

DPW Commission Meeting
Wed., January 18, 2017, 7pm
Police Station Community Room

A meeting of the DPW Commission was held at 7pm on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 in the Community Room at the Police Station. Present were the three commissioners and DPW Director J. Parisi.

Approval Items:

Commissioner Gardner moved to accept the minutes of 10/19/16, Chairman Reed seconded, Vote: 2-0.

Commissioner Gardner moved to accept the minutes of 11/9/16, Commissioner Sena seconded, Vote: 2-0.

Commissioner Gardner moved to accept the minutes of 11/15/16, Chairman Reed seconded, Vote: 2-0.

Commissioner Gardner moved to accept the minutes of 12/7/16, Commissioner Sena seconded, Vote: 3-0.

Open Session:

T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, questioned if the Granite Pier extension applications to the Army Corp. of Engineers were on DPW letter head. He said the Granite Pier Committee opposed the pier extension, he said that is a material part of the town's affairs. He asked if the Commissioners could find out what was sent in and recommended that someone call the ACOE to let them know it's coming.

He said at the Board of Selectmen workshop, it was stated that the DPW hoped to go forward with Millbrook dredging of the Millpond and the Frog Pond.

Chairman Reed said what he thought was said was the \$600,000 was for Millpond and additional hopefully coming for the Frog Pond.

J. Parisi said the first \$350,000 authorization was for Millpond and Frog Pond and then an additional \$250,000 for Millpond. We're going out to bid for both including the CPC process and donated funds.

T. Arsenian said this doesn't match. He said he had offered an amendment on Town Meeting Floor, he said J. Parisi said they would come back for additional funds. The first \$350,000 was for the Pond and Frog Pond in the prior year. He wants to know if the DPW changed their position. Other aspects of the project are going forward, he asked if the commissioners are supporting the stream realignment, the wing wall, the regrading of the meadow or the planting. He questioned if J. Parisi is authorized to go forward. Chairman Reed said Director Parisi can go forward with the commissioner's approval. J. Parisi said the Frog Pond was already done with existing staff.

Chairman Reed said the key here is funding. He said we did agree to go forward with the Frog Pond, but we agreed to do it ourselves.

T. Arsenian said but not the wing wall, not the stream realignment, the regrading or the planting.

Bill Wagner said at the Budget Workshop the subject of the Community House revolving account was brought up. The Board members seemed surprised that the funds collected do not cover the building's expenses; they have asked for an accounting of that. The DPW Commissioners should recommend rates that would cover the expenses for the building.

Commissioner Gardner said he thought it was left in the Board of Selectmen's hands to set the rates that would cover the maintenance and the increased stipend for the house manager.

Jim Ugone, 33 Main St., said he is helping the Harbormasters with a CPC application to rebuild the floating wharves at White Wharf. Most of the applications he has seen seem to be joint applications with the DPW involved. It involves taking out the floats and having others brought in. He doesn't know if they can be delivered directly to the water. He questions to what degree they should ask the DPW to participate in this. If they have to replace the moorings with similar material, they will be outsourcing that because they don't have the capability.

Chairman Reed said the DPW gets involved in emergency situations. He said anything going out for the Harbormasters should go through the Town Administrator or the Asst. Town Administrator.

T. Arsenian questioned why new floats are a benefit to the town; he said they benefit those that use them.

New Business:

56 Beach Street driveway entrance improvements, John Franco owner: He has a set of plans that represent the latest revisions. They waited for revetment to be repaired across the street. He said they know they can't control the water, but they're trying to find a way to help it out of the building. The revetment looks like a substantial improvement over what they had.

J. Parisi said this is not a change to the roadway. He said J. Franco could do something to his entrance because it's all downhill. He's looking to add trench drains, then a second trench drain so the water would go down the driveway. All the drains tie into the outfall drain that we have going through the seawall. There is a manhole; that is in the grassy area that is a main connecting point. The grade of the entranceway is important to be sure the whole thing works. There were some changes to the plan at the last minute that J. Parisi hadn't seen yet. There is some granite curbing, 6" reveal. The grassy area would be raised up to level that area. There were 3 parking areas in the front, they will remove 3 and add one in the back. We have a sewer easement for the sewer line here. The Franco's contractor will be replacing the road. Though built by his contractor, the town will own it. Water is coming down Granite, onto 60 Beach St., and their drain is plugged. His is the lowest point and all the water comes his way. J. Franco said if they could add an additional drain on the street; that would be wonderful – we have nothing on that side of the street. The trench drains go across the driveway. J. Parisi said he would prefer not have to trench drains on town property. It could be part of the agreement that the owner maintains the drains (future owners as well). The Conservation Commission is planning on closing this hearing tonight.

Commissioner Sena questioned what if #58 and #60 Beach Street don't get on board. He said the catch basin is on the Granite Street side of #60's property.

J. Parisi said it would be good to have a comprehensive plan for multiple homes here. The Conservation Commission could approve the other homeowners.

J. Paris recommends a site visit by the commissioners; the Conservation Commission can make their decision.

Ongoing Business:

Sewer Overlay District: The Planning Board is holding a public hearing on Thursday, 1/26 at 7:35pm. They would like the DPW to be present; Commissioner Gardner said he will attend. Commissioner Gardner said he had a talk with the Town Administrator because he had asked her to speak with the land use attorney at Kopelman & Paige to clarify what a Sewer Overlay District will do for Rockport around 40(b). He said we need more research on how we are defining it in conjunction with the Planning Board.

Asst. DPW Director Position: The Commissioners have the applications. The process is to narrow the list down to a manageable list. Then interviews will be conducted; input from the Commissioners would be helpful. The candidates that are on most of the Commissioners and J. Parisi's list will be chosen. Commissioner Gardner will be part of the interview committee. Chairman Reed recommended they choose seven of the candidates.

Draft Rockport Construction Standards: P. Sena reviewed the draft standards. He said he made three categories of edits, the first is typos or changes (minor), the second group are things that can be reviewed with D. Greel, and the last category is discussion items (easement, overrides, language issues).

Transfer Station Regulations Review: Becky is here for the office's perspective on PAYT vs. flat fee. They were reviewing draft regulations from 12/6/16.

The 12/6/16 version was updated with Sunday openings and off-hour access. Section B off-hour access, PAYT, second sentence is not on the status quo. The requirement of having the stickers affixed to the windshield was discussed; maybe putting it above the rear view mirror. New York residents can't affix anything to their windshield.

Transfer Station Stickers: businesses established in Rockport
People with 2 vehicles need to purchase 2 stickers.
Sharon Kishida stated that all mercury bearing waste is prohibited
Trash must be contained in PAYT bags, even construction debris

Brian said if the town goes all PAYT, we only have 3 compactors; we would need a minimum of 4 to make the change.

Commissioner Sena said we would have to wait for one year to see if solid waste goes down.

Sharon Kishida says we should see perhaps a 30% reduction. There may be less sticker holders or it could be the same.

J. Parisi said we have a grant for a compactor, then we'd have to create a pad, etc.

Brian said we would need to start now if we are going to PAYT this year. On fees, because of low prices, we may be getting a lot of Gloucester appliances, couches, mattresses, TV's, computers, etc. A Rockport resident brings a friend in with a Gloucester check. It was suggested that we increase our prices to match Gloucester's or higher to discourage people from coming into town to dispose of things. CRT \$30/fee in Gloucester, Rockport rate is \$10; Gloucester's bulk item is \$10, Rockport's charge is \$5.

J. Parisi said we should move quickly for fees and stickers. We should revisit all fees and increase them.

T. Arsenian said this should go to Town Meeting.

Becky Wright said there isn't time; we will need to get new stickers and flyers to announce the change.

T. Arsenian said if we go PAYT you must make some accommodations regarding everything needing to go into a bag.

Commissioner Sena said this is about saving money for the town.

Chairman Reed said he is convinced we need to go PAYT, but we should do it next year after we get residents acclimated to it.

Commissioner Gardner said he is in favor of PAYT.

Brian questioned if we could start making some changes this year before we go totally PAYT. He said we still need a compactor and we need to resolve the Swap Shop.

Chairman Reed said 60% of residents buy flat fee currently.

Commissioner Gardner suggests that the plan would be to fully load the flat fee sticker with all true costs. It needs to be equitable for those people that are dumping a lot of stuff. We shouldn't subsidize the flat fee anymore. Make them put everything in a bag and raise fees on bulk items.

Commissioner Sena said make sure PAYT bags are sturdy enough.

Becky said if you increase families that are piggy banking on stickers, then they'll go in together with stickers, may increase cheating. If there are people that are PAYT in Gloucester, bags should cost the same or more than Gloucester.

J. Ugone said PAYT offers a lot of solutions. He questioned if that eliminates someone who takes a window out, and it's junk.

Brian questioned demolition debris - asphalt materials. He said we should make it easy for residents to dispose of small amounts of asphalt because they are addressing plow related winter damage and cleaning up a mess.

Commissioner Gardner said let's assume we are not going PAYT this year but we start this year requiring everything to be in bags. Only residents will get one barrel of debris and we can increase fees for bulk items. We should start looking for volunteers for the Swap Shop.

Chairman Reed said this will be on the agenda for the February workshop with the Board of Selectmen.

Brian recommends that Rockport contractors can dispose of one barrel's worth of debris per month.

S. Kishida said if we put PAYT off one year and raise the rates, she'd like to see a committee/group put in place that educates residents on this. She said there is going to be a lot of resistance. We need to tell why it's so important; and it's not just about the money.

Becky said we have businesses that don't have room for a dumpster.

J. Parisi spoke on the Policy to be a Complete Streets Community. This will be on the agenda for the 2/7 Board of Selectmen workshop. He said we can apply for grants after the policy is complete. The first grant would allow for the payment of a consultant. To be in this cycle we would need to get it in by June 30, if not, it will be the next cycle.

Flat Ledge: complete and operational, just waiting for DEP approval.

Next meeting: 2/1/17 in the Community Room at the Police Station.

Adjourned 9:10pm

Tickler List

- Cell tower lease funds
- Sewer use regulations
- Transfer Station Redesign
- DPW Facility
- Plowing of Private Roads