

Select Board Regular Meeting  
Tuesday April 16, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.  
Longmeadow High School, Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA

Present: Chair Mark Gold, Marie Angelides, Tom Lachiusa, William Low  
Absent: Richard Foster

Also Present: Acting Town Manager/CFO Paul Pasterczyk, Debbie House, Town Engineer Andy Krar, Atty. Rose Crowley, Larry Rubin

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Select Board Chair Mark Gold.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Announcements:**

1. Please call the DPW at 567-3400 to report potholes or use the “yourgov” app on a mobile device.
2. The Annual Town Meeting will be on May 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Longmeadow High School. There are 42 articles on the warrant. The Town Meeting Warrant will be delivered to residents through The Reminder News on April 25.

**Resident Comments:** none

**Comcast Petition Hearing Continuance:** Continued to May 6 per Comcast’s request

**Select Board Comments:** none

**Town Managers Report:** Acting Town Manager Paul Pasterczyk

The Annual Town Meeting Warrant contains 42 articles and will be delivered to residents on April 25 through The Reminder News.

The citizen petition received regarding the truck traffic on Redfern Drive has been sent to the Traffic Committee for review.

The streetlight audit has been completed. A hard copy of the report is not yet available.

The employee benefits fair will be on April 24 at the Community House.

The Town received \$67,000 more from the state than what is in the current budget estimate.

The Police Department had its accreditation review in March and is on its way to becoming the first accredited Police agency in Hampden County.

**Old Business:**

1. Approval of meeting minutes - *Mr. Lachiusa made a motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from March 18, 2019 as presented. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed. Mr. Lachiusa made a motion to accept the regular meeting minutes from April 1, 2019 as presented. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 3 in favor and 0 opposed. Ms. Angelides abstained.*
2. Williams Street Raised Crosswalk – Town Engineer Andy Krar attended the meeting to continue the discussion that began at the April 1 Select Board meeting. Mr. Krar remarked that the state has not yet indicated that they will come out to look at the site, this is their busy time with Complete Streets projects. Mr. Krar noted that he wrote a formal memorandum to the state describing the situation and asking if grant funds would need to be returned to the state if modifications were made to the raised crosswalk project. He sent this on April 2 and has not received a response yet. The three options for the crosswalk are:
  - Do nothing
  - Soften the raised crosswalk (est. \$14,000 based on hiring someone)
  - Remove the raised crosswalk (est. \$19,000)

Preliminary cost estimates were done by Mr. Krar.

Mr. Krar did survey the Grassy Gutter/Williams Street raised crosswalk and found that no measurements exceeded the plans. The design was reviewed by MassDOT and is in conformance with Complete Streets.

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Ms. Angelides questioned whether the speed limit could be lowered in this area. Mr. Lachiusa noted that it is a “school zone”. Mr. Krar will check on the legality of lowering the speed limit.

Mr. Gold is in favor of lowering the bump. Mr. Krar added that this can be done as well as adjust the approaches and sidewalks. Mr. Low is in favor of “mellowing out” the bump.

Mr. Krar noted that the electronic warning signs keep records of speeds of vehicles close to the crosswalk and up to a certain distance away from the crosswalk.

Mr. Lachiusa questioned whether temporary striping tape would help.

*Ms. Angelides made a motion to direct the DPW to smooth out the raised crosswalk on Williams Street at Grassy Gutter Road and Merriweather Drive. Mr. Low seconded the motion.*

Ms. Angelides would like the Traffic Committee to look into the possibility of lowering the speed limit in this area.

Mr. Krar added that he applied for a Safe Routes to School grant; the town was awarded \$140,000 for new sidewalks on Grassy Gutter Road to connect to the south side of Blueberry Hill Road. There will also be new crosswalks with flashing beacons. Mr. Gold suggested holding a town forum for residents to comment on this work, and find out what is the best way to do this.

*The vote on the motion was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*

3. Uniform Trash Collection System – This was discussed at the last meeting; a DEP grant is available to purchase 35-gallon trash barrels for all residents. Only trash in these barrels would be picked up. There will be no change in disposal practices or town bylaws. Residents need to recycle more to save on trash disposal costs. The Recycling Commission will move forward with this if the Select Board supports it. Ms. Angelides, Mr. Gold, and Mr. Low are in favor of the program. Mr. Lachiusa does not support it. Mr. Foster was absent.

#### **New Business:**

1. Town Manager Evaluation Process – Mr. Gold asked that the Select Board members have their evaluation papers filled out by May 14. This will be discussed at the May 20<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. The Town Manager’s contract does not expire until June 30, 2020.
2. Special Town Meeting Consideration – The Town asked for advice from special Town Counsel regarding the Tennessee Gas Pipeline and the Town’s authority. A letter was received from Counsel stating the Town’s authority. This will be discussed in executive session as it is considered attorney/client privilege. According to MGL Chapter 61B when there is a change in use, the Town has first right of refusal.

#### **Subcommittee Reports:** None

*Ms. Angelides made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:00 p.m. and enter into executive session for the purposes of 1. Approval of Minutes, 2. to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual – Citizen Recognition Award, and 3. to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and the Chair hereby declares an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body – Storres Library, not to reconvene to open session. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.*

Roll call vote: Mr. Gold – yes, Ms. Angelides – yes, Mr. Low – yes, and Mr. Lachiusa - yes

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie House

**Documents:** Agenda, Comcast Petition dtd 3/18/19, FY19 Capital Projects Status as of 3/31/19, Legislative Breakfast Meeting Info 4/5/19, department monthly reports for March, draft minutes 3/18/19 and 4/1/19, Raised Crosswalk comments, Longmeadow Country Club Notice of Intent to Convert Portion of Property, Notice of Option Agreement, Town Manager Eval form, FERC Correspondence, Comcast Letter dtd 4/1/19, Conservation Commission letter dtd 3/29/19