

**SELECT BOARD MEETING  
January 26, 2023 5:30PM  
Town Hall/Hybrid**

**Quorum noted**

**5:30 PM:** Meeting called to order by Chairperson Donhauser.

**A. Roll Call:** Mr. Donhauser, Mr. Widi, Mr. McPherson, and Mr. Shapleigh.

**Absent:** Ms. Dow (excused)

**B. Pledge of Allegiance recited**

**C. Public Comment:**

There was no public comment.

**D. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

**5:31 PM** Motion by Mr. Donhauser, second by Mr. Shapleigh, to approve the minutes of August 11, 2022, as written.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**

**Mr. McPherson - Yes**

**Mr. Widi – Yes**

**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

**E. Public Hearing:**

**Green Blossoms, LLC - Cannabis Manufacturing Facility (#AMF1160), 155 Harold L. Dow Highway, Unit #2. Julie Cutting Kelley, Principal.**

**5:32 PM** **Public Hearing opened.**

Ms. Cutting-Kelley said that I just want to say hello and I'm glad to be here tonight.

Mr. Alec Correa said that I would like to see information on this residence 155 Harold L. Dow Highway. Is that across from Agway.

Mr. Widi said that I believe it's right next to Dunkin' Donuts. It is in the same building.

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

Mr. Correa asked for information about this company. I live here and work in Town and want to know what the manufacturing plant is and what it is manufacturing.

Ms. Cutting-Kelley said that I'm the sole owner of the company. I was born and raised in South Berwick. I own a restaurant in Portsmouth and my husband and I are going to be making cannabis edibles. We built out a beautiful kitchen there. It's closed to the public. It's only wholesale. We will only have deliveries coming in through a secure dock area. Then, we will just be wholesaling it out to other stores. It is not, as I said, going to be open to the public; that there is not going to be any kind of storefront, whatsoever.

Mr. Donhauser said that the license has been reviewed by the Town Manager.

Mr. Sullivan said yes. Their initial application is in to the State. I believe it is #AMF1136.

Ms. Cutting-Kelley said that that sounds correct.

Mr. Shapleigh asked what we have for a total limit of cannabis facilities in Eliot. Didn't we have a vote on that.

Mr. Donhauser said yes. There is a limit. We have actually made an ordinance for that, I believe.

Mr. Sullivan said we do, yes. We've passed an ordinance. Mr. Brubaker is on Zoom and asked if he would like to speak to that.

Mr. Brubaker said that this is for an adult use marijuana manufacturing facility. They have their PB approvals so they can operate within the limits of their PB approval and State laws and regulations. The maximum, combined adult use marijuana cultivation facility and marijuana products manufacturing facility is 13. So far, we have 9 that have their license issued or are in operation.

Mr. Donhauser said that this will be 10, correct.

Mr. Brubaker said that it appears to be so.

Mr. Donhauser asked if that answered Mr. Correa's question.

Mr. Correa said yes.

Mr. Donhauser said that there are other types of cannabis operations that are also authorized under different licensing. Do you know what those are.

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

**5:38 PM** Mr. Brubaker said that there is a cap of 8 for adult use marijuana stores. There's a cap of 4 for combined medical marijuana caregiver retail stores or medical marijuana dispensaries that are similar uses basically selling medical marijuana. Then, the combined cap for medical marijuana cultivation facility or medical marijuana products manufacturing facility is 3.

Mr. Donhauser asked if most of those licenses have been taken up.

Mr. Brubaker said that it depends. All 3 have been taken up for the medical marijuana cultivation facility or medical marijuana products manufacturing facility. 2 of 4 have been taken up for the medical marijuana caregiver retail store or medical marijuana dispensary. 2 of 8 have been taken up for adult use retail store. There are some nuances in there because of the way medical marijuana is licensed or hasn't been licensed, to date, but those are the numbers I have in front of me.

**5:39 PM** Mr. Donhauser said that I believe I'm correct in saying that, even though all those licenses you've just noted have been issued, do you know the number of companies that hold those licenses. There are not that many companies. One company may hold 2 or 3 different types of licenses.

Mr. Brubaker said that that is correct. Those numbers I mentioned are by establishment so, one company may be operating several establishments, either on different properties or on the same property. For instance, a cultivation facility co-located with a manufacturing facility.

Mr. Donhauser said that my point is that, when you mention 13 licenses or permits, 4 and 8, which adds up to over 20, we don't have 20 individual companies, here, selling cannabis products.

**5:40 PM** Mr. Brubaker said that that is correct. The number of companies that have licenses is less than the total number of licenses

Mr. Donhauser added that we did pass an ordinance because there was some concern about the growth in any type of cannabis activity in Eliot.

Mr. Shapleigh asked Ms. Cutting-Kelley what her process is like inside her facility.

**5:41 PM** Ms. Cutting-Kelley said that we have a very secure system. We've got all of our cameras in place. We've got a double door locking system where our deliveries will be left in a secure location. We will check them in. We are not doing any kind of flower processing so no raw cannabis will ever be used in our facility. We're only going to use distillate, which is an odorless, tasteless, really sticky kind of oil. Then, we'll just be adding that into chocolate gummies, other sweets,

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

confections, that kind of stuff. So, there will be no odor mitigation of any sort. My husband will be in charge of production and I will be in charge of overall, day-to-day operations.

Mr. Shapleigh asked if she gets the distillate locally.

Ms. Cutting-Kelley said yes. We will purchase that through our license from another larger, licensed operation, which has a grow, that do their extractions in a licensed lab, as well. We will probably end up buying from our neighbors, East Coast Cannabis and, then, we're still looking for a medical person at this point, as well. At this time, we are not set up to do online sales.

**5:42 PM      Public Hearing closed.**

**Mr. Widi moved, second by Mr. McPherson, that the Eliot Select Board approve the license application for Green Blossoms, LLC to operate a Cannabis Manufacturing Facility at 155 Harold L. Dow Highway.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**

**Mr. McPherson - Yes**

**Mr. Widi – Yes**

**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

**F.      Department Head/Committee Reports**

**5:43 PM      1. Town Manager's Report**

Mr. Sullivan said that this is already up on the web and is in your packet. I wanted to add that W-2s for all employees were sent out/distributed yesterday. The Budget Committee and SB will get a report on all employee compensation in the next couple of weeks. I'm happy to report that our TimeClock Plus to manage staffing hours is in place and is being used throughout the Town. I would also like to let the SB know that the Chief of Police – Elliott Moya – will be receiving the William Pickering Award, which is Police Chief of the Year this Saturday. We just found out this morning. Particularly, for his work in police mental health and his work on accreditations. We are very proud of him.

The Select Board were very pleased for Chief Moya.

Mr. Shapleigh asked where the presentation would be.

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

Mr. Sullivan said that it's in Augusta, I believe.

**Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. McPherson, that the Eliot Select Board accept the Town Manager's report and direct it to be published on the Town website.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**

**Mr. McPherson - Yes**

**Mr. Widi – Yes**

**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

**G. Board and Committee Appointments/Resignations**

**5:45 PM Registrar of Voters**

Mr. Donhauser said that we annually do this; appoint Ms. Wendy Rawski as Registrar of Voters. Everyone knows who Ms. Rawski is and she's been doing it for a number of years.

**Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. Shapleigh, that the Eliot Select Board appoint Wendy Rawski as the Town of Eliot Registrar of Voters.**

**DISCUSSION**

Mr. Donhauser said that she is a wonderful person and has been doing a great job. She's unbelievable.

**DISCUSSION ENDED**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**

**Mr. McPherson - Yes**

**Mr. Widi – Yes**

**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

**H. New Business:**

**5:46 PM 1. Policy, Disbursement of Wages and Benefits**

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

Mr. Donhauser said that we have a policy recommended for disbursement of wages and benefits. He asked Mr. Sullivan to speak to that.

Mr. Sullivan said that this is a request from our auditors. As we take steps to get our financial house in order, this allows for disbursement of wages and benefits to employees with one signature of the Select Board. Of course, when we send out for signatures, we get more. In the case of a situation where something catastrophic would happen where the system wasn't working, then we could act on just wages and benefits for that one week with one signature. One member of the Select Board would sign.

Mr. Donhauser said that that is only on payroll warrants.

Mr. Sullivan said yes, only on payroll warrants.

Mr. Widi said that this is just making sure the paychecks go out.

Mr. Sullivan said yes. I don't know if we would ever need it but they recommended it strongly. We had Town counsel look at it and they suggested it, as well.

Mr. Donhauser asked why only one. We have five Select Board members. It seems to me a minimum of two or a larger number than one.

**5:48 PM**

Mr. Sullivan said that we would still seek three members to sign any warrant but this allows the payroll process to go ahead with just one signature. For instance, for whatever reason, it is Wednesday (pay day) and we can only one SB member. That one person can sign off and we will still continue to get additional signatures on the warrant. The idea is to get a majority on any warrant, eventually, but this just allows for the process to go forward.

Mr. Widi said that one would allow the process to move forward but it doesn't stop the need to get three signatures, minimum.

Mr. Sullivan said yes. Eventually, we'd have to get three.

Mr. Widi said that was my concern. I just don't like too much centralized power to one person.

**5:49 PM**

Mr. McPherson said that I thought, by law, we have to pay people anyway.

Mr. Sullivan said that we do. This is one of those stopgaps, the reason why the auditors suggested we have this stopgap. Most communities have this in place. Again, it's about the policies that we've been missing that we're trying to put back in place. Like the reserve funds and getting them straightened out, making

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

sure the proper votes are taken on those, which is another example. But we continue to listen to the auditors review policies. I've never seen in my time here where we didn't have three or four signatures almost immediately. We'd still be soliciting all members of the SB to sign. As soon as once person got here, we'd be in the process. That would mean issuing the checks because we have 100% direct deposit. Basically, as soon as we flip the switch, the funds are being distributed into the various employees' accounts.

Mr. Donhauser said that one consideration that I can understand that would make sense is that, in the event that there was an error, in other words one person came in to say go ahead and do those checks and somebody gets a paycheck that's in error in some way, you can always correct it on the next payroll.

Mr. Sullivan said that we have two paid checks to correct, by law.

Mr. Donhauser said that it makes sense, in my view, to go ahead and process as long as we get to, retroactively in a future paycheck, recover some funds that may not have been properly disbursed.

**Mr. McPherson moved, second by Mr. Widi, that the Eliot Select Board accept the "Treasurer's Disbursement of Warrants for Employee Wages and Benefits Policy", as presented.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**

**Mr. McPherson - Yes**

**Mr. Widi – Yes**

**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

**5:52 PM      2. Police Cruiser Proposed Purchase**

Mr. Donhauser said that this is a proposal to purchase a police cruiser, which has been funded in the budget. There was a letter from Chief Moya to us and I remember the amount to be around \$31,000.

Mr. Sullivan said that that is with the trade-in of \$4,000 between the 2014 and the 2012 Chargers. The reality is that it's difficult to get cruisers right now. We had one cruiser go down with a transmission two weeks ago. We have another one that is in the shop so we're right on the edge. There hasn't been a new one bought in two years and, as you can see from the mileage on the 2014 and 2012 (140,00 and 126,000. So, they are thoroughly used. They are hard miles.

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

**Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. Widi, that the Eliot Select Board waive the '3-bid rule'.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**  
**Mr. McPherson - Yes**  
**Mr. Widi – Yes**  
**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

**Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. Widi, that the Eliot Select Board accept Police Chief Moya's request, as submitted, and allow him to coordinate a trade of a 2014 and 2012 Dodge Charger, directly purchase one 2022 Ford Explorer Utility from Quirk Auto Group, Augusta, to be used as a police vehicle, and allow the Town Manager to execute any necessary agreement related to this action.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**  
**Mr. McPherson - Yes**  
**Mr. Widi – Yes**  
**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

**5:55 PM      3. Eastern Trails Feasibility Study**

Mr. Sullivan is on Zoom to talk about that as well as John Kachmar from Eastern Trail Alliance.

Mr. Brubaker said that we have some updates on our transportation priorities in Town. I first wanted to say that we are now underway with design of the State/Beech Active Transportation and Infrastructure Project. That's the contract you all approved back in December with Stantec and we've already had one kick-off meeting on that, with one next month. You should see surveyors out, weather permitting, in the n0065t several weeks on State Road and Beech Road. We're really excited to begin the journey of extending our walking and bicycling infrastructure in the Village area. There has been a lot of support from residents and abutters for that project. Secondly, as Mr. Sullivan mentioned, John is here from the Eastern Trail Alliance, and the Town has a great opportunity to play an important role in the Eastern Trail Feasibility Study, looking at routing for the Eastern Trail from South Berwick through to Kittery. The proposal is to have the

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

Town chip in \$2,500, which is about 2% of the cost of the feasibility study. The rest would be coming from grant funding as well as private donation funding from the Eastern Trail Alliance, as well as contributions from Kittery and York. More details are in my staff report and you see the funding summary and a recommended motion there. With that, maybe John or Patrick might want to say anything further.

Mr. Kachmar thank you for entertaining this request. We're really excited to work with the Town of Eliot and the other towns down that way to bring some Eastern Trail your way. I did also want to point out the on-road Eastern Trail where some of the improvements are occurring that Mr. Brubaker referred to. We would still maintain an on-road route through Eliot, provided that was your preference if we had an off-road route, as well. It would allow us to have off-road riding and on-road riding, so we would still maintain signage and those improvements would still be important for us. So, I just wanted to mention that as we move forward. We are looking to do feasibility to finds a preferred alternative routes where we could put off-road trails separated from traffic, and working with the other towns of Kittery and York. Our goal is to get to the Memorial Bridge. We are part of the East Coast Greenway running from Key West to Calais, Maine. We're the southern Maine portion that currently goes through your Town, now. We're one and the same. This off-road route, again, would be the primary easy coast greenway but we would have secondary road routes and continue to maintain them. So, thank you very much. Appreciate the opportunity, again, and if I can answer any specific questions, I'd be glad to.

**5:59 PM**

Mr. Donhauser said, with respect to on-road riding, do you contemplate road line markings for the bicycle path on the street and would those be markings provided through your organization. If necessary, would it have to be done by the Town, if it was considered.

Mr. Kachmar said that, with this feasibility study, we have not considered that because it's specific to the off-road portion. Although, I wouldn't necessarily rule that out. It's something I could bring to the team. We have not solidified that yet. We certainly would be willing to work with the DOT and others to consider that, regardless. But, to answer your question, it's not currently part of our scope or the feasibility work.

Mr. Shapleigh asked how much off-road are you planning on making.

Mr. Brubaker said that it depends on the route but we know there's about a 10-mile section that we're considering in this feasibility work. We have two feasibility studies planned; that they are the last two needed on the whole Eastern Trail to have a better understanding of where a route would be. The first one is from Route 236 and Route 91 north to Pratt & Whitney on Route 4, I believe. That's about an 8-mile section. Looking south from Route 236 and 91, to the

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

Memorial Bridge in Kittery is about 9-10 miles. It depends on how the crow flies or what route you take, and we don't know the route, yet, but that is the estimate of the length.

**6:01 PM** Mr. Shapleigh said that I can't picture that last section is you are talking about. You said that the last section was in Eliot with the memorial Bridge.

Mr. Kachmar said that we don't know, yet. We're looking at easements, utility easements, conservation land, and Town land. So, that is what our feasibility will hopefully discover, where that route might be. We don't have a specific one in mind. We do know there are lots of utility easements and opportunities but we would have to do the feasibility and, obviously, get the permission from the landowners eventually to do that.

Mr. Donhauser asked Mr. Brubaker to correct me if I'm wrong. We've already approved \$300,000, primarily out of ARPA money.

Mr. Sullivan said yes. These are ARPA funds that were previously-approved. So, these are not tax dollars or additional money. These were discussed but we thought it was prudent to come back to the SB to make sure that you and the public were aware what exactly we're attempting to spend money on.

Mr. Donhauser said that, in the packet that you sent to us, what we're doing is really re-allocating the money we've already approved, as I understand it.

**6:03 PM** Mr. Sullivan said yes.

Mr. Donhauser said that the total number of \$300,000 of ARPA funds we're approving has not changed, It's still \$300,000. It's just how we're going to spend it and part of that is to do this feasibility study, which makes sense, I think.

Mr. Shapleigh said that the \$2,500 in-kind services, is that you, Mr. Brubaker, is that your time.

Mr. Brubaker said that I would be donating that time to just participate in meetings, lending whatever resources I can to support the feasibility work.

**Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. Shapleigh, that the Eliot Select Board allow \$5,000, previously allocated from ARPA grant funding, be expended for the "Route 236-Depot Road Supplemental Study" and further I move to allow \$2,500 previously allocated ARPA grant funding be expended for the "Eastern Trail Feasibility Study" and allow the Town Manager to execute any agreement related to this action.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**  
**Mr. McPherson - Yes**  
**Mr. Widi – Yes**  
**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

**4. Route 236-Depot Road Supplemental Study**

This was covered under Item #3 above.

**6:05 PM** Mr. Shapleigh asked what was happening with the street light at the intersection of Depot Road and Route 236. It's been months and months and all they have to do is change the timing.

Mr. Sullivan said that, first of all, when the gas company dug up that road, they cut a strip in so that had to be replaced and, then, it had to get re-timed. There is one company that does this work. We call them weekly, sometimes twice a week, and they've had people out. They've changed the timing. They've had to come back and change it again and reset it. We do hear about it often and we're trying to work with Electric Light to get the right technician back there to make a permanent change. We had them all blinking yesterday for awhile but it's come back on. We also have a request in for a burned-out green light heading north on Route 236. That is at Beech Road and has been about three weeks that that's been out. They are running into some of the same problems. They just don't have the technicians that they need.

**I. Old Business:**

**6:07 PM 1. FY 24 Budget Briefing**

Mr. Sullivan said that I just want to remind people that the updated budget information is on the website. It's under the Town Manager page under the FY24 Budget. We did add some comparisons to the FY21 and FY22 to-date allocations for December 7<sup>th</sup>. It was requested by the Budget Committee. We also have done some updates based on some new information. We have posted the questions and answers that we've received, so far, and we're urging people to look at it. If there are any specific questions, I'll do my best to try to answer them at this time. Otherwise, please keep on sending questions in and I'll keep on posting the answers.

**6:08 PM** Mr. Widi asked if the budget you gave us in the packets, was that all online, too.

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

Mr. Sullivan said that it is the updated version. Since the original packet you received, there have been a few changes. When you go into that new version on, you see some highlighted in yellow lines, those were the ones that have had changes made. That makes it easy to discern what the changes are.

Mr. Widi said for those that are wondering, the headings of each of those will say A on the 1<sup>st</sup> question on the referendum, then B for the 2<sup>nd</sup> question, and so on and so forth.

Mr. Sullivan said that that will likely be the way the Town Clerk will set up the referendum questions.

Mr. Widi said that I went to the Budget Committee meeting last week and it wasn't understood.

Mr. Sullivan said that it is in the budget brief notes describing how those letters announce which article you'd be in. But, at this time, the articles aren't created so there are no numbering systems, that we use letters. There are 26 different financial articles and 26 letters in the alphabet, so it worked out well. It's easy to follow and, again, if the public has any questions, call me and I'd be happy to discuss it with people.

**6:09 PM** Mr. Donhauser said that, if we have additional articles, we can always double letter (aa, bb, etc.).

Mr. Sullivan said and we will. There are going to be some articles that I'm going to propose that, both in my powerpoint presentation to you and is also on the website, I talk about some of those articles. A renovation and expansion of Town Hall, the Boat Basin proposal. Those would be additional financial articles beyond what's required by Charter and ordinances.

**J. Approval of Warrant(s):**

**6:10 PM** Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. Shapleigh, that the Select Board approve Payroll Warrant #63 in the amount of \$49, 986.17, dated January 4, 2023; Payroll Warrant #65 in the amount of \$42,295.25, dated January 11, 2023; Payroll Warrant #67 in the amount of \$54,112.73, dated January 18, 2023.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**  
**Mr. McPherson - Yes**  
**Mr. Widi – Yes**  
**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

Mr. Sullivan pointed out for the public that any of your meetings, in the packet, the public can go in a see every single check that was written by the Town of Eliot. So, it's very transparent

**6:13 PM**      **Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. Shapleigh, that the Select Board approve A/P Warrant #64 in the amount of \$157,228.73, dated January 4, 2023; A/P Warrant #66 in the amount of \$967,155.90, dated January 12, 2023; A/P Warrant #68 in the amount of \$92, 340.84, dated January 19, 2023.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**  
**Mr. McPherson - Yes**  
**Mr. Widi – Yes**  
**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**6:16 PM**      Ms. Lemire said that I just wanted to say that I am really amazed at the efforts that our CMP and Cambro linemen put out over these last two storms, especially this last one. They were amazing. They were out there 24/7 for days and it was a mess out there.

Mr. (Skip) Devito, State Road, said, regarding the work projects going on, my last word is that the State is still waiting to hear from the Town about these projects. My particular interest is the median strip at the Eliot Commons. There are a number of people hoping we can get it looking much better than it does. Those projects that were presented here about a year ago, the whole array of them, seemed like the perfect opportunity to get these approved. That's why I was here. I don't know if you've had any progress.

**6:17 PM**      Mr. Sullivan said that we haven't heard from the DOT. We've reached out to them a couple of times. I don't know where Mr. Brubaker is with it, at this point, but it's on their radar. They know about it. There are other projects on Route 236, as you know. Paving projects that are coming up. You're right. I think it's an opportune time to make a decision, one way or the other, but we haven't heard from them.

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

Mr. Devito asked if we can get a word in somehow to encourage them to talk to us again about that. There are a lot of people waiting to engage with them about this.

Mr. Sullivan said that we talk to them regularly and we bring up the subject. But projects we have with them on State Road, on Route 236, but there are other projects, so we bring up the question and ask if we can get an answer on this portion. They say they are still looking at it.

**6:18 PM** Mr. Donhauser said that Mr. Devito envisioned plantings.

Mr. Devito said yes.

Mr. Donhauser asked if it would be plantings on the ground or on a surface.

Mr. Devito said either way. I think they are experts in this and should advise us as to what would be practical in that circumstance. I've seen towns that have both. Some have trees. Some have portable plantings. Right now, what we have is asphalt with weeds growing up. You all know what the traffic count is there, and that is one place that many people see Eliot, and it's an eyesore. It could easily be remedied, I believe. There's a lot of volunteers that are willing to work and paint. They are willing to raise some money to help do it, too. When we talked to the State, they said they were waiting to hear from the Town, and the Town is waiting to hear from the State.

**6:19 PM** Mr. Sullivan said that it's a State property. If they want to put in an island, we certainly would support it. I don't know why they would tell you that. We're waiting to hear from them about when they're going to fill in the potholes on Goodwin Road. But they aren't doing it. We have to go out and do it.

Mr. Widi said that another example is the culvert on Beech Road. They were going to get it done in July and it got done in late August, I believe.

Mr. Sullivan said exactly, and that was an emergency.

Mr. Devito talked about the trees that are growing out where people walk and bicycle on Route 236 and not understanding why they don't trim those trees back so that those people don't have to go well out into the dangerous travel lanes. I don't get it. I don't understand this linkage with the State right now, frankly.

**6:21 PM** Mr. Sullivan said and there are some parts that they respond quickly to and do well. We were up on Goodwin Road with our brush cutter, having to clear back some branches because they just came to us to say they can't do it because they don't have the manpower. So, we went up with our three people what they are supposed to do. We are in this together and when we ask them about the islands,

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)**  
**Town Hall/Hybrid**

they say they are working with the contractor, we're developing with the architects, we're looking at these things, we're aware of it. But, no decision.

**6:22 PM** Mr. Devito said that they had told us a year ago that they were going to come back and we were going to work together, to discuss what was going to happen here.

Mr. Sullivan said it was about six months ago.

Mr. Devito said that time is going. The river goes faster the closer you get to the banking. Anyway, thank you.

There was discussion around contacting our representatives because they are very responsive. It seems to be the planners and engineers putting together the whole project that no clear answers come from.

Mr. McPherson asked if, with the sewer project, that median is going to expand. Is it going to shrink. Do we know any of those things.

**6:23 PM** Mr. Sullivan said that that is some of the engineering issue. If you expand the median in the middle to create a green strip, are you cutting down the bike lanes on the outside if you only have so much footage to work with. So, while I wish they would give us an answer, I can understand some of the complications of weighing the requests of expanding the bike lanes at the same time putting green strips in the middle. How much they want to do. They still talk about a round-about farther down. I know that wasn't very popular when it was brought in but it's popular amongst engineers. I think that's some of what they are trying to weigh and it doesn't give us a clear answer. No clear answer around expanding the shoulders for bike lanes, either.

**6:24 PM** Mr. Devito said that I think we should insist that they make a presentation here because the community is supposed to be involved in those things. The last time they were here, people brought up some very good points. They are supposed to be engaging the Town. At least that's the theory, anyway.

Mr. Sullivan said that we're not against that

**L. Adjourn**

**Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. Shapleigh, that the Select Board adjourn.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Mr. Donhauser – Yes**

**SELECT BOARD MEETING  
January 26, 2023 5:30PM (continued)  
Town Hall/Hybrid**

**Mr. McPherson - Yes**

**Mr. Widi – Yes**

**Mr. Shapleigh - Yes**

**Unanimous vote to approve motion.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Ellen Lemire, Recording Secretary**

**S/ Robert McPherson, Secretary**

**Date approved: June 8, 2023**