

# WESTMINSTER DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS P.O. BOX 376 WESTMINSTER, MA 01473 - Tel. (978) 874-5572

Commissioners Lorraine J. Emerson, Chairman Vance A. Butterfield Scott H. Ryder, P.E. Joshua W. Hall, P.E. Director of Public Works

## PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2015

Location: Public Works Department Office, 2 Oakmont Avenue

Present: Members: Lorraine J. Emerson – Chairman, Vance A. Butterfield

5:00 PM Opened Meeting at Public Works Department Office. Reviewed

correspondence and signed bills for payment.

#### **Abatement Requests**

The Commission met with Patricia Fields, 4 Elliott Street. Ms. Fields questioned the abatement given to 4 Elliott Street. She said she was told by the Town Treasurers and DPW offices that she had to pay the entire amount that was owed to the Town currently in arrears and then she would be issued a credit. She said that she did not have the money available. Chairman Emerson and Commissioner Butterfield were in agreement that the abatement process should not work that way and she should only have to pay the abated amount. Chairman Emerson asked that the DPW Director look into the issue and get Ms. Fields the actual amount owed with the abatement applied and let both them and the Treasurer's office the amount so it can be paid.

#### Bathrick Road

Chairman Emerson discussed the article request that the DPW will put forth for \$20,000 to pay for engineering on Bathrick Road. It was explained that we will ask to have the Road Maintenance supplemented for that amount and that the commissioners would be meeting with the Board of Selectmen on November 2 at 6:00 PM to discuss. Commissioner Butterfield asked the Bathrick Road residents to provide feedback on the condition of the road since the work had been done to fix some of the problems. Jim Kane said that most of the dust has been abated and the road is in better condition than it has been for many years. Jim Kane did say the cuts for drainage near the Wilder, Barber, and Church residents have filled in again and needed to be looked at again by the DPW. Commissioner Emerson said that feedback would be given to the DPW Director for investigation and remediation if necessary.

<u>Holmes Park Water District Rescind Discussion</u> Nothing new to report on this item. Public Works Commission Meeting Minutes October 22, 2015 Page 2

### Whitman River Sewer System Improvements

The Commission met with reporters from the Gardner News and Fitchburg Sentinel to review the Whitman River Sewer System Improvement Project for their upcoming newspaper articles. The Commission explained the needs of the system and issues if the Town vote is not successful.

6:12 PM Commissioner Butterfield made a motion to adjourn. The motion seconded by Chairman Emerson. Voted unanimously.

APPROVED WESTMINSTER PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

**Documents / Exhibits** 

1. Patricia Fields, 4 Elliott Street abatement request letter