

**DPW Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, March 4, 2015  
7:00 p.m. – Police Station Community Room**

A meeting of the DPW Commissioners was held on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 7pm in the Community Room at the Police Station; present were Commissioners Gardner and Reed, Chairman Sena was not present.

**7:00 PM Approval Items:**

Board of Commissioners Minutes Approval: Commissioner Gardner moved to accept the 1/21/15 and 2/11/15 DPW Commission meeting minutes seconded by Commissioner Reed, Vote: 2-0.

**7:05 PM Open Session:**

Open for Public Discussion with the Commissioners:

T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, asked for answers on the following questions pertaining to the MBTA:

1. When did the DPW receive the complete MBTA plans?
2. Was the Board of Selectmen notified that the plans were received?
3. Did the Board of Selectmen direct the DPW to distribute the plans to town boards and committees and if so, which ones?
4. Was a public hearing held to present the plans?
5. Did the DPW have representation at that hearing?
6. What other boards or committees were represented there?

**7:10 PM New Business:**

Harbor Advisory Committee Update on Granite Pier Extension: T. Olson said a consultant was hired; they were given information and a kick-off meeting was held in January. There was an open meeting with the Harbor Advisory Committee, the Granite Pier Committee and local fishermen. The questions on the questionnaire from the Army Corp. of Engineers were reviewed. The consultant is assisting the town in completing the questionnaire. We are waiting to hear back since we have given the consultants the information, then it will be submitted to the ACOE and they can decide if they would like to move forward with the assessment portion of the project. The government wants more commercial uses in there than recreation, not necessarily fishermen but perhaps a whale watch, charter boats, etc. The \$5,500 for the initial assessment is funded through the CPC. T. Arsenian said more than 300 parking spaces would be needed if we're talking about 300 additional moorings. We need to tabulate the number of people who launch boats there, and determine if they are the people that have a mooring. The Army Corp. of Engineers will contribute up to \$100,000 if we meet a certain threshold if this moves forward after the assessment.

**7:20 PM Ongoing Business:**

Community House Fee Schedule & Stipend Review: The DPW Commissioners will make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen regarding any changes recommended. The building holds, on an average, 2-3 events every weekend. Bill Balzarini said that the rules and regulations don't need revisions; he said they're working pretty well. He said the current revenue for the use of the building is approximately \$200/week. The current use is significantly Rockport residents and Rockport organizations (Red Cross, Garden Club, Thatcher Island, etc.). Director Parisi said \$7,500 is being set aside to put back into the building; this is an annual appropriation. Bill Balzarini estimates that it takes 17 hours each week of his time to run the building (changing lightbulbs, light cleaning, providing information to interested groups, etc.) He said when he accepted the position it was estimated that 10 hours each week would be needed. Commissioner Gardner said if we're proposing to increase the stipend to manage the building, the funds have to come from somewhere; the fee schedule needs to be considered. B. Balzarini said he doesn't believe a credit card is feasible to charge damages to those who have used the building. He said we need to upgrade the facility, external painting is needed.

Transfer Station Single Stream Recycling: Mel George is retiring in early July; given his accrued vacation balance his last day will be at the end of April. J. Parisi said glass doesn't have much value; it is stockpiled in the yard. He said it doesn't move quickly; we have to call constantly for them to come get it. It was discussed whether single stream or dual stream is

the way to go. J. Parisi said we are looking at Hiltz as a viable alternative. With Waste Management we would have to keep the glass separate, we don't have that extra burden with Hiltz. JRM was very expensive. Hiltz is a true single stream with mixed revenue. A value to single stream mix that they have a formula for, based on our tonnage they estimate 117 hauls at \$135/haul, totaling approximately \$20,000, the cost of rentals is factored in. They would provide compactors, two 35 yard compactors one 30 yard back-up. IPR can't do anything with glass but Hiltz can. M. George said if we went single stream, logistically, it's a bottle neck. On a busy Saturday it could backup; maybe another container with a large hopper. This will need to be presented at town meeting. It was discussed that another benefit with Hiltz is that it may be more convenient to have a local vendor, when we need something we wouldn't have to wait for it to come in from out of the area. J. Parisi will contact Hiltz.

Schedule Public Hearing for Transfer Station Fees: The hearing is scheduled for 7pm on 3/18/15 at the Police Station.

### **8:10 PM Ongoing Capital Projects**

Millbrook Meadow & Millpond Improvements Project: Frank Hassler, Shannon Mason, Charles Coulbourn, and Frederick Tarr were in attendance representing the project. The project is in Phase 3 now, Design and Development, with Milone and McBroom. After this will be construction bids and an application for the CPA which will be on the Fall Town Meeting, we should know more about estimated costs at that time. The total costs are \$1.9M. T. Arsenian said he thought the walkway was going to be put on solid ground, in the plan it appears to be under water. It was questioned if the sewer line is going under the pond. J. Parisi said it's too early in the process; we have surveys of the sewer line. We would have to use Beach Street to allow access for trucks into the meadow. Commissioner Gardner said soil testing was going to have to be done if we were disturbing the area where we would change the path of the stream. Because of the industrial history of the area, soil testing might raise some issues that might raise the budget. The contractor is testing the pond next week while it is still icy. Commissioner Gardner said we were talking about a process to arrive at the final design, he questioned if there is still an opportunity for input or is the committee going to create the design and announce this is what is being proposed. Sam Coulbourn said this is the design we plan to build unless something is faulty. Frank Hassler said the plan is fairly broad at this point. T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, inquired about the five expensive granite benches at the Beach Street entrance. He said it was stated that the cost for those were initially \$35,000 and was reduced down to \$8,000, T. Arsenian said they could be less expensive. The trees or shrubs have to go through a recommendation from the Beautification Committee, the DPW Commissioners, and the Board of Selectmen. The plan is to try to keep ongoing maintenance to a minimum. An informational table will be set up at Spring Town Meeting explaining what is happening, the first public meeting is being held on 4/15/15, this is being presented to the Garden Club on April 6, 2015 and an update will be provided to the Rotary. What if the CPC can provide only \$300,000. F. Hassler said maybe bond it similar to the Community House situation; there may be some aspects that the CPC doesn't feel that they can provide.

Pigeon Cove Seawalls Repair Project: T. Olson said all paperwork has been filed, so we waiting on the permitting. He said the Engineer said we are on track for original construction to start in June and go through the winter. He said there is a mussel/oyster restriction from February through May, so it would need to be a June start. By the end of this week we should have preliminary plans and specifications to review and we can submit them to FEMA and MEMA. Director Parisi said we haven't received the final worksheet but with the winter weather there has probably been a delay for everyone. By mid to late April it could go out to bid; it needs to be finished by February of 2016. It was discussed if we should notify FEMA of the dispute over the ownership of the harbor. T. Olson said we could always request an extension pushing the February, 2016 date out. Commissioner Reed said the Board of Selectmen needs to be involved with this.

### **Tickler List:**

Cell tower lease funds  
Green Communities/Energy efficiency  
Sewer use regulations  
Transfer Station Redesign  
DPW Facility

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 3/18/15 at 7pm in the Community Room at the Police Station.

8:55 PM: Commissioner Gardner moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Reed, Vote: 2-0.