

City known as the Town of Greenfield, Massachusetts

Sustainable Greenfield Implementation Committee

Minutes

114 Main Street

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Members present: Carole Collins, Nancy Hazard, George Touloumtzis, Tara Kurland, Don Ouelette, Kurt Richardson –Quorum Reached

Others Present: Laurie DiDonato

Absent: Ashli Stempel, Mark Maloni

Meeting Called to order at 4:39pm

Approval of minutes:

April 2015 minutes –Nancy made motion to approve minutes as written, seconded by Kurt.

Minutes were approved unanimously.

May 2015 Notes were submitted as a courtesy as no quorum had been reached.

Department of Public Works Report – Don Ouelette

DPW recommendation list from the Master Plan was made available, and Don felt they are on track with most recommendations. Don discussed his latest report to the mayor (Update #5 dated May 29, 2015) to summarize ongoing projects within the DPW. Highlights included:

- Nash's Mill Bridge repair ongoing – bridge is down to one lane and solar powered traffic signals are going to be installed soon. Funding is difficult to obtain, so it is unclear how repair will proceed.
- Hillside Splash Pad is completed and an opening party is scheduled for June 12th.
- Network Meter Program – replaces water meter readers (who read meters 2x a year) with 2W transmitters that monitor water use 4-10 times a day. The system will improve water conservation, leak detection, and theft prevention. It is a \$1.4 Million project that is predicted to save \$200,000 a year.
- Vehicle Replacement schedule is being made to keep capital expenses spread out over the years. DPW also hopes to eliminate or downsize vehicles.
- Green River Cemetery Slope Stabilization project is underway to repair damage from Hurricane Irene.
- Pumping Station requires a replacement for an asbestos waterline. Environmental permits have been obtained and construction is planned for August.
- Water Master Plan – There will be an audit of the waterways to determine where breakages are, and a 5-10 year plan will be made for replacing them. This is for drinking water, not inflow and infiltration. Rocky Mountain Tank needs significant repair which has started.
- Trees – 62 trees are being planted throughout the town, and there will be a tree inventory generated as well as updated GIS maps. Kurt suggested this could be a project for the Franklin Technical School students.
- Critical repairs to Maple Brook Sewer drain line are planned to prevent flow between sewer and storm drain.

Don also discussed future DPW plans- all listed on a spreadsheet he provided. Highlights included:

- Pavement management study is ongoing- with a plan to create a 10-15 year budget for pavement repair needs. Don wants to make sure a road does not get re-paved without making sure any underlying infrastructure is fixed first.
- Sewer and water pipe replacement- the plan is to budget for some pipe replacement each year. Drainage improvement and Clean Water Act compliance will be an additional annual budgeted expense.
- It is necessary to replace Fueling Point at DPW Town Yard and provide better hazmat storage as well as add office space.
- Wisdom Way Construction planned.
- Green River Dog Park- A survey needs to be done and must be out to bid by July for grant money.
- Sewage Plant upgrades – Oak Hill needs new electronic equipment. All pump stations need to be upgraded.
- Anaerobic Digester – needs to have evaluation of new potential site.

Nancy asked how much input other departments have on projects, and whether all the important issues are considered when deciding how to proceed. Key committee members are invited to weekly DPW meetings. In addition, Don's goal is for the DPW to become more progressive than reactive and to have 5-10 year plans in place.

Don Ouelette left – quorum lost

Complete Streets – George

The Bicycle Coalition developed a Complete Streets Policy that they would like to have adopted by the town. There was discussion around which committee or board should be moving it forward. Eric Twarog told Carole the Planning Board would bring any ordinances or policies like this to the Town Council. There was some discussion about whether there was an existing sidewalk plan. Carole will follow up on this issue with Alice. The SGIC will need to read and discuss the policy, and vote whether to make a recommendation to the Planning Board at the next meeting when there is quorum. George will show the policy to the Planning Board and let them know how the SGIC plans to proceed.

The Policy proposes creating a Complete Streets Task Force. There was discussion on the possibility that it may not be possible to create such a group in Greenfield.

Adoption of the Complete Streets Policy by the Town will make it eligible for certain funding sources.

SGIC Committee Ordinance – there is no update on the status of this ordinance. There was a public hearing but no one at the SGIC meeting had attended the hearing.

Committee members – Louise has chosen not to continue on the SGIC. She sent a letter with kind words and appreciation for the work of the committee which Carole read to the group. No new committee member prospects as of yet.

There was discussion on various tasks committee members can do between meetings.

Next meeting scheduled for July 2nd, 2015

Meeting Adjourned at 6pm.