# BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING April 28, 2016 5:30PM

## **Ouorum** noted

**A. 5:30 PM:** Meeting called to order by Chairman Beckert.

**B. Roll Call:** Mr. Beckert, Mr. Fernald, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Davis and Mr. Pomerleau.

C. Pledge of Allegiance recited

D. Moment of Silence observed

**5:31 PM** At this time, the Board took several agenda items out of order.

## F. Public Hearing: Shipyard Brewpub Liquor License and Special Amusement Permit

Mr. Beckert said that they have a letter from the Police Chief with no concerns and supporting approval of this permit with the standard satisfactory background check of the applicant; that the Fire Chief did the fire safety inspection and found no violations and also recommended this be approved.

## 5:32 PM Public Hearing opened.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that the Police Chief's letter did not state the outcome of the local records check.

Mr. Beckert said that, apparently, the local records check had no issues, or he would have listed them.

# 5:34 PM Public Hearing closed.

Mr. Fernald moved, second by Mr. Murphy, that the Board of Selectmen issue a Liquor License Renewal Application and Special Amusement Permit for Shipyard Brewpub I, LLC.

VOTE

4-0

**Chair concurs** 

At this time, the Board signed the pertinent documents.

## **J3.** Administrative Department

## 5:37 PM 6) Parliamentary Question – Legal Review – No Correspondence

Mr. Lee read Attorney Saucier's response: "The motion to reconsider was properly made and was successful. Thus, the vote on the original motion was cancelled/vacated. As the Board's by-laws note, it is as if the vote never occurred.

Under the traditional reading of Robert's Rules of Order, the original motion is now re-opened. The motion would carry over until action has been taken on it. The Board's ordinance may require a vote on the original motion to occur within a day of the vote to reconsider but it does not contain any language about what occurs if such a vote does not happen. Since the original vote has been cancelled under the reading of this ordinance, that original motion would thus die if the vote does not happen within the set time period, since it was successfully reconsidered and the original vote was cancelled. Even if, somehow, the original vote is revived due to an untimely vote, the Board, in its discretion, can always make a motion to place a different article on the warrant before the warrant is finalized. I hope this is helpful."

- 5:39 PM
- Mr. Pomerleau said that he thought Attorney Saucier took our ordinance and an issue of absolute clarity and turned it into total confusion; that it seems to turn common sense upside down in that if you move forward in an effort to reconsider something and then don't do it. He added that it seems illogical to him that that negates the original action; when you are prepared to act on any reconsideration by any common sense application would mean that what happened the first time is still valid; that nothing was done to change it. He said that the attorney's views don't support that and he thinks it simply comes down to the Chairman ruling on what we are going to do with the original 78/22 bond vote.
- 5:40 PM

Mr. Fernald said that we were asked to send this to the attorney and it came back with a result; that our actions would seem to be in order the way that we handled it; that he thinks we should accept what they are recommending.

Mr. Murphy said that he feels the same.

5:41 PM

Mr. Beckert said that he was not of the opinion that we had done anything wrong; that a motion to reconsider was made like it normally is and has been over the last 20+ years that he's been doing this. He added that it did not come into question until we went to address the articles, as drafted, for the warrant, which is what came out of the motion to reconsider; to appoint a subcommittee (Mr. Fernald and Mr. Pomerleau) to come back with some other recommendations as to what would go on the warrant; that that's what came back, and it was tonight that we were going to vote on putting those on the warrant, and that is when the parliamentary procedure question came up. He said that that has been reviewed by the attorney and he is satisfied with the answer that we didn't do anything wrong. He added that we need to finalize the Town Meeting Warrant with what articles will be on it that deal with the sewer pump upgrades. He said that we have three drafted articles that came out of the subcommittee workshop that went through the attorney and bond bank legal review; that the articles are not as originally drafted but, as some of us know, the bond bank attorneys draw up the articles the way

they say the articles have to be presented. He reiterated that the Board needed to finalize the warrant tonight.

5:43 PM

Mr. Pomerleau said that the 78/22 split was a unanimous vote; that we all felt it was a compromise position to move forward to try to get this thing settled; that then a vote for reconsideration premised on a couple of people in the audience speculating that it didn't have much chance at passing. He added that what Mr. Fernald and he talked about for alternative solutions didn't come out even remotely close to what the attorneys have given us. He said that, that aside, the question is what to put forward, adding that the three articles, as written, present a horrible complexity of choices that even trying to write an explanation in a newsletter to the public is an extreme challenge. He added that these three articles taken together, in their entirety, are doomed to failure. He said that he still thinks the 78/22 compromise is still the best thing to move forward with. He said that we have a TIF Alternative Committee; that we spent thousands of dollars for consulting and the committee is not even halfway through their objective, suggesting we let them do their work, as far as the TIF is concerned. He reiterated his belief that the 78/22 was the best possible solution to move forward with and put this to an end; that it gives both sides of the Town an opportunity to compromise.

5:47 PM

Ms. Davis said that she based her vote on the 78/22 because the engineer strongly recommends this work commence; that she did feel this was a compromise. She added that if we put forward a fourth vote on the TIF and it fails, it will delay this project for another year; that she strongly recommended the 78/22, only, which would also simplify the ballot, and try to move forward so we can commence work this year.

5:48 PM

Mr. Fernald said that the reason he agreed to reconsider the 78/22 is that we've had several percentage combinations out there of what the sewer and non-sewer users would pay for and they failed; that he doesn't have confidence the 78/22 will pass. He added that we have an opportunity, with the TIF funds, that we can actually use this in phases and not have the Townspeople or sewer users pay for it. He asked Mr. Lee for verification that we currently have \$2.5 million in TIF funds.

5:50 PM

Mr. Lee said that each year about \$500,000 goes into the TIF; that we would be going from \$2.5 million to \$3 million at the end of this fiscal year.

Mr. Fernald said that that means, if we did this in phases, we could use that money to actually pay for it and bring the sewer down to Route 236, doing the upgrades to the pumps. He added that we are giving the voters three options and he thinks that's the way to go.

5:51 PM

Mr. Murphy said that one of the ideas in favor of this proposal is that it prepares the Town for the future; that it isn't just getting Route 236 sewer, that's a minor part, but installing the central collection pump, which will solve problems to the river or up to MSAD #35 or beyond. He added that Route 236 is our C/I Zone and it will be simple to do something there but he wants to see that central pump station so that the future of the Town has a place to correct things as they happen; that it will be there ready to do that. He also said that the 78/22 proposal is a possibility that is part of this re-write of Article 28.

5:52 PM

Mr. Pomerleau said that the only problem with that suggestion is that the South Eliot pump station repairs ties itself to an expansion of Route 236, which is really the big issue because it's something that the Town has rejected three times. He said that, in his view, a phased plan (with no numbers) for a \$6.5 million sewer, using cash, will take you 13 years and strongly impact the start-up and stop costs to a point where he thinks that that would be more expensive than a bond would be.

5:55 PM

Ms. Davis said that, in Article 27, there is no mention that it commits us to this project (Route 236) and naming, at least, an overall starting price so that the voters can see that, while they are spending \$1.7 million, they are committing to more than \$6.5 million; that that should be clear in the article that that's being done. She added that she is concerned with a letter from the engineer in our packets that nothing done previously is solid any longer; that they are recommending new price calculations and new flow calculations and projections, nor are there any betterment fees calculated for this; that there is no package for the residents to look at and vote on. She said that there is no concrete information in the article beyond the \$1.7 million and, just on that alone, she would say that citizens would not be informed before voting for this.

5:56 PM

Mr. Beckert said that the TIF is a 30-year TIF; so, 30 years at \$500,000/year, consider that the value of the TIF properties would increase over that period of time and that would be approximately \$15 million if the compressor station stays, and there's been no talk of it going anywhere and, in fact, there has been discussion in the past of them building a second one. He added that that \$500,00/year that comes in is sheltered, because of the TIF, from the school, the county, and from the State; that it comes in from taxes collected from properties in the TIF District; that it's money that could be used in the general fund but, if it was all going in the general fund, you would only be getting about 25% of the use of it; that in the TIF you have 100% use of it; that it's up to the voters. He said that the Board has to decide what to put on the warrant to give the voters a choice as to how they want to move forward with the repairs to the pumps in South Eliot, understanding that any expansion, anywhere, is going to take work on those pump stations to prepare them for the future.

5:58 PM

Mr. (Brad) Hughes said that, in his years as an auditor, it was always a question of what was a repair and what was a capital expenditure. He added that, in looking at this project to repair the two pump stations, what he sees is a lot of upgrades and improvements to accommodate future expansion; that that, as an independent auditor of a company, constituted a capital expenditure, not a repair. He said that the law says, as he reads it, that the O&M costs are borne by the sewer users and the capital costs are borne by the taxpayers. He said that he has yet to see a breakdown from anybody about what potentially is capitalized with this project versus O&M costs and it seems to him that we have not yet decided what really is repair and what really is capital.

6:00 PM

Ms. Davis said, in response, that if the Town agreed to pay 22/78, the Town would be contributing towards anything you could even conceivably consider.

Mr. Hughes asked what that 22% was based on, asking if it was a dollar amount of what we consider capital expense versus repair.

Mr. Pomerleau said that it didn't matter.

Ms. Davis said that the engineer has stated upon more than one occasion that this is required, regardless of expansion, and there is no cheaper way to do it.

6:01 PM

Mr. (Phil) Lytle said that he is probably the only one here, tonight, that signed the paperwork for the sewer; that in the last three or four years he has never seen so much animosity between Selectmen, South Eliot, and North Eliot people; that it is really ridiculous. He added that we got sewer, not because South Eliot wanted it, but because the federal government said that we will put it in; that, now, to have South Eliot pay this \$1.7 million is really bad when we have funds from the TIF District, which utilizes the whole Town and not just the Route 236 project, to fix this problem and for future expansions. He said that he remembers sewer running down the sides of the drains in South Eliot and getting weekly calls regarding the problems down in the creek; that we went in and fixed it with money appropriated through State and federal government. He added that many people from South Eliot really didn't want to do it because they had good, working septic systems but there was enough in there (overboard discharges) that the federal government said that we had to fix it. He said that the sewer line they had down there going through "Clay Village" was nothing but 1-foot pieces of pipe against each other and it was busting all the time. He added that it just bothers him so much that the whole Town is fighting over this sewer thing when we do have funds in there that could correct it now and for future use.

6:04 PM

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that the septic users, who have no access to that system, paid on that system for 30 years; that as Ms. Davis pointed out numerous times, the ordinance clearly states that repair and maintenance costs belong to the

sewer users and that the engineers have repeatedly said that these are repair and maintenance costs, not capital costs. She added that she would ask that the Selectmen uphold the ordinance and place it on the ballot for 100% sewer users, as the ordinance states, and clearly explain to the voters that it is a bond that must be backed by all of the Town but that the sewer users would be responsible for the payments. She said that what the Board is asking for is that the septic users, who have been paying for 30 years, pay for another 20 years on a system they can't use, for a total of 50 years.

## 6:05 PM

Mr. Lentz said that he was rather surprised with the pay-as-you-go cash out of the TIF; that for a project of this size there isn't a projected total amount of what it would cost and a timeline of when it would be finished. He added that he didn't see that as free money; that his understanding is that we're taking out a bit at a time and going as far as we can with that money, then waiting for more money to develop; that any time you do that you are going to pay through the nose for repeatedly stopping and starting. He asked what this was projected to cost.

#### 6:06 PM

Mr. Lee said that we have the cost projection from 2014; that the engineers have said that they use an industry pricing index standard and that they could readily update the numbers from 2014 to 2017 estimates on the phases in that plan presented to the Board. He added that he doesn't disagree that there is a mobilization fee every time you stop and start.

Mr. Beckert asked what the BOS wanted to do with the drafted subcommittee articles and the 78/22 article.

#### 6:08 PM

Ms. Davis moved, second by Mr. Pomerleau, that the Board of Selectmen strike Articles the 27<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup> and replace it with the 22/78 split compromise.

## **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Murphy asked why they couldn't be in there as an option.

Ms. Davis said that the reason was that this is a very confusing ballot; that we've been told numerous times to keep it as simple as possible and there are many budget items on the ballot, as well. She added that we need to put something before the people that can be explained and clearly understood so that, hopefully, we can have resolution to this problem.

## 6:09 PM

Mr. Beckert said that he didn't see the ballot as that confusing, at this point; that any bond language is confusing to begin with. He added that we could put all four of the articles on there and let the voters decide what they want to do.

6:10 PM

Ms. Davis reiterated that the language in Articles 27<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup> is very complex and confusing and contingent; that a 22/78 article on the ballot would be easier to comprehend and vote on clearly. She added that another problem, in addition to the fact that there is no plan for the people to view, is that it would actually be cheaper for the Town to pay for this directly than to just give away the \$125,000 that we're, in essence, removing from the general fund for the TIF. She also added that, with Kittery (sewer) moving so close to the Eliot Town line, there are other cheaper options to explore by going directly down Route 236 instead of winding down Beech Road and over to South Eliot. She discussed keeping the project as part of the TIF Alternative Committee's work and not on this ballot when we need to make serious decisions on how to move forward with these repairs. She added that she thought that putting this complex stuff on a ballot was irresponsible.

**6:12 PM** At this time, Mr. (Keith) Pratt joined the discussion.

Ms. Davis said that she was feeling a sense of urgency; that if we put complicated articles on the ballot and they don't pass, we will be done for almost another full year. She added that, based on what Mr. Pratt has said in the past, we could have a very expensive problem on our hands. She said she would like to know whether Mr. Pratt confirms that sense of urgency, or not.

Mr. Pratt said urgency with repairing and upgrading the stations, yes, we believe it's needed immediately; so, he confirms that and would definitely support trying to get those stations upgraded as soon as possible.

6:13 PM

Mr. Lee reminded the Board that we did put in those two by-passes as a failsafe so that, if we should have a catastrophic failure, we could pick it up very easily now. He added that, still, a catastrophic failure is not far off, whatever solution the Board comes up with.

Ms. Davis said that that is contradictory and asked if it is urgent or is it not.

Mr. Pratt reminded them that there are life safety issues and code issues, too; that what we've done is try to get by so that we have a contingency plan if a station fails. He added that that is only a stop-gap measure, and he thinks it was smart to do that, but there are other issues, too – the life safety code issues as well as the age of the structures, themselves.

6:14 PM

Mr. Murphy said that Ms. Davis has alluded to the fact that Kittery is coming this way and it would be easier to go down there and we wouldn't have to bother about going down to South Eliot; that it seems to him that we would simply be adding to the total expense if we want to take part of it and buy a way from Kittery at enormous expense, as they just built onto their infrastructure, and would

not let us hook in for free. He reminded everyone that we had about \$2 million that we were going to spend in Kittery before Underwood Engineer's plan was developed that had us spending the money in Eliot to, as a necessary part of the Route 236 project, repair those pumps.

6:15 PM

Mr. Pratt said that, when the original plan was laid out, Kittery had a plan to bring sewers up to where they did; that the original plan was for the TIF and Route 236 to connect to that, with a cost established by Kittery to Eliot. He added that, when we looked at the alternatives to that, we found it was less expensive to come through the Village because, now, we were killing two birds with one stone; not only were we using our own infrastructure, we were upgrading something that needed to be upgraded, anyway. He said that it was a couple million dollars more because we would be adding pumping stations to go to Kittery; that he can only presume that Kittery's cost would only be the same; that they did have a fixed cost if we went through their new interceptors up through Martin Road. He added that that was a lot more expensive and all laid out in the 2012 Report.

6:16 PM

Mr. (Bill) Selsberg asked if we could have a reading of the warrant article with the 78/22.

Mr. Beckert read the article (copies available at Town Hall). In discussing the split, he said that the whole Town will pay 22%, and that includes the sewer users, and 78% from sewer user fees. He added that this debt is considered a general obligation of the Town and that is standard for any bond the Town floats; that it is the responsibility of the entire Town.

6:18 PM

Mr. Selsberg said that he supported the 78/22; that it's a compromise. He added that he didn't want the town to say they didn't understand it or it's too complicated; that any mention of TIF money complicates it; that it doesn't preclude the TIF Alternative Committee coming up with a plan later on and, perhaps, deal with this. He added that we have to move forward and the simpler, the better; that not everyone is going to be happy with the 78/22 but that's what a compromise is.

6:19 PM

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that, at a previous meeting, Mr. Pratt was very clear that these were repair and maintenance costs, not capital costs. She reiterated that the ordinance is very clear on who is responsible for those payments – the sewer users; that she is a little unclear why the Board is not following and upholding that ordinance.

Ms. (Tina) Lane asked if it was broken down by capital and general repairs and maintenance.

Mr. Lee said that it wasn't really broken down that way.

6:20 PM

Mr. Pratt said that what we were asked and what we tried to do was, if there was going to be no expansion and no growth and just fix the stations to code and life safety issues, what would the cost reduction be; that we did calculate that and it wasn't much; that that is where he thinks people are saying that that needs to be done, anyway, whether we expand – about 10%, he thought. He added that that's why we've always advocated that, if you're going to do it, just build in the little bit of room to grow; but, if the growth didn't exist, the cost is essentially the same.

6:21 PM

Ms. Lane said that we do have to expand it to take care of other areas in this Town; that it's going to have to be expanded, anyway, regardless of what we do because of people who have to be on that kind of a system. She added that she doesn't understand why we are fighting about this; that it's very upsetting to see you all fighting and to hear some of the comments that are obviously coming down through the Town that is starting to split this Town apart – that's not right; that it's not right to watch what is going on with this Board, it is not right what is starting to happen in the Town; that we are a Town.

Ms. Davis asked her what her solution would be.

Ms. Lane said that she feels we have taken the time to have a solution to understand what this is; that she was one of the ones that did not understand what had gone before, but, we have stated and it has been said and here is clarity of it, asking what is going on. She added that the reason the percentage splits have not passed before was because we are split; that it's a splitting – setting one side of the Town against another side of the Town; that that's not going to pass. She said that they would have a much better chance of 'this' passing, with an explanation that's going forth so the Town understands, than you ever will by doing that split, again, and continuing to split this Town up.

6:23 PM

Mr. Pomerleau said that, regarding capital expenses, the attorney clearly stated from a January letter that the Town has the authority to establish capital reserves for the purposes of capital improvement; that the attorney alluded, later on, that new sewer, sewer expansion, or sewer extension could be split into some proportion of taxes. He added that that is not what we are talking about; that what we are talking about, here, are repair, maintenance, and operations, by definition, "all actions that have the objective of retaining or restoring an item in or to the state in which it can perform its required function". He asked Mr. Pratt if that was not the definition of what he put forward - the money necessary to maintain and bring this system back up to its stated, required function. He said that there is no expansion here; that there is no money built in to expand the power of the pumps so we can take in Route 236 or South Eliot. He added that, if there were, he would be completely open to actual, real expansion costs; that it doesn't exist here.

**6:25 PM** Mr. Pratt said that it does; that there is a little bit, as he stated, but it is a smaller amount.

Mr. Hughes asked about the middle school, as they are on a septic system.

Mr. Pratt said that that was considered; that that is in the plan.

Mr. Pomerleau quoted from Maine State Law 30-A 213 §5405, "The municipal officers shall fix the schedule of rates, fees and other charges for the use of, and for the services furnished or to be furnished by any revenue-producing municipal facility.", of which a sewer system is. "The municipality shall charge and collect the rates, fees and charges so fixed or revised. ... these rates... shall be fixed and revised to provide funds which, together with all other funds available for the purpose, will be sufficient at all times to pay the cost of maintaining, repairing and operating the revenue-producing municipal facility... including reserves for those purposes, and to pay the principal of and interest on the revenue bonds, as the same becomes due and payable, and reserves for that purpose. The rates, fees and charges must be reasonable, just and equitable." He added that our sewer ordinance says exactly the same thing; that it all comes to the same conclusion – sewer systems are supported by sewer users. He said that we are not taking about building a new sewer system but about maintaining and updating the one we have; that a 78/22 split would be a generous contribution by the taxpayers.

6:27 PM

Ms. Davis reiterated her concern for the potential problem existing; that she believes the Town is divided because the septic users don't want to pay a big chunk of this. She agreed that 22% was a very generous contribution; that we need to fix this.

Ms. Lane said that they aren't hearing that; that we own property on both sides so we pay both ways (sewer and septic); that the sewer is becoming quite expensive, never mind adding on top of it, plus everything else that's going on in the Town. She added that she thinks the division is directly related to people who don't want to pay for our sewerage and it wasn't our sewerage when it went in; that it was forced upon us and we had no choice in it.

6:28 PM

Ms. Davis said that septic users who have had to pay, sometimes \$15,000 to \$30,000, for their own septic systems are also being asked to pay for 50 years for the sewer.

Ms. Lane reiterated that we have property on both sides and she understands both sides; that it is much cheaper on the other side than it is on our side, right now.

6:29 PM

Mr. Murphy said that ¼ of the 22% general taxation will be paid for by people on the sewer; that the value of taxes, the tax rate, on people with septic systems is not

as high from the market point of view, which is how tax levels are computed. He added that there's been no discussion of our Town Manager having a mailer to explain the differences between three different ways or none of the above in ordinary terms even though, on the ballot, we have to follow the legal wording requirement.

6:30 PM

Mr. Lee said that they priced out what it would cost to do a mailer and it came to between \$900 and \$1,000 and that we can get a whole page in the Sentinel for \$575; that he has drafted the information explaining the articles and we are calling today to get it in the Sentinel.

6:31 PM

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that, at the previous meeting, Mr. Pratt alluded that it was approximately 5% that may be a capital cost, or maybe 10%. She reiterated that, if we follow the ordinance, a proposed 95/5 or 90/10 could be put forth.

Mr. Pomerleau reiterated that, if it is not new sewer, it is not capital improvement. He added that making the explanation simplified goes beyond his comprehension; that he got confused trying to write the explanation with the Town Manager. He said that this is not a vote to spend \$1.7 million to repair South Eliot sewer but a vote to commit to sewer expansion on Route 236; that that can't be buried in this article and there is no long-term cost of what we would be committing to. He added that the South Eliot project is only secondary if you do sewer expansion and you can't hide that in the warrant. He said that the odds of this Town, for the fourth time, voting to expand sewer on Route 236 is slim; that if the Town doesn't approve that they are then asked if they want to vote for a bond but aren't told how that would be paid for; that they would then be asked for their opinion on how they would want the paying of the bond distributed – 100% sewer users or 100% taxpayers; that in view of the law and the ordinance, 100% taxpayers is illegal, in his opinion. He discussed his concern that too many would not understand the articles and would not realize they needed to read all the articles in the series before voting on them. He said that the bottom line is that the TIF is not a residential sewer repair fund but a job and economic development program, adding that he didn't believe there would be one job or any business development from the South Eliot sewer project.

6:35 PM

Mr. Lee clarified that our attorneys wrote the articles and there has been no effort to hide anything in any article.

Mr. Beckert agreed; that he saw "TIF" and "Route 236" in the article.

Ms. Davis said that it doesn't say we are committing to a \$6.5 million+ project; that it should, at least, state that this is the first phase of a multi-million dollar project.

6:36 PM

Mr. Lee said that he was unqualified to rewrite what the attorney wrote and risk that it won't pass bond. He discussed that, in past votes, there has been a green sheet from the ECIN that tells the other side of the story; that what is being said may be proper to put in that.

Mr. (Ed) Strong said that the one thing he did not know in reading this warrant language is that we would be committing to the whole expansion of sewer on Route 236; that he thinks that, if the people are going to vote on it, then it should be stated in there.

6:37 PM

Mr. Beckert said that the attorney told us that TIF money can be used to do these repairs as long as it is part of a phased plan that eventually gets sewer to Route 236. He added that there is a phasing plan for the Town of areas that need sewer other than Route 236, which may be coming before us very soon if the federal government gets involved the way they have along this river, lately; that it takes in Main Street, going up the river up River Road, eventually getting to Route 236.

**6:39 PM** DISCUSSION ENDED

VOTE 2-2 (Murphy, Fernald) Chair concurs in the negative

Mr. Beckert said that you can't get a plurality vote with one choice, suggesting they put them all on the warrant and explain to the voters in layman's terms what each one of them means.

6:41 PM

Ms. Lentz asked if every phase would have to be voted on by taxpayers.

Mr. Lee said yes, that every phase has to be individually approved.

Ms. Lentz asked what would happen if a phase was voted down.

Mr. Lee explained that, as long as we, in good faith, are trying to get to our destination and it is voted down, then no harm, no foul; that we would be in compliance with the adopted plan. He said that, if people vote it down, they know there is nothing he can do about that.

6:42 PM

Ms. Davis commented that we are going to tell the DECD we are going to get to Route 236 via River Road, repair residential sewers first then come to the middle of Town and take a left instead of a right.

6:43 PM

Mr. Lee disagreed; that that is not the area we're heading to (River Road). He added that it has to head toward Route 236; that Mr. Pratt is going to talk about some of the things we don't know later in the agenda but we have never projected

flows in 'this' area or possibly going to the right of the library and down over Depot Road to Route 236. He added that those possibilities are a long way off but it would get us closer to River Road and another potential economic development site up 'here' (Village). He said that right now we need to make a decision so the Budget Committee can get to work.

There was further discussion regarding not having an amended plan in place to vote on but only voting on the current Route 236 plan and that voters are being asked to vote on something they don't have anything to look at. It was clarified that voters would have something to look at every time a vote came up.

6:44 PM

Mr. Selsberg asked how the BOS could justify making a decision on using TIF funds when you've established a TIF Committee for the very purpose of establishing a plan; that he was concerned that they would be overriding that committee's purpose.

6:45 PM

Mr. Beckert asked for the Board's pleasure on articles for the sewer pump station repairs and upgrades.

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen move forward with the presently described Article the 27<sup>th</sup>, omit Article the 28<sup>th</sup>, as drafted, and replace it with the longer 78/22 bond, as discussed, and strike Article the 29<sup>th</sup> (non-binding referendum).

#### DISCUSSION

6:50 PM

Ms. Davis said that you have to put a note on Article the 27<sup>th</sup> that states we will be committing to a Route 236 project.

The Board agreed to add that note.

**DISCUSSION ENDED** 

VOTE

2-2 (Pomerleau, Davis)

Chair concurs in the affirmative

6:54 PM

Board of Selectmen recommendations:

Article the  $27^{th} - 2$  for, 2 against, Chair for -3-2 to recommend.

Article the  $28^{th} - 2$  for, 2 against, Chair against -3-2 to not recommend.

6:57 PM

The Board went into recess so that the Town Manager could revise the warrant.

7:17 PM

The Chair reconvened the meeting.

## G. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

# **H1.** Department Head/Committee Reports

# 1) Eliot Energy Committee – HVAC Re-balancing/Study Request

Mr. Lee said that the Board had a cost estimate (\$2,500) of the cost to do a study of our HVAC system and make recommendations, explaining that the heat and air conditioning in our offices is not functioning well and is impacting the energy savings for this building. He added that the Eliot Energy Committee is recommending the Board use the Town Hall Reserve to hire this engineer to accomplish the study and make recommendations for a future CIP request.

**7:19 PM** Mr. Beckert confirmed that there was \$50,762 in the Town Hall Reserve.

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen approve the plan for Design Day Mechanicals, Inc. to do a HVAC System Engineering Study of the Town Hall for an amount not to exceed \$2,500 to come from the Town Hall Reserve.

VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs

# 7:21 PM 2) Eliot Energy Committee – Memorandum of Understanding – Solar Array

Mr. Lee discussed this updated version, saying that this does not commit the Town to the solar project. He explained that they have to make application for the energy credits and part of that application is a Memorandum of Understanding that we are pursuing a solar landfill project; that the Board is not signing a contract. He clarified that the company is fully aware that, if this does not pass at Town Meeting, it is done; that this is just to apply and their deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

7:23 PM Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Eliot and BP Eliot, LLC.

## **DISCUSSION**

7:24 PM Ms. Davis said that the power purchase agreement (PPA) is still very preliminary and asked for confirmation that this Memorandum in no way binds us to any of the included terms.

Mr. Lee said that it does not; that all it does is lay out the parameters of the system we are planning to put up through a PPA; that if we don't get the credits or it doesn't pass vote we can cancel this at any time.

7:26 PM DISCUSSION ENDED

VOTE
3-1 (Davis)
Chair concurs in the affirmative

#### I2. Public Works

## 7:27 PM 1) Phasing Sewer System Re-cap/Options

Mr. Pratt summarized the sewer history, what we have and don't have, and possible options for the future. He said that we did a value engineering report in 2012 on sewer expansion for Route 236; that as part of that we did a sewer basin study to properly size downstream pump stations and pipes; that we did some sewer planning flows down to the River Road area but did not do that for the Depot Road area. He added that Route 236 and the potential future need for the middle school were considered. He said that in 2014 we looked at a phasing plan and that was to solely, if we chopped this thing up, determine how we could take smaller bites at it in phases. A conceptual map is included in the correspondence. He added that it is the same plan from 2012, just broken up; that we estimated that added cost would be at least 10%. He said that, with any extension you do, we are sizing things downstream to accommodate that, making it big enough for a 50- or 100-year-plan, including the pumping stations. He explained that this is normal practice and smart to do because the added cost is inexpensive. Discussing the I&I work done, Mr. Pratt said that we went from 150,000 gpd flow down to about 100,000 gpd, currently, and that means you have room in your allocation to expand. He said that we developed the costs for phasing and for the Route 236 extension (2012); that we have not adjusted the dollar amounts for inflation or increased construction costs. He added that, while we have flow estimates out into the basins, we don't have routing for piping and pumps like we do for Route 236. He suggested that, if a serious alternative plan is developed for sewer, we should do a layout to obtain some costs to compare to Route 236 options.

**7:33 PM** Mr. Beckert asked Mr. Pratt if he could give an estimate of how much the cost to build a sewer has gone up since 2012, roughly.

Mr. Pratt said that we use the Construction Cost Index (CCI) published by the national magazine <u>Engineering News Record</u>; that, when we did this for the pumping station based on those numbers, the price went up 3%+/- per year; that in six years it's going to be about 20% at that rate.

7:34 PM

Mr. Moulton said that we should think about having a phased plan for the entire Town; that this year we had to map all the septic systems in the urbanized area for the MS4 Permit; that the State is looking for overboard discharges. He added that, in general, within the next year we would like to look into a total phased plan for Eliot. He said that he believes that everything 'this' side of Route 236 down the whole of State Road will probably eventually need to be sewered and it would be a good idea to have a plan in hand; that if the government came in at some point at least we would have something going. He reiterated that he would like to start planning for the future, just like what we do with CIP reserves; that he would like to, in the next year or so, come back with a plan to look at and evaluate moving forward with some kind of a phased plan for future expansion of sewer on 'this' side of Route 236.

7:37 PM

Ms. Davis asked if we would have a report or explanatory form before voters vote on this.

Mr. Lee said that we can; that we would like to.

Ms. Davis said that, when this TIF was being planned, the recommended purchase from Kittery was an additional 200,000 gpd, asking why that had changed.

Mr. Pratt said that he doesn't think that recommendation has changed, necessarily; that at the time, when we were looking at Kittery, it was a very good deal, in his opinion, to purchase that 200,000 gpd because of the low cost associated with it; that at the time Eliot was at much higher flows and we didn't know the impact with the I&I work and we thought we would be on Route 236; that with the reductions in flow because of the I&I work, the discussions were to buy the increases when we need them. He added that, with the reductions, we have a little room but, when we decide where and how far we want to go, he thinks we will need to revisit that.

7:39 PM

Ms. Davis asked how they would establish betterment fees.

Mr. Pratt said that the Town has betterment fees, now, so we would use that for any expansions. He added that we have talked, off-and-on about, revisiting those but we haven't done that yet.

Mr. Moulton said that the betterment fee is \$860.

7:40 PM

Ms. Davis discussed what was happening in Kittery with very high betterment fees and the discrepancy between their fee and our fee that left her wondering how these things are established and why.

Mr. Pratt said that \$800 is on the low side of what he's seen and what we've done in other places, and it should get revisited, but it has to do with the cost of service calculated out. He added that typical values that he sees are from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

Mr. Murphy said that as he understands it betterment fees cannot add up to more than 50% of the cost of a defined development.

Mr. Pratt said that what we often recommend is to get away from the term 'betterment fee'; that we call them development fees or system development charges; that that is the industry standard because it gets away from establishing fees for expansion and gets back to an equity buy-in; that, as sewer is expanded, people are getting the advantage of something that's already been purchased by, presumably, users.

**7:41 PM** Mr. Murphy said that he thought that State statutes were involved in the 50% number.

Mr. Pratt said that that might be true on the betterment fee definition; that what we are saying is that, if you base that cost, not in an expansion but in existing equity, it's different and gives you more flexibility.

Mr. Pomerleau said that it wasn't all that confusing why Kittery's is so different from ours; that it's all funded within the Town; that there are no grants, outside money, and when our system was established 80% of the capital came from the feds; that that left the Town with 20% capital to proportionately share in betterment fees, which kept the cost way down. He added that they don't have that in Kittery; that they are using sewer user revenue and whatever else; that if we were to build a sewer in Eliot without federal funding, we would be looking at the same issue Kittery has. He added that our betterment fees are down around \$800 because 80% of it came from the feds.

Mr. Pratt agreed that Eliot was buying up a much smaller number.

7:43 PM Ms. Davis said that, early on, as part of the TIF design, there was a force main coming up Beech Road and a planned, additional gravity for residential, asking, going forward, what the intent was there; are residential homes going to have to hook into this or is it strictly commercial on Route 236.

Mr. Pratt said that it was up to what you guys want to do; that at the time we were asked to look at Beech Road because we were going up and it made sense to put sewer in; that we did come up with a plan that included a force main and gravity feed. He clarified that that was the first vote and it was taken out on the next two

votes as not an option on the table anymore. He said that it will be a decision that we'll be making at the time when we look at phasing or extensions.

7:44 PM

Ms. Davis said that in order to comply she thought we would also have to be adding in another sewer alongside this one; that it's really not going to cover our residential needs at all; that if they can't hook into it, it's not going to cover residential needs.

Mr. Moulton said that it would cover some residential needs; that, ultimately, it would depend on where everything goes, about a phasing for further discussion; that right now we're talking about phasing for this whole side of Route 236 and it doesn't include TIF money, it's just a plan moving forward that the Town needs to put forethought into because we are going to have issues. He added that, if the federal government keeps marching up and down this river, there may be another mandate towards this Town that you need to sewer all of River Road, let's say, and you might be in the same situation that you're in now. He reiterated that it's just a plan moving forward, something to look at and consider, and planning for the future; having a plan for this whole side of Route 236.

7:46 PM

Ms. Davis said that people don't seem to be behind economic development on Route 236 so, in a sense, losing \$125,000 out of our general fund to support a project that many people aren't in favor of; that then we're saying that we have to do sewer over 'here' and you're going to have to pay for that; that the money we lose to the TIF, that we don't really support, is going to be used up instead of over 'here', where eventually we may be mandated to fix.

Mr. Moulton clarified that he is not looking to include this in the TIF; that he is looking strictly at phasing for sewer in Eliot.

Ms. Davis said that if we are going to end up paying for it, our money is being used over 'here', now - \$125,000 – that could be used to eventually put sewer in over 'here' is being used to put sewer in for the TIF.

7:47 PM

Mr. Lee asked what the \$125,000 was.

Ms. Davis said that that is the money that would come to the general fund if we didn't have the TIF. She added that, as part of the \$6.5 million cost, residents won't be able to hook into this force main, so we have to add at least \$1 million to do the gravity feed on Beech Road; that the \$6.5 million isn't even the bottom of the barrel; that we will be looking at even more.

7:48 PM

Mr. Lee and Mr. Moulton agreed.

Ms. Davis said that, discussing the initial plan to go directly down Route 236 into Kittery, the reason the cost was so high is because Eliot was proposing to build the sewer down Martin Road.

Mr. Pratt clarified that Kittery was going to build it. He added that the allocation of the costs was fixed; that they were going to build it and manage the building of it and they would pay for so much and Eliot would pay for this much; that he isn't even sure the sewer pipes were sized, anymore, for us because we said no; that we would have to check on that.

**7:50 PM** Ms. Davis said that it is an alternative we have not explored.

Mr. Pratt clarified that we have explored it and, in 2012, it was going to cost you a lot more. He added that Kittery might give the Town a better deal today but, assuming it was the same deal, it was more expensive.

Ms. Davis said that they have a different circumstance, now; they have a lot of unhappy residents. She added that she thought it was too bad that we aren't exploring more options so that we can at least realistically compare and contrast the different projects.

Mr. Pratt said that we could revisit that.

Mr. Pomerleau discussed calculations regarding the rate that we are allowing new residential buildings; that at the rate of 20 years we were good with the 200,000 gpd for 50 years without any additional allocation expansion. He added that going the other way would change that dramatically.

7:51 PM Mr. Pratt agreed that it could. He added that he is not saying that not buying it back then was a bad decision because, if you did buy it, you would have invested more in their repairs and their capital costs.

Mr. Pomerleau said that he suggested a few years ago that we should look, long-term, at what the nitrogen impact was going to be on the sewerage treatment plant; that now we are looking at a \$90 million thing across the river; that it is going to come across the bay, here, and we would be on the hook for 16% to 17% instead of 8%, or whatever that's going to cost now.

Mr. Pratt agreed that that was what was at debate at the time.

7:52 PM Mr. Lee said that part of the implied question was that we should update the pricing on this plan because one of the options is to commit to a phased plan; that that would let people know what they are getting into in terms of today's numbers. He asked if that was what the BOS wanted him to do.

The Board agreed.

## 2) (3) Sewer Allocation Requests

Mr. Beckert said that these requests have been before the Sewer Committee and they recommend they be granted.

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen approve these allocation requests, as recommended by the Eliot Sewer Committee and listed on Correspondence I-2 dated 4/28/2016.

#### DISCUSSION

Ms. Davis asked if this was in addition to the 100,000 gpd currently used and Mr. Pratt will take that into account when he does his new analysis.

**7:53 PM** Mr. Moulton said yes; that we are actually at about 94,000 gpd, so, we have the extra; that we are currently doing investigation for another phase of I&I so we may capture a little more.

**DISCUSSION ENDED** 

VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs

## 3) PW Cab and Chassis Dump Truck Bid

Mr. Lee said that we are recommending New England Kenworth, with a \$15,000 trade-in, for a lump sum price of \$81,804; that we currently have \$71,535 in the DPW vehicle reserve. He added that this year we were asked to break those out into vehicle reserves and capital reserves; that, at the time we were planning to buy this truck, it had been one big reserve of \$135,000. He said that it won't be ready until July 1<sup>st</sup>; that in order to finance this we would need to use some of the capital reserve along with all of the vehicle reserve and, then, as of July 1 there are new reserves going back into both. He said that he would ask the Board to let us use the \$10,000 from the capital reserve and repay it this year after July 1.

**7:56 PM** Mr. Beckert asked Mr. (Steve) Robinson if he was happy with the specs that came through on this Kenwood.

Mr. Robinson said that it fits our needs the best out of all of them.

7:57 PM Mr. Moulton said that we currently have a fleet of Internationals and, as you all know, we've spent a lot of money on the Internationals; that he and Mr. Robinson

discussed how to best deal with the emissions issues we have been having and this request is the result.

Ms. Davis asked if we can make it contingent that we make the payment after we have the money on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Moulton said that, more than likely, it will not be in our possession until after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Lee clarified that you want it contingent that you will not receive payment until after July 1<sup>st</sup> so that we keep it all clean; get the new allocation, put it in the vehicle reserve, then pay it.

Ms. Davis agreed.

Mr. Lee said that we can do that.

There was discussion regarding getting reserve accounts adjusted to reflect actual amounts as well as the bid amount on the Kenworth truck.

8:01 PM

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen approve the purchase of the Public Works Department requested truck from their recommended source, New England Kenworth, Concord, NH and the purchase price, with trade-in, to be \$81,804, price to be confirmed.

VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs

## 4) Pavement Marking Bid

Mr. Lee said that SMRPC put this out for all towns within the region they support; that we are recommending Poirier Guidelines out of Athol, MA for \$0.071/per linear foot.

8:03 PM

Mr. Fernald moved, second by Mr. Murphy, that the Board of Selectmen award the contract to Poirier Guide Lines for pavement striping for \$6,372.96.

VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs

## J3. Administrative Department

## 8:04 PM 1) Town Manager Activities Report

Mr. Murphy asked for clarification of Line 25.

Mr. Lee said that the DEP had wanted, at first, to have grading work done on the capped landfill before the solar array was placed and, after some discussion, the DEP decided that any grading, if necessary, could be done as the solar array was being placed.

Mr. Murphy asked for clarification of Line 29.

Mr. Lee said that the Blueberry Lane private sewer issue was progressing. He added that he, Mr. Moulton, and Mr. Pratt met and are putting together a memorandum to the Board regarding roads that have private residential sewer systems we believe are still owned by the developer.

Mr. Murphy asked for clarification of Line 58.

Mr. Lee said that a group called Safewise rated the safest communities in Maine and we were #1.

## a. Monthly Financial Reports

Ms. Davis requested an electronic copy of the current account status report, todate, and forward a copy to the Budget Committee, if they have not yet requested one.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that the Budget Committee is planning to request that in May so that we can get it through April 30<sup>th</sup>; that she would request that our requests come from the Budget Committee.

## **b.** Quarterly Financial Reports

There was no discussion.

## c. Referendum Town Meeting Voting – Tues., June 14 – No Correspondence

This is a reminder.

## d. Absentee Ballots Available – Mon., May 16 – No Correspondence

Mr. Lee said that we hope, because of its size, that it comes in by Monday. He added that we are encouraging people to consider voting absentee because it is a big, complicated ballot and lines will be long.

Ms. Lentz suggested they tell the seniors at the Senior Luncheon about the absentee ballots.

Mr. Beckert said that that was a good idea; that we could request that the Town Clerk be there to explain the process.

## 8:17 PM 2) Senior Luncheon, May 11 – Turkeys – No Correspondence

There was discussion of who would be doing what and how the luncheon would be supplied.

# 8:20 PM 3) Request: Close Town Clerk's Office on Elections in June and November

Mr. Lee said that this is a request on an ongoing basis; that it become a standard practice because she has to take the bulk of her staff with her.

Mr. Fernald moved, second by Mr. Murphy, that the Board of Selectmen approve the Town Clerk's Office be closed in June and November of this year on election days.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Beckert asked if this was in perpetuity.

Mr. Lee said yes, until such time that it may be revoked.

## **DISCUSSION ENDED**

VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs

## 8:21 PM 4) CSD Red Barn Rehab Bid (1 Bid, Still Sealed)

Mr. Lee said that he kept that bid sealed, not knowing what way the Board wanted to go. He explained that we advertised and asked several individuals to bid and still had only one person show up for the pre-bid, who submitted a proper bid.

Ms. Muzeroll-Roy explained the work that would be done, to include new windows and vinyl siding.

Mr. Lee said that MMA told us that it needs work done to it; that it is a liability in its current condition.

**8:27 PM** Ms. Davis asked if it would hurt anything if they gave her two weeks to try to find one or two others who might bid.

Mr. Lee said that he didn't think that would be fair to this bidder; that we had a date certain and it was closed so he can't accept anymore bids; that if you want to do it again, and that's fine, then we really ought to start over and have this guy resubmit his number.

Mr. Murphy said that, if it was hundreds of thousands of dollars, then it would matter; however, he thinks this is a small job.

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen recognize they have followed the rules and it isn't going to work at this time and accept this bid.

## **DISCUSSION**

Ms. Davis asked if she could say what we appropriated for this project.

Ms. Muzeroll-Roy said that there is \$32,000; that within that money she also has a new sign for Hammond Park.

Ms. Davis said that this isn't chump change; that it would be nice if we could go take two more weeks, maybe advertise in a different newspaper.

8:28 PM

Mr. Lee said that they could do whatever they liked, adding that it is very frustrating for us to do all this stuff and have only one person show up and it's not unusual.

Ms. Muzeroll-Roy discussed her fear that this one person interested, and emailed a couple of times, might decide not to redo his bid; that then we would have nobody.

Mr. Lee respectfully suggested to Selectman Murphy that a proper motion would be to open the bid and then determine whether we accept the bid, or not, because it may be very high; that, maybe, the motion is to waive the three-bid requirement and look at this bid to see if we want to accept it or reject it.

## **DISCUSSION ENDED**

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen waive the three-bid requirement and open this bid and examine the bid to see if it is the one we want.

> VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs

**8:31 PM** At this time, Mr. Lee opened and read the bid, which was for \$28,500. He confirmed with Ms. Muzeroll-Roy that her allocation would cover this bid.

Mr. Pomerleau suggested they might eliminate the pre-bid conference and just give out specs and have contractors send in their bids.

Mr. Lee said that that was the way he would prefer to do it if we had perfect specs; that the problem is that you have to spend a fair amount of money to get good specs, discussing the details needed to make sure everyone is bidding the same thing.

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen accept the bid.

VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs

Ms. Muzeroll-Roy discussed the new sign design for Hammond Park and gave a handout to the Board of the old and new designs. She added that Mr. Raitt suggested we get the design on a j-peg so that he doesn't have to recreate it each time it is done; that the total cost would be no more than \$5,000.

Mr. Fernald moved, second by Mr. Murphy, that the Board of Selectmen approve the sign, not to exceed \$3,500.

VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs

## 8:40 PM 8) May 5 Workshop

It was agreed that they would wrap up Mr. Lee's 3-year contract.

## **K4.** Public Safety

## 8:43 PM 1) Reception for Chief Short

This will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 3PM to 5PM at the Kittery Community Center in celebration of his retirement.

# 8:44 PM J5. MMA Safety Grant - \$2,000 (Local Match Required, Town Hall Reserve \$50,762)

This was to purchase 3 ergonomic desks to replace ones that are old and not ergonomic for a price of \$4973.69. Potential MMA grant is for \$2,000 of that purchase price to prevent worker's comp claims.

Mr. Pomerleau moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen approve the Town Manager's request to move forward with the purchase of the ergonomic desks for three employees, anticipating the use of \$2,000 in grant money, reducing the Town's cost to \$2,973.69.

**VOTE 4-0** 

**Chair concurs** 

## L. Old Business:

# 8:46 PM 1) Policies Related to Disbursements (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Revised)

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen adopt the Municipality of Eliot Policy on Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Employee Wages and Benefits, Education Costs, and State Fees, as covered in the correspondence of the Selectmen's Meeting of 4/28/2016, L-1.

**VOTE 4-0** 

**Chair concurs** 

#### M. New Business:

There was no new business.

# N. Selectmen's Report:

There were no Selectmen's reports tonight.

# O. Committee Vacancy Report

This was not discussed.

## P. Other Business as needed

There was no other business.

## E. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

**8:48 PM** Motion by Mr. Fernald, seconded by Mr. Murphy, to approve the minutes of February 25, 2016, as amended.

**VOTE 4-0** 

**Chair concurs** 

	April 28, 2016 5:30F	'M (continued)
	Motion by Mr. Fernald, seconded by March 17, 2016, as written.	Mr. Murphy, to approve the minutes of  VOTE  4-0  Chair concurs
	Motion by Mr. Fernald, seconded by 11, 2016, as amended.	Mr. Murphy, to approve the minutes of April VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs
·M	Motion by Mr. Fernald, seconded by 14, 2016, as amended.  Warrant Finalization	Mr. Murphy, to approve the minutes of April VOTE 4-0 Chair concurs
	± *	Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen approve /2016 at 8:56 PM and to sign and forward to  VOTE  4-0  Chair concurs t this time.
Adjo	ourn	
	There was a motion and second to adj	journ the meeting at 9:07 PM.  VOTE  4-0  Chair concurs

9:00 PM

M.

DATE

Mr. John Murphy, Secretary