

**WELLESLEY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS RECORDS
JULY 12, 2011**

The Wellesley Board of Public Works held a duly posted open meeting in the Boardroom in the Utility Building, 2 Municipal Way, convening at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Those present included Commissioners Paul L. Criswell, William E. Charlton; and David A.T. Donohue; Director Michael P. Pakstis; Assistant Director Judith A. Curby; Town Engineer Stephen S. Fader; Management Analyst David A. Cohen; Thomas Harrington of 165 Great Plain Avenue; and Reporter Julie Balise from The Wellesley Townsman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Donohue, and seconded by Mr. Criswell, it was unanimously,

VOTED: To approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting of June 22, 2011, as presented.

CITIZEN SPEAK

The Chairman presented those in attendance with the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Harrington introduced himself as Chairman of the Playing Fields Task Force (PFTF), as well as being a member of the Recreation Commission. He apologized for having missed the June 22 Board meeting, at which time he had originally planned to come before the Board.

Mr. Harrington noted that the PFTF has determined that the Sprague Fields are receiving maximum use. However, he indicated there remains a shortage of fields. The PFTF has now focused sights on the Wellesley High School (WHS) stadium field. The PFTF hopes to form a Turf Field Task Force (TFTF) to follow the same process that was conducted by the Sprague Field Task Force. Mr. Harrington reported to the Board that this recommendation has already been presented to Recreation, Schools, Natural Resources Commission and the Board of Selectmen. Each Board has voted to support the creation of a task force to study this issue. Mr. Harrington requested a vote of support from the Board. He further requested that the PFTF would be looking for one member of the Board of Public Works, or an appointed designee, to serve on the newly formed Turf Field Task Force.

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Chairman Charlton inquired if the planning process would follow the same structure as used for Sprague Field. Mr. Harrington responded that once all five Boards approve, the TFTF would then seek input from a number of area neighbors. Mr. Harrington confirmed that the PFTF has agreed to limit construction to the area within the perimeter of the existing fence surrounding the WHS field.

With regard to financing, the TFTF is looking to seek funds from private contributions as was done for a portion of the Sprague Fields funding. Chairman Charlton inquired if there is a concurrence on the part of the Schools? Mr. Harrington replied representatives from the Schools are supportive of the synthetic surface. This would include possible extension of field use to others groups. Mr. Harrington indicated it is hoped that when the project is completed, WHS teams could then relocate certain games, which are now being played at Sprague, back to the WHS field. Mr. Harrington added that, for planning purposes, if the field is to accommodate games beyond football and lacrosse to include soccer, a wider field would be required. This would require a new track be constructed and possible relocation of some of the bleachers.

The Board inquired if lighting is part of the plan for the proposed field, similar to those for the tennis courts and multipurpose fields? The use of lights has not yet been discussed with neighbors and others hence, it is unclear whether lighting will be included in the project. Mr. Fader estimated that the cost for the entire project, including lighting, would be in the range of \$2,000,000 – \$2,500,000. Mr. Donohue indicated it would be nice to know if it is a reasonable expectation to be able to raise that amount of money.

Mr. Harrington indicated that he has been told informally there are no NRC issues within the fenced area. Mr. Harrington noted that the synthetic turf to be used is made of coconut fiber. It was agreed that crumb rubber infill would not be used. Mr. Harrington indicated that he was heavily involved in fundraising for the Sprague Field. He explained that in this instance funds would need to be raised before construction could start. Commissioner Donohue then noted how deeply involved both the Director and Town Engineer were with the Sprague project.

Mr. Harrington anticipates hearings to begin in the fall; then go to Annual Town Meeting in the spring of 2012 to request design funds, and then have the design done the next fiscal year for approval in spring of FY13. It was estimated that the design and permitting would cost \$250-300K. The Board asked if it is likely the Town has the funding available for this project.

Mr. Harrington concluded by conveying to those present that he has been told Wellesley has the nicest of any turf fields in the surrounding area.

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Upon motion duly made by Mr. Criswell and seconded by Mr. Donohue, it was unanimously,

VOTED: That the Board of Public Works expresses its support for the Playing Fields Task Force forming a sub task force to explore the possibility of building an artificial turf field at the Wellesley High School stadium and other matters and appurtenances thereto.

ADMINISTRATION

Statement of Fact Activity Report. The Director referred to the most recent activity during the month of May referencing tires for two loaders at the Recycling & Disposal Facility.

Accident Summaries. The Director referred to recent personal injury and vehicle incidents and responded to specific inquiries from the Board and reviewed pertinent details related to the incidents. Reference was made to the Safety Spotlight for the month of July with a focus on Reducing Heat Stress.

DPW Operations Building Project. The Director provided the Board with an update on the project. Mr. Pakstis reported that the Permanent Building Committee has issued a Notice to Proceed to Contractor's Network Inc. The Board and Staff both applauded the progress reached by the PBC entering into an agreement on the project. As decided at the June meeting, Mr. Criswell will attend the PBC meetings this summer, representing the Board. Mr. Charlton will resume attendance at the meetings in the fall.

The Director also noted that the preliminary pavement and soil preparation has been performed by the Highway Division. The Water and Sewer Division has relocated an existing water main and fire hydrant, completing for the moment the Town's responsibility for site work.

Benchmarking. Mr. Pakstis informed the Board that following discussions at the last meeting regarding benchmarking efforts, letters introducing the idea of exchanging and capturing best practices among three local towns were sent to the Director's counterparts in both the Towns of Needham and Natick. Mr. Pakstis confirmed that the DPW Director in Needham was very receptive to the idea. The Director is now awaiting word from the Natick contact. There will be a meeting scheduled in the near-term to review those practices.

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WATER & SEWER DIVISION

Monthly Performance Report. The Director referred to the report prepared by Water & Sewer Superintendent Duggan for the month of May 2011 and responded to specific inquiries from the Board related to the Morses Pond Wells and the Hegarty Pumping Station.

Water & Sewer Enterprise Funds Financial Statements. The Director and Assistant Director referred to the Financial Statements for the month of May 2011 and responded to specific comments from the Board. There was a brief discussion regarding the balance of funds in the property, plant and equipment line. Ms. Curby clarified the change in numbers was due to the Water & Sewer Garage Building project.

Cedar Street Bridge Reconstruction. Town Engineer Stephen Fader complimented the State for having completed the project on time and accomplishing all tasks in a professional and workmanlike manner. A few loose ends require completion, but overall the process went very smoothly.

Commissioner Donohue inquired about the letter from Mr. O'Rourke who owns a business property located on the southeast corner at the intersection of Cedar and Worcester Streets. The Director explained he had met with the gentleman and suggested to Mr. O'Rourke that he establish contact with someone at the State level to discuss his concerns related to a property easement he granted to the State for this project. Mr. O'Rourke's concern relates to the easement area which now contains numerous utilities, a traffic signal and signs, which obstruct the content view of his own business sign from Worcester Street and Cedar Street.

Next Board Meeting. It was decided that the next meeting of the Board of Public Works would be held on Tuesday, July 26, at 7:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Donohue and seconded by Mr. Criswell, it was unanimously,

VOTED: To adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul L. Criswell
Secretary

DISCUSSION ITEMS
WELLESLEY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING
JULY 12, 2011
5:30 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Board to review Open Session Minutes of the meeting of June 22, 2011. **BOARD VOTE AND SECRETARY SIGNATURE REQUIRED.**

CITIZEN SPEAK

It is anticipated that Tom Harrington of the Recreation Commission will attend the Citizen Speak portion of the meeting to discuss soon to be formed Wellesley High School Stadium Turf Field Task Force.

1. ADMINISTRATION

STATEMENT OF FACT ACTIVITY REPORT. Director to review recent activity. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

ACCIDENT SUMMARIES. Director to review summary of personal injury incidents, to date. Reference to Safety Spotlight for the month of July with a focus on Reducing Heat Stress. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

DPW OPERATIONS BUILDING PROJECT. Director to refer to current status of project, along with reference to Notice to Proceed issued by the Permanent Building Committee to Contractor's Network Inc. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

BENCHMARKING. Director to refer to proposed meetings with contacts in both Needham and Natick to work on benchmarking measures. **BOARD FEEDBACK REQUESTED.**

5. WATER & SEWER

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT. Director to refer to report prepared by Water and Sewer Superintendent Joseph Duggan for the month of May 2011. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

WATER & SEWER ENTERPRISE FUNDS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. Director to Assistant Director to refer to the Financial Statements for the month of May 2011. **NO BOARD ACTION REQUIRED.**

7. FYI

- Cedar Street Bridge Reconstruction
- Letter from Paul O'Rourke re: Cedar Street Bridge Reconstruction Project
- I-95/I-93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project