

**Select Board Meeting
May 4, 2026, 7:00 PM
Sanford Hall, Town Hall
155 Village Street**

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

Staff Present: Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Allison Potter, Assistant Town Manager; Pete Pelleiter, DPW Director; Sandy Johnson, Communications Director

At 7:02 PM, Mr. Alessandri called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Kimora Chin

Kimora Chin, a junior at Medway High School, won the honorable mention, silver key and gold key from the scholastic awards show for her art pieces. Ms. Chin said that her honorable mention and silver key were both created digitally. Each Board member commended Ms. Chin on her fantastic artwork. Mr. Crowley asks what she will take with her out of college when she pursues her art degree. Ms. Chin says that becoming an illustrator or a publisher will be one of the best ways to turn her art into monetary value, she mentions her English teacher, Ms. Johnson is the advisor for the school's newspaper club, and she has been a big help in supporting her goals. Ms. Johnson said she is very proud of Ms. Chin, she thanks the Board for inviting Ms. Chin and recognizing her work.

Public Comment

David Travalini of 4 Riverview Drive, representing the energy and sustainability committee. He informs the Board that in preparation for Fall Town Meeting, their committee is looking to put in an Article that proposes that Medway adopt a specialized building code that will make Medway a Climate Leader Community. Medway is currently a Green Community, competing against 351 other towns/cities for grant funding, if they adopt this new code, they will only compete against the other 50 towns/cities. Mr. Travalini says that at the Annual Town Meeting, the Energy and Sustainability Committee would like to hand out flyers to inform the public well in advance of the Article for Fall Town Meeting. He would like to schedule the committee to come to a later Select Board meeting to discuss the specialized code with more detail, he adds that Stephanie Carlise, DPW Sustainability Coordinator, can share her ideas with the Board. Mr. Alessandri said he had previously spoken with Mr. Travalini and other committee members and suggested them come to the Board to introduce this topic before Fall Town Meeting. He adds that there are surrounding Towns that have adopted this building code, and he would like to speak to those Town's Select Board before they decide. Ms. White asks if this is for new homes, not pre-existing homes, Mr. Travalini said it is for new buildings. Mr. Crowley asks if this new code would have to go to the Planning Board for approval before the Select Board, Mr. Alessandri responds that they could ask for the Planning Boards input, but it is ultimately the Select Board decision. Mr. Crowley also asked Mr. Travalini to prepare an cost estimate would be to be able to prewire the houses for electrical Mr. Travalini responded yes, and the Energy and Sustainability Committee is willing to meet with residents or any board in Town for discussion.

Appointment Consideration: Yvonne Carpenter, Conservation Commission

The Board reviewed the Letter of Interest, the Conservation Commission Recommendation and the Resume of Yvonne Carpenter

Yvonne Carpenter of 2 Liberty Lane says she has lived along the water shed basin in Medway since 2002. She loves wildlife and the environment and has a great interest in protecting both, while providing the opportunity for homeowners to alter their property. Mr. Travalini stated she is replacing Sean Green, and he recommended Ms. Carpenter to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Trindade states that the job is to enforce the law, the Conservation Commission is a regulatory Board that must follow state laws. Ms. Carpenter said she understands that she must follow Town and State laws when considering applications. Mr. Rossi asks Mr. Travalini how often the Conservation Commission meets, Mr. Travalini says they are twice month and usually around 2 hours or longer. There are also additional time constraints like site walks. Mr. Rossi asks Ms. Carpenter if she knows of these timing blocks and if they are an issue. Mr. Carpenter said that this is no issue, she will manage her time well.

Mr. Trindade moved that the Select Board vote to appoint Yvonne Carpenter as a member of the Conservation Commission for a two-year term expiring on June 30, 2028. Seconded by Ms. White. VOTE 5-0-0.

Discussion/Vote: Trash and Recycling Program Fees

The Board reviewed the Memo from Pete Pelleiter, DPW Director and the Draft letter to residents

Mr. Pelletier stated that The Trash and Recycling Program Review Committee submitted a draft letter for the Board to review, they will put in the finalized version in the mail for residents to see the price increase in the annual trash and recycling collection bill. He previously spoke with the Town Finance Director and based on the projections for Fiscal year 2027, they will need to increase the annual trash fees. Ms. White asks how much they are currently charging annually, Mr. Pelletier says it is \$280 per year, to not be in a deficit, they have calculated that an annual fee of \$348 per year/ \$87 per quarter, will combat any deficit in the budget. This will be a total increase of \$17, per quarter from the FY26 Trash and Sewer bills. Ms. White asks if there could potentially be another increase to the new annual fee. Mr. Pelletier responded yes, there is potential to increase this annual fee again, after FY27. Mr. Alessandri asks when the Wheelabrator contract ends. Mr. Pelletier responds that it will end at the end of December 2027, in FY28. Mr. Alessandri comments that there is more than a year to look at the following year's increase in annual fees, Mr. Pelletier says he plans to come back to this in the fall. He mentions that there is an inter-municipal committee with surrounding towns that are currently negotiating a Wheelabrator price when the contract ends in 2027, he has not been updated with a firm price. Ms. White asks if those surrounding towns are also increasing their trash and recycling collection rates, Mr. Pelletier said he does not know what other towns are charging for their trash collection, but every town will see an increase in the annual fee. Mr. Boynton says that in the past, the Board has been very conservative in increasing the trash and recycling collection fees, causing the retained earnings revenue to decrease. The companies Medway uses to collect and dispose of resident trash and recycling have all increased while the residents' bills have stayed the same. He adds that if they had slightly increased the annual fee, year after year to meet equalization in the expenses v. revenue funds they would not be in a deficit. He suggests looking into setting up a rate structure that meets the increase in costs year after year, so the increase in price is manageable for residents rather than the large increase after not increasing the fees for years. Ms. White asks that if residents can they hire a private contractor to pick up their trash, Mr. Boynton replied yes, there is no obligation to pay for the Town trash collection. Matthew Applebaum, member of the Trash and Recycling Program Review committee, explains that private trash collection can cost residents \$30-\$40 per pick up. Mr. Crowley comments that he has called two of the private trash collector companies that were provided by the committee and both companies are running at around \$700 per year for private collection. These companies will pick up trash once a week at this annual fee, while the Town offers four special item pickups a year with small bulky items in addition to trash, recycling pick up, and being able to use the recycle center each week. He suggests that any resident that does not want to pay the Town annual fee should contact the private collectors to make their decision. Mr. Applebaum replied that they

conducted a study of the surrounding towns and Medway was the least expensive Town for trash and recycling fees. He adds that in 2021, there was an excess of \$1.3 million in funds, for FY27 they are projected to have lost \$1 million. Mr. Crowley takes accountability for the lack of increasing the annual fee year after year. When this was discussed in the past, the reserve funds were enough to not raise the fees, and they took the necessary funding from the reserves, depleting the fund. Mr. Alessandri states through the Board that they do not want to increase the fees, but they are at a point where they must, it is part of their responsibility to help the Town be sustainable. Mr. Crowley said that when looking at the letter, the revenue from the collection fees and Medway trash bags have not been sufficient with the current costs of operation. They are currently \$80,000 in deficit and there are still three months left in the year, which will only make the deficit larger. Mr. Alessandri thanks Mr. Applebaum and Mr. McDermott for their recommendation and efforts towards the increase in fees. Mr. McDermott explains that the Trash and Recycling Committee know that the increase in annual/quarterly fees can be a lot for residents, but the committee members are experienced in their fields of waste management and evaluated this increase thoroughly. Mr. Applebaum suggests that if they continue to increase the annual fee by 3%-5% annually, they might not have to come back with an exponential increase. Mr. Trindade comments that they went to professionals like Mr. Applebaum and Mr. McDermott who live in Town and can lend their time and expertise to this issue. Mr. Trindade agrees with Mr. Crowley that if there is a better solution to a resident's trash pickup, they can obtain it and this is not a taxed or forced bill. Ms. White adds that no one wants to pay an increase for trash collection, but this increase was studied by professionals, and it has to be done to meet costs of operation. Mr. Rossi states that this committee was created two years ago; their first report to the Board had recommendations for an increase revenues and lower expenses, he adds that this would have lead to a larger increase in the fee than being presented, he commends the committee for this. Mr. Crowley asks for an explanation of what is driving the rate increase, Mr. McDermott responded that at the incinerator location, both fuel and labor increases contribute to these raising costs. Mr. Crowley then asked how long this last contract with Wheelabrator was for, Mr. Pelletier stated the contract lasted for 20 years. Mr. Crowley says that along with inflation rates and the 20 years since the initial contract, this is why there is a price increase. Mr. Trindade asks if there are any other contactors than Wheelabrator, Mr. McDermott said there are minimal options, and it depends on the price of the transit to the incinerators. Mr. Crowley asks what will stop neighbors from paying one private contractor fee and combining trash. Mr. McDermott responded that space would be an issue, they will not pick up multiple bags of trash, Ms. White adds that they have to proof of residency or the Town will charge the resident the Town rate. Mr. Rossi asks how many Towns are in the Inter-municipal group that is setting a contract with Wheelabrator, Mr. Pelletier responded it is between 20-25 Towns.

Mr. Trindade move that the Select Board vote to Approve the Recommendation to Increase the Fiscal Year '27 Curbside Collection Annual Fee to \$348/yr. Seconded by Ms. White. VOTE 5-0-0.

Approval:

The Board reviewed all memos from Town staff and proposed contracts

- a. **Contract with A.T.E Painting LLC, for Exterior Painting at 158 Main Street – Ide House (\$48,050)**

Mr. Pelletier said he needed to hire a contractor for the lead paint on the Ide House, he went out for bid for the project and chose A.T.E Painting. Mr. Crowley asks what funds will be paying for this project, Mr. Pelletier responded that there are some funds left in the 158 Ide House painting fund. Mr. Alessandri asked if their references were checked since they have a significant price drop from the second lowest bidder, Mr. Pelletier responded that the references were checked.

Mr. Trindade moved that the Select Board vote to approve the contract with A.T.E Painting LLC, for Exterior Painting at 158 Main Street, in an amount not to exceed \$48,050, and authorize the Chair to execute it. Seconded by Ms. White. VOTE 5-0-0.

b. Contract with Tetra Tech for On-Call Engineering Services

Ms. Saint Andre states that Tetra Tech has been doing on-call engineering for many years with the Community Economic Development Department. The department works well with their engineers, and they would like to renew their three-year contract. Their prices are rising \$10-15 per seniority of engineer. Mr. Alessandri asks where this will be funded from, Ms. Saint Andre says that this is paid with revolving funds which are from applicants when applying for permits.

Mr. Trindade moved that the Select Board vote to approve the three -year contract with Tetra Tech for on-call engineering services through June 30, 2029, and authorize the Chair to execute it. Seconded by Ms. White. VOTE 5-0-0.

c. Agreement for Sealer of Weights and Measures Services between the Town of Medway, Town of Millis and the Town of Medfield

Mr. Boynton states that they have been doing this for about 2.5 years, both Medfield and Mills have signed off. There has been an increase in insurance and salaries related costs, overall the contract has been working very well for all Towns.

Mr. Trindade moved the Select Board vote to approve the Inter-Municipal agreement for Sealer of Weights and Measures services with the Towns of Millis and Medfield, for a term ending June 30, 2029, as presented. Seconded by Ms. White. VOTE 5-0-0.

d. Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Mansfield – 2016 Ford Ambulance

Mr. Boynton states that this vehicle was taken out of service and will be transferred to the Town of Mansfield. They provide on-scene support to communities, and they assist with the Medway Christmas Parade.

Mr. Trindade moved that the Board vote to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Mansfield, for the transfer of a 2016 Ford F-550 Ambulance, as presented. Seconded by Ms. White. VOTE 5-0-0.

Approval of Minutes

The Board Reviewed the Draft Minutes dated April 6, 2026 & April 21, 2026

The Board did not discuss the Draft Minutes.

Action Items from Previous Meeting

The Board Reviewed the Action Items Dated March 2, 2026

Mr. Crowley mentions to Mr. Pelletier that the DPW department will present the 2025 unaccounted water loss report, and he asks for there to be an addition of the Towns PFAS results, in comparison to federal regulations. He also suggests removing Action Item #9.

Town Managers Report

There are no associated backup materials

Mr. Boynton informs the Board that the main feeder line connecting the Choate Snack shack to the water main ruptured on May 1st. There was significant water damage to the building, computer panels, camera panels and electrical panels, they have been shut down for safety reasons. There has been an electrician on site, and they have suggested replacing the circuit box, he anticipates around \$8,000 to replace the circuit switch. There should not be any issues repairing the pipe, and the splash pad should be open when that time comes. If there is not enough money in the other insurance fund, they might have to go to the finance committee to ask for a reserve fund transfer. Ms. White asked what caused the pipe to burst, Mr. Pelletier said that where the water meter connects to the line, there was a leak. Mr. Alessandri asks if there is a timeline for these repairs, Mr. Pelletier said he hopes for as soon as possible.

Mr. Boynton states that the Town and the School go out for bid for electric services every few years. Currently ENGIE is the service that is provided to the Town, they are claiming there is a provision in their contract that allows them to increase the pass-through charge for capacity fee. The Town is disputing it; they are working with Town Counsel to go over the contract and different options. There is a substantial fee of around \$15,000 for the year Mr. Crowley asked when the contract expires, Mr. Boynton said it expires in September.

Mr. Boynton said that due to the current administration, they put a hold on the \$1.3 million stormwater grant, Mr. Pelletier and his team have been watching other communities with congressionally directed spending lines and they have been receiving reimbursements. He asks the Board if they want to direct staff to put projects out to bid and then decide what to do next, depending on the prices.

Lastly, there was a mix-up in the Town Meeting Warrant that was posted online, Article 19 was copied into Article 17 line. It was able to be adjusted in time to be posted before Town Meeting.

This time is being reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed

There are no associated backup materials

This agenda item was not discussed

Select Board Reports

There are no associated backup materials

Mr. Rossi said that on May 16th and 17th, there is a Luge slider search at McGovern School. This is where Zack DiGregorio was discovered, and he is now an Olympian for the U.S.A Luge Team. Mr. Trindade adds that the kids will get coaching and pointers on the sport and you can register online. Ms. White mentions the Medway Garden Club Plant Sale on May 16th, all the money that is raised goes to plants in the Town buildings. She also mentions the Firefighter Retirees Breakfast, about 26 retirees came to the station and it was a great event she hopes turns into an annual event. Mr. Alessandri mentions Town Meeting next Monday. Mr. Trindade mentions the Medway Community Farms Annual Golf Fundraiser on May 18th; it is held at the New England Country Club in Bellingham. The benefit is for the Medway Community Farm and there are lot of prizes to be won.

Mr. Trindade Motion to Adjourn at 8:32pm seconded Ms. White. VOTE 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Sophie Boucher
Executive Assistant
Town Manager's Office