



**MARION SELECT BOARD
WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

Marion Town House Conference Room, 2 Spring Street, Marion, MA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carleton Burr, Jr.
Randy Parker
Norman A. Hills

ALSO PRESENT: Geoffrey Gorman, Town Administrator; Donna Hemphill, Executive Assistant; Heather O'Brien, Finance Director; Erez Ben-Akiva, Sippican Week; Rebecca Tilden, Department of Public Works Director; Jody Dickerson, Department of Public Works Highway/Parks Supervisor; Helen Hills, Cemetery Commission; Margie Baldwin, Cemetery Commission; Dan Eling, 66 Main Street

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Mr. Burr announced that the meeting would be video recorded and posted by ORCTV.

APPOINTMENT

- 1. 6:00pm Department of Public Works (DPW) Update – Rebecca Tilden, Department of Public Works Director:** Ms. Tilden started her update with the Department's winter operations. She said that they plowed and scraped as needed. The Town takes care of 47.44 miles of roads which includes the private roads approved by the Town. Ms. Tilden reported that road maintenance is ongoing and included filling potholes. They have been replacing signs throughout Town. She noted that County Road, Joanne Drive, Jenna Drive have been paved and repairs have been made on Coves End Road. The Engineering Company (TEC) is under contract to produce a pavement management plan. They will also be working on a sidewalk evaluation. The Transfer Station has been busy, usage was up 5% from 2022. The Swap Shed is scheduled to open on April 10, 2024 on a trial basis and will be open on Wednesdays initially. The DPW has been working on site preparation for the DPW Building and the new Harbormaster Building. The cemeteries had 46 burials in 2023. The DPW staff will start cutting back vegetation at Spragues Cove in preparation for phragmites treatment. The unidirectional flushing program started in September after the restrictions were lifted and a quarter were completed. The construction of the combined chemical feed building which will treat East, West and Mary's Pond Wells is complete. Ms. Tilden said

that the Town has an asset management grant for an evaluation of the Main Water Station and Perry Hill Station. New hydrants have been installed at Hermitage & Route 6, 19 Holmes Street, 22 Allen Street and 61 Lewis Street. One hydrant is out of order due to a car accident. Ms. Tilden noted that the Water Department has been short-staffed due to an employee being out due to a medical situation. She commended the employees for their great work. Ms. Tilden continued with her update; the Sewer Department has been dealing with a disinfection issue that they are trying to track down. Weston & Sampson has been assisting the Department with cleaning and testing, the Division of Marine Fisheries has also been testing. They are working through different theories and hope to have the situation resolved. Flows have been high due to the amount of rain. Weston & Sampson is working on an I&I report and should have it completed in the near future. Grants have been applied for the Creek Road Station but there is no time table as to when the Town will receive an answer. We are still waiting to hear from DEP/EPA for a favorable response to our request for increased discharge flow. Ms. Tilden told the Select Board that the DPW staff are hardworking and she is proud to be working with all of them. Mr. Parker asked about salt and sand. Ms. Tilden said that they ordered more salt as part of a 40+ town collaboration.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Minutes from December 29, 2023, January 3, 2024 and January 4, 2024** – Mr. Hills moved to approve the December 29, 2023 minutes as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0 Mr. Hills moved to approve the January 3, 2024 minutes as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0 Mr. Hills moved to approve the January 4, 2024 minutes as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
- 2. Discussion Regarding Cemetery Regulation and Fee Changes** – Margie Baldwin and Helen Hills of the Cemetery Commission were present along with Becky Tilden, DPW Director and Jody Dickerson Highway/Parks Supervisor. Ms. Baldwin told the Board that the Commissioners started the revisions before Covid but lost steam and they picked it back up last year. There was a discussion about the different items that visitors leave on family members' graves and how they can impede the work of the DPW. It was mentioned that 12" in front of the stone is the area in which visitors are allowed to leave their items or plant flowers. Ms. Baldwin said that the proposed changes are not onerous but practical to facilitate maintenance and clarify existing regulations. After a brief discussion, Mr. Burr and Mr. Parker supported scheduling a public hearing so the residents would have a chance to ask questions and make comments. Mr. Gorman said that the public hearing will be scheduled for February 6, 2024.
- 3. Administrative Consent Order (ACO) Update** – Mr. Gorman explained to the Board that this is the second amendment to the ACO which updates the original dates that were unattainable due to lagoon project delays.
- 4. Appointment of Geoffrey Gorman as Approval Agent and Heather O'Brien as Preparing Agent for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** – Mr. Hills moved to appoint Mr. Gorman as the Approval Agent for ARPA. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0 Mr.

Hills moved to appoint Mrs. O'Brien as the Preparing Agent for ARPA. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0

5. **Request for Appointment to Pathways Committee – Daniel Eling and Derek Krein –** Mr. Gorman noted that the Pathways Committee had recommended Mr. Eling and Mr. Krein for appointment. Mr. Hills moved to appoint both Mr. Eling and Mr. Krein to the Pathways Committee. Mr. Parker seconded the motion. VOTE 3-0-0
6. **Accept Donation from Vareika Construction – Copper Roof Top on Bicentennial Park Gazebo -** Mr. Hills moved accept the donation. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
Mr. Gorman noted the tremendous work of the Facilities Department (Director Shaun Cormier, Dennis Bellefeuille and Michael Duval) on the reconstruction of the gazebo.
7. **Accept Donation from A.D. Makepeace – Gravel for Point Road Bike Path -** Mr. Hills moved accept the donation. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
8. **Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – Marion Social Club, 44 Pumping Station Road on January 27, 2024 from 1:30pm to 5:30pm -** Mr. Hills moved approve the license as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
9. **Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – Marion Social Club, 44 Pumping Station Road on February 4, 2024 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm -** Mr. Hills moved approve the license as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
10. **Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – Marion Social Club, 44 Pumping Station Road on March 24, 2024 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm -** Mr. Hills moved approve the license as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
11. **Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – Marion Social Club, 44 Pumping Station Road on April 21, 2024 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm -** Mr. Hills moved approve the license as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
12. **Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – ICJ Corp at the Marion Music Hall on April 5, 2024 from 6:00pm to 10:00pm -** Mr. Hills moved approve the license as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
13. **Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – ICJ Corp at the Marion Music Hall on May 4, 2024 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm -** Mr. Hills moved approve the license as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0
14. **Water/Sewer Commitment: \$671.89, Final Readings (1/4/2024) -** Mr. Hills moved approve the commitment as presented. Mr. Parker seconded. VOTE 3-0-0

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

1. **Food Pantry Donation** -- Mr. Gorman informed the Board that prior to the holiday, the Marion Food Pantry received a donation of \$1,000.00 worth of food from the Alves family. Davin, Ella, Kathylee and Nelson Alves delivered the donations to the Community Center. The Town of Marion is grateful for their generosity.

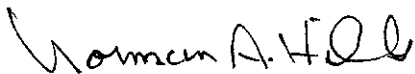
2. **Harbormaster Building Update** - Mr. Gorman told the Board that site preparation continues. Revised design and engineering drawings to support changes to the building foundation are expected soon. Mr. Gorman thanked Bob Grillo, the Owners Project Manager, as his experience facilitated the revised design concept.

3. **Department of Public Works Building Update** – Mr. Gorman informed the Board that the Town continues to identify items in the budget that can remain internal to the DPW and Facilities Department. The deadline for opening bids is April 1, 2024.

4. **New Town of Marion Website** – The Town will launch a new website on January 25, 2024. This website is significantly easier to use, has Americans with Disabilities Act compliance and was fully financed by grant funding. He thanked the transition team for their continued hard work as they ensure as seamless as possible move from one format to another. Mr. Gorman thanked Donna Hemphill, Maureen Murphy, Lauren Roberts and Lori Desmarais for leading the transition project. All email lists have been transferred to the new site. If someone does not receive notifications after the January 25, 2024 launch date, please contact Donna at dhemphill@marionma.gov.

Mr. Hills moved, and Mr. Parker seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm. VOTE 3-0-0

Respectfully submitted,



Norman A. Hills, Clerk
Date approved: February 6, 2024

**MARION SELECT BOARD
WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS
DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AT MEETING – JANUARY 17, 2024**

1. Minutes from December 29, 2023, January 3, 2024 and January 4, 2024
2. Draft Cemetery Regulation and Fee Changes
3. Administrative Consent Order Update
4. Appointment of Geoffrey Gorman as Approval Agent and Heather O'Brien as Preparing Agent for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
5. Request for Appointment to Pathways Committee – Daniel Eling and Derek Krein
6. Accept Donation from Vareika Construction – Copper Roof Top on Bicentennial Park Gazebo
7. Accept Donation from A.C. Makepeace – Gravel for Point Road Bike Path
8. Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – Marion Social Club, 44 Pumping Station Road on January 27, 2024 from 1:30pm to 5:30pm
9. Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – Marion Social Club, 44 Pumping Station Road on February 4, 2024 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm
10. Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – Marion Social Club, 44 Pumping Station Road on March 24, 2024 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm
11. Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – Marion Social Club, 44 Pumping Station Road on April 21m 2024 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm
12. Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – ICJ Corp at the Marion Music Hall on April 5, 2024 from 6:00pm to 10:00pm
13. Request for Special One Day Alcohol Beverage License – ICJ Corp at the Marion Music Hall on May 4, 2024 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm
14. Water/Sewer Commitment: \$671.89, Final Readings (1/4/2024)
15. Food Pantry Donation
16. Request for Comments from Zoning Board of Appeals – 25 West Avenue
17. Notice of Waterways License Application – 53 Piney Point Road
18. Emails Regarding Bike Path Parking at Washburn Park
19. Notice from FiosTV Regarding Programming Change – Stadium College Sports