



# Town of Bellingham

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

10 Mechanic Street

Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019

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June 10, 2019

The June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:03 PM by Chairman Daniel Spencer with Mrs. McNulty, Mr. Connor and Mr. Biagi in attendance. The meeting was opened at the Department of Public Work with Mr. Fraine and Mr. DiMartino in attendance as well. The purpose of the meeting was to give the Board a tour of the facility and talk about the need for expanding and updating existing structures.

The meeting continued to the Arcand Meeting room where Chairman Spencer publicly welcomed the new Treasurer/Collector Mr. Paul Redmond. Mr. Redmond joins us after spending time in the town of Boxborough where he gained lots of experience dabbling in all departments. He will be joining the Board of Selectmen at their next meeting on Monday June 17, 2019 for the signing of bonds and BANS.

Public Hearing – National Grid & Verizon petition to install a new pole with approximately 16 feet lead against Pole 6 Central Street. Pole will be located on town property on the north side of Central Street. It will be labeled Pole #6-89.

Mr. Spencer read the public hearing notice.

Mr. Michael Fraser represented National Grid. He stated the new pole would provide push base for the pole that is currently there. Pole 6 has too much tension on it and cannot be replaced as this will continue to happen. The new pole will be installed at an angle against the existing pole to help stand it up. The new pole proposed to be installed is on Town property. Mr. Spencer asked if there was anyone present in the audience to speak on this hearing. No one responded.

On a Connor/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted in favor of closing the public hearing.

On a Connor/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted to approve the petition to install a new pole, Pole # 6-89 on Central Street.

Continued Public Hearing – Revision to the Solid Waste Fees and Rates.

Mr. Fraine stated he had gathered additional information from surrounding towns and based on what he found there really is no common theme on how communities manage their waste collections. He did find that a lot of towns in our area are switching to E.L. Harvey. The question that was left unanswered after the first Public Hearing was whether or not to make adjustments in the solid waste fees and what if anything to charge residents who currently have an extra recycling tote.

Mr. Biagi asked if we could look into obtaining a more competitive recycling rate per ton and Mr. Fraine stated that we couldn't as the rate is based on the market price. Mr. Connor asked why the rate for a two family wasn't double what a single family was paying.

Mr. Fraine explained the reason why the rate was set this way was to deter two and three family homes from opting to go with dumpsters as their means of disposing of trash.

Mr. Spencer asked if there was anyone present in the audience to speak on this hearing. Rosemary Glynn asked if the senior rate would go up. It was confirmed that the seniors pay half the cost of a single family rate and that will remain the same.

Kim O'Neal of Trenton Street stated that she agrees the seniors deserve a break but also feels that families with young children in sports and other activities in town also deserve a break. She doesn't feel it is right that two family homes aren't paying double what a single family pays.

Mr. Spencer stated the bottom line is that these fees were set when recycling was free and now the rates need to be adjusted.

On a McNulty/Connor motion, the Board unanimously voted in favor of closing the public hearing.

On a Connor/Biagi motion, the Board unanimously voted to adopt a change in the following trash fees effective September 1, 2019. It was additionally noted that Single Family rates, Senior Single Family Rates and all others not listed below will stay the same.

Two Family Rate \$165

Three Family Rate \$235

Four Family Rate \$305

Second Recycling Tote will be an extra \$25

On a Connor/McNulty motion the Board unanimously voted to approve the CRPCD Sewer Capacity Allocation request from Hidden Meadows II for 5,600 gpd for Off Sunken Meadow Road.

On a McNulty/Biagi motion the Board unanimously voted to award Contract 2019-GMX, Grove Street Standpipe Mixing to the low bidder Pride Environmental & Construction of Berkley, MA in the amount of \$527,999.

On a Biagi/Connor motion the Board unanimously voted to award Contract 2019-MCD, Municipal Center Drainage Improvements to the low bidder Gravity Construction of Plainville, MA in the amount of \$199,080.30.

On a McNulty/Biagi motion the Board unanimously voted to approve the Change of Officers and Directors as submitted by Uno Restaurants, LLC.

On a McNulty/Biagi motion the Board unanimously voted to appoint the Memorial and Veteran's Day Committee members as listed (please see attached) for a one year term.

On a Biagi/McNulty motion the Board unanimously voted to ratify Mr. Fraine's reappointment of Animal Control Officers Tracey Taddeo & Cindy Souza for a one year term, Town Planner James Kupfer for a one year term, Director of Public Works Donald DiMartino for a three year term and Building Commissioner Timothy Aicardi for a three year term.

On a Connor/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted to accept the May 20<sup>th</sup> minutes as submitted.

On a Biagi/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted to approve the May abatements for capital improvement charges, private hydrant, residential sewer and sewer service charges, residential trash, residential water and water service charges in the amount of \$24,639.51. Under discussion Mrs. McNulty questioned the high amount of water abatements. Mr. Connor stated we need to find out how many of these abatements are over a year old and talk about establishing a policy that would bring the residents in for any abatement that is over a year old to explain why they won't let the DPW in to their house to replace the meter.

Mr. Connor asked for an update on our utility credits and Denis commented that the finance department was making headway on them but would check in with the Mrs. Mackinnon for an update.

Mrs. McNulty would like it put on record that what she saw on the lockers at the DPW during the tour of the facility earlier was completely distasteful and disrespectful and she hopes something is done about it.

#### Town Administrator's Report


- Mr. Fraine updated the Board on the bond sale that will be signed at the meeting on Monday June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Fraine reminded the Board of the upcoming Hazardous Waste Collection Day taking place on June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9-1 at the Senior Center and the Community Shredding Day which will be taking place on June 29<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 at the Municipal Center.
- The Old Home Days is coming together. Mr. Fraine has been meeting with the committee on a weekly basis and is excited about the events that will be taking place.

Mr. Fraine requested an executive session to update the Board on employee contract negotiations. Members of the Board were polled with all voting in the affirmative.

Minutes of June 10, 2019  
Page 4

On a McNulty/Biagi motion, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting and convene in executive session at 7:45 PM with no further business to be discussed at the conclusion of the executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Hilarie J. Allie  
Administrative Assistant