



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA

BOARD OF SELECTMEN • TOWN HALL
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

July 22, 2021

6:30p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting, Meeting: ID 849 0206 4166, Passcode: 445266 One tap mobile: 1.646.558.8656

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bodmer-Turner, Chairperson, Ms. Jaques, Mr. Boling, Ms. Harrison and Mr. Round

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Town Administrator, Mr. Federspiel, BOS Clerk, Ms. Hunter, DPW Director, Mr. Dam, Town Moderator, Mr. Wilson, Police Department Chief Fitzgerald, Fire Department Chief Cleary and DPW Director, Mr. Dam

GUESTS:

PRESS:

Mr. Bodmer-Turner called the BOS meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner welcomed participants to the virtual meeting indicating the meeting was being recorded and minutes were being taken by Ms. Hunter.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner spoke in recognition of Mr. Boling and the outstanding leadership he demonstrated through the pandemic on behalf of the Town. Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated he appreciated Mr. Boling's work and thanked him on behalf of the Board and Town.

1. Set Dates for Fall Town Meeting and Selectmen Goal Setting Workshop

The Board discussed two possible dates for Fall Town Meeting. November 8, 2021 and November 15, 2021. The Board concluded the most favorable date for Fall Town Meeting is November 15, 2021; all Board members are available to attend on November 15th.

Ms. Jaques moved to schedule Fall Town Meeting on Monday, November 15, 2021, Ms. Harrison seconded the motion the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The Board's Goal Setting Workshop was briefly ~~discussed~~discussed, and the Board decided to meet on Saturday, July 31, ~~2021~~2021, at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Mr. Boling moved to schedule the Board's Goal Setting Workshop on Saturday, July 31, ~~2021~~2021, at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom, Mr. Round seconded the motion. The motion passed

unanimously by roll call vote. (Editor's Note: Due to an unexpected conflict this meeting is being rescheduled.)

2. Board & Committee Appointments

Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated the first three appointments to consider are:

Melanie DiBiasio – Welcoming Committee
Marlene Dolan – Downtown Improvement Committee
Brandon Lamphear – Downtown Improvement Committee and Conservation Commission

Mr. Bodmer-Turner indicated there was only one opening on the Downtown Improvement Committee, Ms. Cook notified the Town Administrator's office she planned to remain on the Committee. He also stated there may be additional candidates for the opening on the Conservation Commission and the vote to approve that appointment would be delayed to the next meeting.

Mr. Boling initiated two motion which were withdrawn at Mr. Bodmer-Turner's request to move to approve the candidates one at a time.

Mr. Boling moved to approve the appointment of Melanie DiBiasio to the Welcoming Committee, Ms. Harrison seconded the motion. Ms. Jaques requested to add a friendly amendment that the term be for two years at the candidate's request. Mr. Boling accepted the friendly amendment. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Ms. Jaques moved to approve the appointment of Marlene Dolan to the Downtown Improvement Committee, Mr. Boling seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Boling, Ms. Jaques, Ms. Harrison and Mr. Round voting affirmatively, Mr. Bodmer-Turner Abstained.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated there were three applicants for the Bike and Ped Committee, which he feels is best to be ~~is~~ a ~~nine-member~~nine-member Committee with two openings. Mr. Centner, Chair of the Bike and Ped Committee had suggested adding all the applicants to the Committee, making it a ~~10-member~~10-member committee. Mr. Bodmer-Turner and Mr. Federspiel believe it is important to keep the Committee at nine members, an odd number for voting ~~purposes.~~purposes.

Mr. Boling moved to approve the application of Elizabeth (Darcy) Morris to the Bike and Ped Committee, Ms. Harrison seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Boling, Mr. Round, Ms. Jaques and Ms. Harrison voting affirmatively. Mr. Bodmer-Turner voted no.

Mr. Boling moved to approve the application of David Saunders to the Bike and Ped Committee, Ms. Jaques seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated additional appointments will be made at the next Board meeting on August 2, 2021.

3. Hearing Flat Fee Sewer Rates FY22 Including Sewer Capacity (Continuance)

Ms. Jaques moved to re-open the Public Hearing on Flat Fee Sewer Rates, Ms. Harrison seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Federspiel stated the Board had delayed deciding on the properties on sewer and not on Town water. The properties are currently billed at a rate of \$183.68 per quarter not per bedroom which ~~which they should have been. was the previously proposed rate.~~ Mr. Federspiel went on to state according to Title V the stated average water use per bedroom is 110 gallons per day which is higher than the Town's actual usage which is typically closer to 65 gallons per day. DPW is proposing a \$118.06 quarterly fee per bedroom, a significant increase due to actually charging per bedroom. DPW is proposing increasing the fee over a period of time a period with a quarterly incremental increase over four years or over three years with a 30% increase.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated there had been discussion around the homeowners installing a water meter to measure water usage from the source of the water used by the home and adjusting the sewer rate to read like any other user in Town. Ms. Jaques asked how the 65 gallons per day average was developed. Mr. Dam replied that is the generally accepted practice per user for residential usage eliminating consumption for irrigation and pools. Mr. Boling suggested looking at winter month usage for the Town when usage is actually less less than 65 gallons per capita.

Mr. Round asked about the installation of meters. Mr. Dam stated the Town would provide meters to the homeowners at no cost to the homeowner but with a cost to the Town of approximately \$200.00. The homeowners would hire a plumber to install the meter at a cost of about \$1K or less. Ms. Harrison proposed to encourage residents to put in the meters charging the higher amount for a shorter period of time period. Ms. Harrison believes two years is the right amount of time to allow for the transition.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner asked when the implementation bills would first go out. Mr. Dam stated in the next billing cycle with meters read in August for September billing. Ms. Harrison asked if DPW had been in touch with the nine property properties owners owners. so they were available to hear this evening's deliberations. Mr. Dam replied letters were sent out last week.

Ms. Jaques suggested three years as the lead time. Mr. Boling agreed with Ms. Harrison that two years was plenty of lead time to hire a plumber.

Mr. Boling moved to support the \$118.06 per quarter per bedroom flat sewer rate pro-rated over two years with a 12.5% incremental bill starting in early winter 2021. Ms. Jaques seconded the motion.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner asked if there was any public comment:

Paul Stone – 15 Crooked Lane, stated he believes the rate is fair. He has a four bedroom four-bedroom home with two people living in the home and he would like to

pay a similar rate to other residents in Town. He indicated he would be willing to install a meter.

Sandy Rogers – 82 Old Essex Road, asked if the Board could negotiate with plumbers for a better rate for homeowners when mandating the installation of a new system.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated the Board is not requiring anyone to install a meter, the Board is discussing houses not metered and there are 9 residences in Town without meters.

Ms. Harrison suggested the decision be delayed until December 2021 and to put a notice in the September bill indicating this change is coming and the sewer fee will be measured and charged like all other residents in Town when the meter is installed. Mr. Round confirmed the phase in would increase the bills by 1/8 each quarter for two years. Mr. Bodmer-Turner indicated that was the plan.

Ms. Harrison moved to close the public ~~hearing~~, hearing. Ms. Jaques seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Boling moved to support the \$118.06 per quarter per bedroom flat sewer rate pro-rated over two years with a 12,5% incremental bill starting in early winter 2021. Ms. Jaques seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

4. Update on Public Restrooms

Mr. Federspiel stated an additional port-a-pottie has been added at Masconomo Park and two new facilities were proposed. One on the new walkway between the Town Hall parking lot and Beach Street and one at Harbor Point near Bravo.

The facility proposed for the Town Hall parking lot is a ~~two restroom~~two-restroom trailer with running water and electricity. The facility will be operational next week. The facility proposed for Harbor Point is a smaller but similar unit. Mr. Federspiel proposes moving forward with both facilities at a cost of \$2K+ weekly and for the facilities to be place until early October. ~~Both of the new~~Both new facilities require pumping out -- neither will be connected to sewer.

The ~~B~~board reviewed costs and discussed the timeline and placement of the facilities and agreed with the proposal presented by Mr. Federspiel.

Mr. Boling moved to authorize the Town Administrator to move forward with adding two restroom facilities, one in the Town Hall parking lot and one at the Harbor Point parking lot. Mr. Round seconded the motion. Ms. Harrison requested a friendly amendment to add clear public signage indicating the location of the restroom facilities. Mr. Boling accepted the friendly amendment. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

5. Discussion of Pump Track Proposal for the Old Burn Dump

Max Warnock introduced his plan for a ~~60-foot~~60-foot x ~~40-foot~~40-foot track layout with a temporary installation. Max stated when no longer in use he and his friends

would remove all materials and level and seed the remaining soil. Max stated he had been in contact with 10 abutters and received 2 responses.

Mr. Boling asked Mr. Federspiel if the cap on the contaminated soil was 1 or 2 feet?

Mr. Federspiel replied it is 18 inches. There is no ~~and not a permeable~~ membrane separating the topsoil from the contaminated soil but there is warning tape between the two layers with a warning but no barrier.

Ms. Jaques stated she had read all the documents and received an email from Ms. Marshall confirming Park & Recreation has no plans for the site. Ms. Jaques understands Max has no intention to dig on the site only build up at the site. Mr. Bodmer-Turner expressed concern there were no bathrooms, no parking and noise could be an issue for neighbors. Additionally, he was concerned about the removal of the berms.

Max replied there were other parks without bathrooms, there was parking along the road and people are currently parking there to ride in the woods. Max also assured Mr. Bodmer-Turner the berms could be taken down in an hour with a shovel.

Mr. Boling expressed concern about erosion of the cap with repeated rides and the possibility of liability to the Town. He believes riders could easily ride through the ~~18 inch~~ 18-inch cap and it would be important that divots be filled in. Ms. Jaques asked Max how many users he projected and how long the track would be in use. Max replied, the track will only accommodate 4 to 5 riders at a time with maybe 20 to 50 riders a week. He stated the track is seasonal spring through fall and the winter would not be ideal for riding.

Mr. Round confirmed that Max would be building on the surface and adding 3 feet to the top of the site. Max confirmed that was correct and a group of volunteers would help with the manual build.

Ms. Jaques moved to give permission to Max Warnock to go ahead with building a Pump Track at the Old Burn Dump, ~~-~~ If there are any problems at the site with litter, using the woods as a toilet or any nuisance issues the permission will be withdrawn and the area will be returned to what it was. All activity at the Old Burn Dump will be in conjunction with the Parks and Receptions Director, Cheryl Marshall. The site will be open from 8:00 a.m. to sunset. Ms. Harrison seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Harrison, Ms. Jaques, Mr. Bodmer-Turner and Mr. Round voting yes. Mr. Boling abstained.

Ms. Jaques stated she would like to applaud Max for his persistence in bringing forward his plan for a Pump Track and for a young member of the community to get together to utilize an unused open space in Town.

6. Dispatch Forum

Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated discussions around dispatch started in 2002-2003 and proceeded with many public hearings and consultant reports. The ~~final~~ recommendations at various times -was to not join Regional Dispatch. The regional center is now run by the State's 911 Department at no cost to participating communities and at an improved level of service. Most recently the Finance Committee

recommended moving to Regional Dispatch for the financial savings a move to Regional Dispatch would give the Town.

Overview

- The Town currently has one dispatcher on duty 24/7
- Dispatcher is responsible to dispatch for police, fire, emergency medical calls and after hour DPW calls and Harbor off hour calls
- There are three full time Dispatchers working Monday to Friday
- Weekends are covered by part time Dispatchers, ~~or~~ dispatch trained reserve officers, or police officers working overtime
- In the event of a large incident a second Dispatcher is called in withing time for second Dispatcher is 10–15 minutes
- The Dispatcher also serves as Police lobby receptionist.

Operating

- Current dispatch budget is \$391,612
- Software licensing fee is \$15K
- Town receives a State grant in the amount of \$70,840
- Net Cost is \$335,772

In House Challenges

- Large incident back up support
- New CAD dispatching software \$190K
- Staffing has been an issue Chief Fitzgerald has recommended adding a 4th Dispatcher and moving to a 4/2 schedule to cover hours needed 24 hours a day
- Equipment upgrades \$60K
- In house staff is trained and the position requires ongoing training the Town Dispatchers are trained professionals

North Shore Regional 911

- State run and funded – serves 5 Towns with a population of 40K residents
- Offering a 10 year no cost contract, provide equipment, software and personnel
- If the Town participates the Town releases ~~its~~ Public Safety Access Point (PSAP) and would likely not get the PSAP back
- At North Shore Regional a Dispatcher takes a call and remains with the caller until support arrives. There are 4 Dispatchers and a Supervisor on site for ~~the majority of~~ most of the day.
- All Dispatchers are trained in fire, police and emergency medical calls
- At North Shore Regional 911 town dispatch and cell phone 911 dispatch are separated services offered through North Shore Regional 911

Challenges

- Chief Fitzgerald and Chief Cleary would share control through Advisory Board positions, in addition there is an Executive Board of Fire, Police and Administrators at North Shore Regional 911.

Change from the current ~~Small Town~~ Small-Town Feel

- Dispatchers now serve as lobby receptionist in the Police Department – there are on average 1.3 walk-ins 7 days a week
- ~~Proposed~~ ~~Possible~~ changes for the lobby include 24/7 coverage, 2/3 coverage with staffing 12 midnight to 7:00 a.m. eliminated, ~~12-hour~~ 12-hour coverage 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. or a move to a virtual lobby
- 24/7 coverage would cost \$290K annually, 2/3 coverage \$192K and 8:00 to 8:00 coverage \$135K. There ~~are~~ is no ongoing cost for a virtual lobby, however there are capital costs to set up the lobby.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner stated the final decision regarding dispatch is up to the BOS. ~~This~~ This is a policy decision for the Town balancing the Board's fiduciary responsibility to the Town with what citizens would like for dispatch operations. Additional concerns will be addressed in future Public Forums with a decision made by the end of September 2021.

Chief Fitzgerald thanked everyone for listening in, pointing out the Public Forum is an important and proper venue for gathering information. MBTS is a heavily service-oriented community with locally staffed ALS and dispatch services. This is not a Police versus Fire ~~issue~~ issue, and he understands from positions being stated on social media it is an emotional topic. Chief Fitzgerald believes a decision needs to be made and the decision may change the face of the Police ~~Department~~ Department, but he assures the Town the high level of service from the Police Department will not change.

Chief Fitzgerald noted most communities the size of MBTS work within a similar single dispatch system. The recent events with a house fire on Old Essex Road and a serious domestic dispute were managed with one Dispatcher. In January the Chief recommended adding an additional Dispatcher and moving to a 4/2 schedule to cover shifts. The Chief concluded if the decision is to ~~leave~~ move to Regional Dispatch, residents need to be confident it is the right decision. Revisiting this decision annually is not good for staff morale. The Public Forum is a constructive way to gather information, get ~~feed back~~ feedback and move forward.

Chief Cleary stated it was important for residents to know that he and Chief Fitzgerald work well together and that will not change. He noted in house dispatch and regional dispatch are two different products. He indicated he was distressed by comments on social media and wanted to assure people there were no ~~back room~~ back-room deals being made nor was he interested in sabotaging the current operation.

There are two levels of staffing ~~dispatch~~ dispatch, and the level of service increases the degree of ~~safety~~ safety, and a higher level of safety is important for fire and police calls. One Dispatcher can quickly become overwhelmed when managing multiple calls and the Dispatcher is the lifeline for both fire and police officers.

Chief Cleary mentioned an incident on Route 128 with a motorist who was trapped in a vehicle – Manchester fire and police, Gloucester fire and police and the State police were all either on site or on-the-way to the site; one person staffing all that is overwhelming and virtually impossible. Chief Cleary assured residents he will work well with whichever decision the Town makes.

Board Comment

Mr. Boling asked if the Town vestibule will ultimately be secure in an emergency. Chief Fitzgerald stated there is currently not a locked secure lobby area, however an individual can be buzzed into the conference room which is locked. The Police Department is adding an access control system which will allow for locking down the police station.

Ms. Jaques asked for clarification on the needs for dispatch to remain in house, indicating she is not suggesting the decision comes down to finances but what are the costs annually to provide the Town with round the clock staffing not dependent on Police Department overtime.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner replied we would move to reinforce the current system and maintain dispatch with a 4/2 schedule and no overtime with Police Officers. Ms. Jaques asked for confirmation the 4/2 schedule does not require Police overtime. Chief Fitzgerald clarified the 4/2 schedule left 2 shifts not 6 shifts (like the current staffing model) ~~uncovered~~uncovered, and those shifts would be filled with trained reserve officers. Mr. Federspiel stated the overall cost increase going to 4/2 would be \$30K to \$40K.

Ms. Jaques asked if the Police Department would need to invest in the CAD software if we moved to Regional. Chief Cleary stated that investment would be covered by the ~~Regional~~regional agreement.

Mr. Round stated there were five communities currently at the Regional Center and asked if the Chiefs had spoken to their colleagues from other communities. Chief Fitzgerald stated he had spoken with several of the Police Chiefs and most had moved dispatch to the Regional Center for financial reasons. He also noted that the Police Chiefs had referred to initial ~~start-up~~startup issues which have been corrected. Additionally, equipment promised was often delayed and the Topsfield Chief stated he would like to return to running in-house dispatch if that was possible.

Chief Cleary stated from the Fire Chiefs' side the move to Regional was a positive experience and with the financial gain some communities were able to employ an additional fire fighter. He also noted that if there were issues the Fire Chiefs were able to work out the issues through the Regional Boards who have done a good job of standardizing procedures. Most fire departments had no complaints.

Mr. Round also asked how long the State had managed the Regional Center. Chief Cleary stated the State took over in 2015-2016 and with the State take over there was noticeable improvement in the services. Mr. Bodmer-Tuner stated the Town of Ipswich is in serious conversations with the Regional Center but has yet to sign a letter of intent. Chief Fitzgerald added North Andover is also moving toward the Regional Center. Mr. Bodmer-Turner added the center had an additional 5 consoles and room for expansion.

Ms. Harrison asked Chief Fitzgerald if the 4/2 system would manage holiday and vacations and eliminate the need for holiday pay. Chief Fitzgerald noted holiday pay is an industry standard and negotiated in collective bargaining agreements. Mr. Boling had no additional questions at this time~~currently~~.

Public Comment

Mr. Bodmer-Turner requested the public to engage in no accusations or arguments and maintain a level of civil discourse during their questions. If there were ~~issues~~issues, there would be one warning and the person would be muted if the issues continued. He asked that questions be ~~clear~~clear, and fact based. The Board is reviewing options, these are different models under consideration.

Johneff Carlson, 9 Walker Road – Mr. Carlson thanked Mr. Bodmer-Turner for his presentation and indicated he had two questions. The first was around cell 911 calls and where were the calls received. Mr. Bodmer-Turner replied, if a 911 call comes from within the boundaries of MBTS and the call signal was not straying the call goes to in-house dispatch. Mr. Carlson’s second question was for Chief Fitzgerald~~Fitzgerald~~, and he asked with technology advancing quickly will the Town be able to keep up with advances 10 years out. Chief Fitzgerald stated if the Town updates the current system to a ~~windows-based~~windows-based system software updates will be more easily managed moving forward.

Sarah Mellish, 11 Bennet Street and Chair of the Finance Committee – Ms. Mellish stated the Finance Committee had reviewed all options and recommends moving forward with a move to the Regional Center and selecting either option 2 or 3 for maintaining the Police Department lobby. The Finance Committee did not recommend a virtual lobby ~~except~~except during the midnight shift at this time currently. The Committee does believe it is worthwhile to free up money and support Public Safety for two considerations: the first in the Fire Department to meet the National Standard of 2 in/2 out on fire calls and in the Police Department to prepare for the possibility that reserve officers who work part time may no longer be available when the State requires all reserve officers to be fully trained police officers and the Town’s reserve officers could move to full time positions in Town or in other communities.

Antoine Kobus, 2 Bell Court – Mr. Kobus had two questions, his first question, why has the Town failed to fund Police Department dispatch with the latest equipment? His second question: He cannot understand how Regional Dispatch will know where a family in need is located. Mr. Bodmer-Turner replied, the Town has not failed the Police Department. This is a public safety discussion about moving forward not an opportunity to review the decisions of previous Boards and how they made their decisions.

Chief Cleary answered the second question indicating the Regional Center will build a data base with information specific to the Town in addition to maximizing use of the GIS system. Mr. Bodmer-Turner noted the recent incident when hikers were lost in the woods and Regional Dispatchers were able to guide the rescue team of police officers directly to the hikers with the support of the State Police helicopter is an example of how the GIS system at the Regional Center is utilized.

Mr. Federspiel stated the Town has a well-functioning dispatch system with excellent staff who do a commendable job for the Town. The Board has identified this as a time to reinvest in the current system or move to the Regional Center. We are at a crossroad. This is a debate and discussion and is an appropriate time to open the discussion to the public to share all the information ins an open format.

Sandy Rogers – 82 Old Essex Road – Ms. Rogers noted the Town now has one dispatcher for 5,500 residents and if the Town moves to the Regional Center where there is a total of 47K residents being serviced by 4 dispatchers our service level will be 12% of our current coverage. She asked if the Town would have the ability to negotiate staffing up to the Town’s current level. Chief Cleary stated the Regional Center is not based on per capita it is based on the number of calls and changes in staffing is determined by ~~call volume, the model 5 dispatchers and 1 supervisor~~. The Regional Center ~~has the ability to~~ could double the staff if call volume dictates. Ms. Rogers also asked what would happen to DPW and Harbor coverage. Mr. Bodmer-Turner indicated that questions had been answered and the Regional Center will handle all calls. He also clarified the Town will communicate regularly with the Regional Center to alert them to major events in Town.

Mark Bruno, 7 Forest Lane – Mr. Bruno is a Lieutenant in the Amesbury Fire Department and noted Amesbury has had problems with Regional Dispatch around inaccurate dispatch times. He suggested the Town consider keeping police dispatch in Town and moving fire dispatch to Beverly where fire calls are currently transferred if the fire is a two or three alarm fire.

Mr. Federspiel stated it was not an option to split fire and police dispatch with the Regional Center and noted moving fire to Beverly ~~may be~~ was an option and he would be open to having that discussion, cautioning there would be additional costs to the Town moving fire to Beverly and keeping police dispatch in Town. Mr. Bruno stated the Regional Center cannot monitor fire ground communication. Chief Cleary stated Town dispatch currently does not have that capability and noted ~~Regional~~ regional dispatch is aware of the concern and working to address the need.

Sheila Hill, 2 Running Ridge Road – Ms. Hill asked about the “gold standard”. Noting the ideal for Chief Cleary is to ~~have 2 Dispatchers on at all times~~ always have 2 Dispatchers on at an additional cost of \$300K, plus the ~~in Town in Town~~ need for dispatch software upgrades at a cost of \$200K and additional staff for the Fire Department at a cost of \$500K, She asked if the Town could not expend \$1M (only 3% of the total Town budget) for the additional public safety expenses.

Mr. Federspiel ~~stated~~ asked if that would be in addition to the \$3M the Town is already spending on Public Safety bringing the annual total for Public Safety to \$4M. Ms. Hill stated this option had not been discussed with equal viability ~~has~~ handing dispatch off. Mr. Federspiel respectfully disagreed indicating all options are open to discussion and on the table. He added if what voters wish is what Ms. Hill is proposing it could be achieved.

Amy Battis, 23 Desmond Avenue – asked why some cities and towns had not joined the Regional Center. Chief Cleary answered stating most communities in the area not considering joining are larger communities like Gloucester and Beverly. The model at Regional Dispatch benefits smaller communities like Ipswich and North Andover who are actively considering joining the Regional Center because it frees up money to dedicate to staffing. Chief Fitzgerald stated Georgetown, a community like MBTS, is remaining in house because they are happy with their current system.

Jeff Delaney 10 Ancient County Way – asked if there was a path to leaving the Regional Center once the Town signed a contract. Mr. Bodmer-Turner answered if the Town was dissatisfied, we could choose to go with another ~~t~~Town but that re-establishing our own PSAP/dispatch operation would be very difficult. Mr. Delaney also asked about 1212 calls, Mr. Federspiel answered the calls would be passed on to local resources.

Christina Delisio, 6 Lincoln Ave. – thanked Mr. Bodmer-Turner for the information and asked if it would be possible to put the information in an ~~easy-to-read~~easy-to-read table. She believes that would be an easier format to understand exactly what is being proposed. Ms. Delisio also asked for clarification around the need to make a non-emergency call and if there would be a non-emergency phone line to reach the receptionist. Mr. Bodmer-Turner indicated there were several scenarios ~~similar to~~like what she is ~~asking~~asking, and that information will be added to the FAQ's on the website. Chief Cleary stated there were times when there was no one available in the Fire Department and residents left messages on the phone line or notes and those messages and notes were always responded to when the Chief and officers were back in the building.

Catherine Blotta – 21 Pine Street – Ms. Blotta thanked the Board and agreed with Ms. Delisio that if the information was in a table format it would be easier to access. She would also like to see 5 year and ~~10-year~~10-year financial plans around the dispatch issue. As a former information technology person with a Fortune 500 Company, she believes it is important to define service expectations in advance of signing an agreement and would like to see significantly more information believing it will be helpful to residents.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner indicated there were no more callers and polled the Board. Mr. Boling stated residents had provided good input and it appears the Board has more work to do. He found the forum useful and thanked the staff for their work on behalf of the Board. Ms. Jaques agreed with Mr. Boling. Mr. Round was satisfied, acknowledged good input and agreed with Ms. Blotta that the Board should review the decision and financial implication over several years. Ms. Harrison had no additional comments.

Ms. Boling added not everyone is on social media and if residents want to be in contact with the Board or staff it is good to do that during the forum or through an email or letter. Your questions will be answered if you are in contact with the people who make decisions. Mr. Federspiel added he heard everyone loud and clear and will continue to listen and learn through the forums.

Chief Fitzgerald thanked everyone who participated in the meeting, adding it was important for the Board to receive information from the residents. Chief Cleary agreed with Chief Fitzgerald.

Mr. Bodmer-Turner concluded people who shared their ideas and concerns were heard. A lot was covered this evening and the Board has work to do before scheduling another forum. He encouraged residents to raise questions s through email and letters and thanked them for their participation.

7. Consent Agenda

- BOS Meeting Minutes – July 6, 2021
- NOAA Contract (Pulled from Consent Agenda)
- Fire Department Surplus Vehicle
- Waive Potential Conflict of Interest Concerns Involving Town Consultants

Ms. Jaques asked for clarification around the Waiver of Potential Conflict. Mr. Federspiel stated that was a specific request and standard procedure for professionals working with ~~redistricting municipalities~~. ~~The waiver was made at the Lawyer's request~~ Town Counsel was fine with granting the requested ~~waiavers~~waivers.

Ms. Harrison moved to approve the Consent ~~Agenda~~,Agenda; Ms. Jaques seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

8. Town Administrators Report: BOS Retreat, Staffing, Construction Update

1. Moulton visit: Representative Moulton visited the Central Street Culvert and Sawmill Brook Restoration project Wednesday. Our FEMA “BRIC” grant application is advancing and having the Congressional Delegation’s support for the project is helpful. The Town will not hear a final determination until late fall 2021. If the grant is awarded the project would begin in the fall of ’22. The project will cause a major disruption and as construction gets closer the Board will need to develop strategies for easing the impact to the extent possible.

2. DPW Union Contract: The tentative agreement reached by the negotiating team was rejected by the full union. Mr. Federspiel has a meeting next week to hear what the issues are. With all other union contracts finalized, Mr. Federspiel does not see room for adjustment to the COLA tentatively agreed to, he will have more to report at the Board’s next meeting.

3. SLV and Accessibility: The Board’s request to have the MA Architectural Access Board issue an opinion that SLV’s project have an accessible sidewalk has been honored. The MA Architectural Access Board has issued an opinion that is now part of the formal record. This is a helpful step. We have not yet heard from MassHousing regarding project eligibility.

4. Mr. Federspiel’s ~~performance and~~ contract ~~extension~~ was meant to be completed in ~~February~~,February 2021. Mr. Federspiel would like to craft another three-year contract that would start ~~January~~,January 2022 ~~as provided as provided for in the current contract~~.

9. Other Matters, As May Not Have Been Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair

Ms. Jaques stated she had a request from Dave MacDonough who had salvaged chairs from the Memorial School Auditorium demolition process and wanted anyone interested in a chair to contact him. ~~The fixed seating chairs do not work in the Town Hall meeting rooms which require flexible seating arrangements.~~

| Ms. Jaques moved to adjourn the ~~meeting~~,meeting; Mr. Boling seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Meeting Materials:

Consent Agenda – as listed
Policy and Rates for Sewer and Water
Committee Applications
DIP Request for Public Restrooms
Pump Track Proposal
Town Administrator’s Report

Upcoming Board of Selectmen Meetings:

Monday, August 2, 2021
Monday, August 14, 2021