

Select Board  
April 13, 2023

Stanley Wysocki, Chair  
Robert Czekanski

Via Zoom Remote Conferencing

Don Lowe, Town Administrator  
Jenny Jacobsen, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Wysocki called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was recorded.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

on the petition of National Grid to install one (1) solely owned pole on Meadow Road beginning at a point approximately 0' feet at the centerline of the intersection of East Main St and Meadow Road and continuing approximately 2140' feet in a southwest direction. Install one (1) solely owned pole approximately 2140' southwest of the intersection of East Main St. and Meadow Road.

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to open the hearing. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

Javier Morales was in attendance from National Grid to make the request. Tree Warden Mark Caisse was in attendance. Mr. Caisse reported that he met with Mr. Morales on site to stake out the best location to serve two new homes.

Board had no concerns and received no public comment.

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to close the hearing. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to install one (1) solely owned pole on Meadow Road beginning at a point approximately 0' feet at the centerline of the intersection of East Main St and Meadow Road and continuing approximately 2140' feet in a southwest direction. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

#### EVENT APPROVAL

##### 401 Main Street

Megan Moran was in attendance on behalf of Cultivate Counseling with a request for permission to hold Farm Day, a ticketed special event on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3pm. The event has the approval of the police department and will not require a detail officer. Mr. Czekanski noted that the event appears to conform with the agreement on file for the property.

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to approve the event as requested. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

#### SIGN REQUEST

##### 129 Hudson Road

Christine Thorp was in attendance on behalf of the Boy Scouts of America Mayflower Council with a request to place temporary signs at 129 Hudson Road. The old sign fell off the post which the Council replaced with a temporary sandwich board. Ms. Thorpe also requested a directional sign to be placed from July 3<sup>rd</sup> through August 11<sup>th</sup> to assist campers to locate the camp. Sign Design out of Brockton will be pulling the permit for the permanent replacement sign at which time they will return to the Board for approval.

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to approve the signs as requested. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

NRSD BUILDING PROJECT

Superintendent Kirk Downing was in attendance with an update, Board Brief #4 & #5. The Brief #4 contains rough estimates for the project which will need to be reviewed to determine eligible costs. The district's council will work with the cost estimator to get a picture of what the bond would look like. Mr. Downing stressed that the estimates are rough estimates. Brief #5 gives a basic project status update. The committee is exploring geothermal heating. The evolution of the conceptual rendering included traffic flow patterns. The impact to the wetland buffer zone has been reduced to roughly the same as existing impacts.

Mr. Wysocki asked for clarity on the disparity of the numbers that were presented by the district earlier in the year from the current estimates which are up approximately 33%. Mr. Downing explained that the earlier numbers were part of a perfunctory exercise to submit to the MSBA. The district used similar projects to calculate estimates. The current estimates were published in November.

Mr. Czekanski addressed a rumor that the building project is a \$300M project due to technology needs that have not been included. The rumor is not factual and if the price of the project increases it will be due to factors outside of the district's control such as the war in Europe expands or another world event. Mr. Czekanski also commented on the vote the Town will have in the fall. The fall vote is not to approve the plan but to allow the Town to incur debt related to the project. Mr. Downing added that the Town Meeting is the equivalent of drawing the loan and the Town election vote is how the Town plans to pay the loan back.

Mr. Wysocki inquired about the district's plan to address OPEB related to securing the best bond rate. The district is currently AA2. Mr. Kirk responded that the single biggest point of leverage in securing a good bond rate is the E&D balance. Coming out of the pandemic the school's E&D fund was fully utilized. The school committee voted to create an OPEB advisory group to paint a picture for how to address OPEB going forward.

#### NRSD BUILDING PROJECT

Andrew Schaubhut appeared before the Board on behalf of the Bolton Trails Committee to request approval of trail segment across town land adjoining existing trails and providing connectivity along larger south-west segment across town. The trail will connect at the septic building near Derby field. The plan is to continue to Berlin Road following the existing railway bed. An RDA has been filed, but requires the approval of the Select Board as it is Town-owned land. The project will not conflict with the Derby field upgrade.

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to approve the request of the Bolton Trails Committee for a trail segment adjoining existing trails and providing larger connectivity across town from the septic building to Berlin Road. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

#### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

##### Capital Plan Review

Mr. Lowe reviewed 1 and 5-year capital plans with the Board and requested approval for the use of ARPA funds for the projects in the amount of \$654,991. The projects include:

- Public Safety Building maintenance- \$129,600
- Houghton Building maintenance- \$13,200
- Town Hall maintenance- \$59,500
- DPW maintenance- \$94,500
- Ford 350- \$115,000
- Sawyer 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Carpet Removal and Tile Replacement- \$135,000
- Fuel Tank Monitoring System- \$23,500
- And Café Sliding Door Removal- \$27,491

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to approve \$654,991 of ARPA funds for the capital projects outlined this evening. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

#### SELECT BOARD BUSINESS

Public Service Announcements-There were none.

Future Agenda Items-There were none.

Bills/Payroll Warrants-

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to approve the bills/payroll warrants W23-20 & W23-20A. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

Minutes-

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to approve the regular session minutes of March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote 3-0 to adjourn at 7:48pm. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

Respectfully submitted by J. Jacobsen.