added. He asked on page 5, line 44 that "construction" change to "design bid documents". **Mr. Trindade moved that the Board approve the minutes for December 16, 2024 as amended. Mr. Alessandri seconded. VOTE: 5-0-0.**

Appointment Consideration: Municipal Complex Building Committee (3 Citizens at Large) – Jessica Chabot, Timothy Harris, Fred Hopke, Andrew Kalicki, Andrea Kerr, Garry Legee, Chris, McHugh, Larry Muench, Jeffrey Nelson, Gibb Phenegar, and Cristina St. Pierre

This agenda item was postponed to the next Select Board meeting on Tuesday, January 21st.

Adoption of the 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Board reviewed the (1) memo from Stephanie Carlisle, (2) 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption Certificate, and (3) 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Ms Carlisle explained the process to date. Mr. Rossi asked about the mitigation actions and identified priority. Ms. Carlisle stated the team worked on prioritizing these and shared who the members of the team included. Mr. Alessandri stated these are not intended to be completed in the next five years. Mr. Crowley asked if Mr. Boynton intends to go to Town Meeting to fund the high-cost items. Mr. Boynton stated some of these are funded in the operating budget. Mr. Trindade stated this is important for the residents to be aware we are planning on the potential need to address these issues.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board approve the 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan and authorize the Chair to execute the certificate of adoption. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Stormwater Projects Funded by \$1.3M FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending Grant

The Board reviewed the memo from Stephanie Carlisle, Sustainability Coordinator.

Ms. Carlisle explained the process to date of the grant submission for the congressionally directed spending. The stormwater project we proposed was selected and stated we further defined the project scope. We are now ready to apply and submit the project and have been working with Woodard and Curran to focus on the Middle School, and Laurelwood Lane. She noted they have reached out to the applicable committees for feedback. The Middle School projects include four rain gardens and two subsurface infiltrators noting this project will help with removal of 17.7 pounds phosphorus from our stormwater. The plan is to go out to bid this month and begin the project next spring/summer. Mr. Trindade asked if the schools are onboard. Ms. Carlisle confirmed. It was noted the removal of the large pine tree will occur with plantings to be done elsewhere. Mr. Crowley asked if the \$1.3 million is the grant money and there will be no Town funds. Mr. Boynton stated \$360,000 was approved at Town Meeting. Mr. Crowley asked for confirmation we will not be asking for any further Town funding. This was confirmed. Mr. Crowley asked if further work would require further Town funding. Ms. Carlisle stated she will look to obtain grant funding for any further required work. Ms. White asked about the status of the rain garden at Memorial School. Ms. Carlisle stated it is working well and does require a bit more maintenance.

Authorization to Expend Grant Funds: Recycling Dividends Program - \$9,000

The Board reviewed the (1) Notice of Grant award form, (2) memo from Stephanie Carlisle, and (3) notice of grant award letter.

Ms. Carlisle stated this is a yearly grant through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, is points based, based on certain behaviors, and each year is getting more challenging to obtain these funds. This is used to pay for the annual curbside chronical and to supplement any additional items at the recycling center.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board authorize the expenditure of the recycling dividends program grant as discussed. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Approval: License Agreement with Veteran's Building Association, Inc. d/b/a Medway VFW Post 1526 for 123 Holliston Street Access

The Board reviewed the license.

Mr. Boynton commended Ms. Potter on her work on this. This authorizes them to keep their items in the meeting room and have access to that room. Mr. Alessandri asked if Parks and Recreation is okay with this. This was confirmed.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board authorize the Chair to execute the license agreement as discussed. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Vote: Open May 12, 2025, Annual Town Meeting Warrant

The Board reviewed the FY26 Budget and 2025 Annual Town Meeting Calendar

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board open the 2025 Annual Town Meeting warrant. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Action Items from Previous Meeting

The Board reviewed the action items dated December 16, 2024.

Unaccounted for water loss status report & CRPCD Volume Report: This was moved out to May 2025.

Trotter Drive/109 Intersection Improvements: Mr. Boynton stated since we received a grant authorization for the redesign of Milford Street from Summer Street to the Milford Town line that this be changed to ongoing.

Town Manager's Report

There were no items for the Board to review.

Hanlon Field Update: Mr. Boynton stated we have done inspections, and it will not be available for another playing season based on its current state. We are putting together a forum event to present the options for this field. Mr. Pelletier continues to work with Gale but to be ready for Town Meeting, we will need to go out to bid soon. We will look at a bid for add alternatives i.e. replacement with crumb rubber or Brockfill or grass. He commended Ms. Rossi and Mr. Pelletier on their efforts. The goal is to have this done before school begins in the fall. Mr. Crowley stated we will have additional costs to Gale to do another bid. This was confirmed. Mr. Crowley asked for confirmation about the three alternatives being suggested, crumb rubber, Brockfill, and grass. This was confirmed. Mr. Crowley asked when this needs to get out to bid. Mr. Boynton stated February. Mr. Crowley stated we will have the cost analysis meeting in March so questioned being able to go to bid in February. There was further discussion about the timeline noting the bid will be a base bid and then there will be two add alternatives. Mr. Boynton stated based on the cost, we may have crumb rubber or Brockfill if the cost for grass is too high. It was noted we have been told grass would cost more than synthetic turf. There was further discussion about the issues of a grass field relative to maintenance costs, accessibility during rain, etc. The Board asked for an evaluation of the total cost comparing a grass surface versus crumb rubber or Brockfill. It was noted this is not an agenda item and will be on a future meeting for further discussion.

FY'2026 Budget Update: Mr. Boynton stated we are well on our way and as usual in a deficit at this point in time. He still needs the following amounts including: (1) state aid which is currently level funded, (2) health insurance costs which are currently funded at a 4.7% increase, (3) Norfolk County Retirement, and (4) Tri-County. He reported included in this deficit an additional \$1.6 million of funding for the schools via a \$1 million increase from the levy and \$600,000 from the first allocation of the Medway Grid funds. The Medway Grid funds of \$2,239,000 will be used as follows: (1) \$600,000 allocated towards the school, and (2) \$1 million allocated towards the Tri-County debt. He noted this leaves \$639,030 and would anticipate using \$600,000 to solve the schools budget problem without the need to go for an override. He also noted we were surprised by a capital request for replacement of boilers at the high school at a cost of \$600,000 which is a \$95,000 debt hit. He noted he needs another three weeks to finalize the revenue numbers.

Health Insurance Update: Mass Strategic Health Group did a Request for Proposal for a new broker and will change from Gallagher to the NFP group. This group does their calculations differently than Gallagher so we may need to relook at the health insurance cost increase.

Maxim Restoration Update: Mr. Boynton stated we have a contract for \$200,000 noting we are \$80,000 into the project, receive photos every two weeks, and will visit this Friday. Mr. Alessandri stated the \$200,000 funding comes from Community Preservation Act funds.

Martin Luther King Holiday – January 20th – Town Offices closed: Mr. Boynton stated Town Offices will be closed for this holiday.

Town Manager Out of Office: Mr. Boynton stated he will be out of the office as follows:

- January 10 – Maxim Trip - Connecticut
- January 17 – Out of Office - Tentative

NEXT Select Board Meeting – January 21, 2025

Select Board's Reports

There were no items for the Board to review.

Ms. White stated the High School basketball team plays Norton this week.

Mr. Rossi and Mr. Alessandri wished all Happy New Year.

Mr. Crowley requested a further change to page 6 of the December 16, 2024 minutes. He asked on page 6, line 35 that the sentence "He had a conversation with..." be removed.

Mr. Alessandri made a motion to reconsider the December 16, 2024 minutes. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Board approve the amended minutes as amended. Mr. Trindade seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Mr. Crowley asked about the status of the Trash and Recycling Committee and if all have been sworn in. Ms. Potter stated Mr. Applebaum still needs to be sworn in. Mr. Boynton stated Mr. Pelletier will be scheduling a meeting. Mr. Crowley asked for a status on the contract for the Medway Block cleanup at

\$1.2/\$1.3 million. Mr. Pelletier stated we are working on the bid document. Mr. Crowley asked about the status of the West Street Battery Energy Storage Facility. Mr. Boynton stated all documents have been signed and he expects to receive the first check by the end of this month of approximately \$300,000. Mr. Crowley asked for an update on the Meehan Group project. Mr. Boynton stated the last he heard three weeks ago is they are working on a draft development agreement. Mr. Crowley stated he has had no response regarding his call today to the Communications Director of the Postal Service regarding a retail store in the Plaza. Mr. Crowley asked about the tax revenue date for Medway Grid. Mr. Boynton stated the Department of Revenue (DOR) has not approved the Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) yet noting Ms. Pratt called today to ask if they had made a decision. Mr. Boynton stated if the next time we call, they have still not decided, he will call the DOR Director and asked about the status. Mr. Crowley asked if they will meet their live date. Mr. Boynton stated they have to based on their agreement with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Mr. Boynton stated he has captured these funds in local receipts not new growth due to the lack of a decision from DOR. If DOR does not approve the PILOT, we are in an ad valorem tax situation, and it will be a challenge for Medway Grid. If the PILOT is approved, we will have no issues. Mr. Crowley asked if there is a risk to count on that money for FY26. Mr. Boynton stated no. Mr. Crowley asked if the Tri-Board meeting is still scheduled for next Wednesday. Mr. Boynton stated he has a call into the superintendent to try to change the date.

At 8:08 PM, Mr. Trindade moved to adjourn. Mr. Alessandri seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Langley
Executive Assistant
Town Manager's Office