



Board of Selectmen

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, June 21st, 2022
Time: 6:00 PM – 8:45 PM
Members Present: Chair Seth Ridinger; Selectmen Jamie Underwood and Matt Mecum;
April Steward, Town Administrator; Town Counsel Stephen Madaus, and
Alison Mack, Administrative Assistant to the Board
Members Not Present:

The meeting commenced at 6:00 PM.

Financial Warrants were signed in agreement.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

At 6:00 PM, Matt Mecum made a motion to move into Executive Session, not to return to open session. Jamie Underwood seconded. Voted all in favor. Matt: Yes, Jamie: Yes, and Seth: Yes.

6:00 PM: EXECUTIVE SESSION (closed to the public): ***Per MGL c.30A, §21, (2): to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel: Town Administrator's contract.***

To approve the meeting minutes from the Executive Session held on 06.06.2022: Police Union and Dispatchers Union – and Building Inspectors Contract

At 6:33 PM Chair Seth Ridinger called the Open Session back to order.

Town Administrators Contract:

Jamie Underwood made a motion to approve the Town Administrators contract as modified in the Executive Session and authorize the chair to sign, Matt Mecum seconded. Voted all in favor. Matt: Yes, Jamie: Yes, and Seth: Yes.

Town Administrators Report to the BOS:

- 1. Police Parking Lot Lights:** We have been experiencing shorts and outages with the lights in the Police Department parking lot. Bob Bourassa has been working with the Municipal Light Department who has been very helpful in chasing down where the wiring is faulty and helping to rectify the situation. I am very grateful to the Light Department for helping us out with this issue.
- 2. COVID-19 At-Home Rapid Antigen Tests for Massachusetts Residents:** The Town of Boylston is set to receive 910 test kits from the State as part of their initiative to distribute more test kits to residents. The Fire Department should be receiving the kits soon and they will be made available at the same locations we have been using for distribution which are the Fire Station, the Public Library, and Town Hall during normal business hours.
- 3. CMRPC Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner:** The CMRPC Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, June 9th at the Public House in Sturbridge. The Town of Boylston received

CMRPC's Comprehensive Community Planning Award. Paul Dell'Aquila, Homaira Naseem, Dr. Rick Baker, and I were in attendance to receive the award on the town's behalf.

4. **Imagine 2050:** The Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) is excited to announce the launch of Imagine 2050: A Vision for Central Massachusetts. A region-wide comprehensive planning initiative, Imagine 2050 will establish long-range strategies for the 40-community region. Working with residents, business owners, governments, and institutional partners, CMRPC will facilitate development of the community-driven plan. The project aims to identify the resources, problems, possibilities, and needs of the region; these findings will inform a plan to improve the welfare and prosperity of those who live, work, and visit Central Massachusetts. If you would like to participate in the survey, please use this link:
<https://www.cmrpcregionalservices.org/imagine2050>
5. **Statewide Opioid Settlements:** You may remember awhile back I submitted information for the town to be included with this settlement. The Town of Boylston is set to receive an estimate \$118,242 over the next sixteen years. The Attorney General's office is hosting a forum on Friday, June 24th to provide information about settlements with opioid distributors AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal and McKesson and opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson. Attendees will learn about when and how abatement funds from these settlements will start flowing to the state's Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund, as well as to participating municipalities, and how those funds can be and are being used to combat the opioid epidemic. The meeting will be held virtually.
Virtual meeting: Zoom <https://bit.ly/3MDVVg7>
Meeting ID: 880 5741 7068
Passcode: 105710
6. **\$200M Ch. 90 bill, with additional \$150M for municipal grants:** Gov. Charlie Baker signed a Chapter 90 bond bill for fiscal 2023 that appropriates \$200 million for the local road maintenance program and provides an additional \$150 million for other municipal grant programs related to roadwork. The governor signed the bill a day after it was passed by the House and Senate.
The grant funding in the bill (H. 4638) includes:
 - \$30 million for the Municipal Small Bridge Program
 - \$30 million for Complete Streets
 - \$40 million for design, construction, repair and improvements on non-federally aided roads and bridges, including state routes and municipal roads
 - \$25 million to improve bus stops and stations
 - \$25 million for mass transit and commuter rail stations and parking lots, and related enhancements
7. **Rte. 140 Bridge Rededication:** The ceremony to re-dedicate the Rte. 290 overpass in honor of John "Jay" Burkhardt Jr. was held this past Sunday and was well attended. The weather held off and it was a great day for all who were able to attend.

8. **Docusign:** I reached out to the town's auditor to see if electronic signatures would be permissible for signing town warrants. He did not see any issues with electronic signatures. If the board would like to pursue this further, we will need to figure out a way for the warrant paperwork to be made available to the board for signature. As you can see from tonight's warrant, the document can be sizeable at times and would be too large to send via email. April stated she will reach out to the Town Accountant to get her insight.
9. **Out of Town Reminder:** I will be out of town with no access to email from Thursday, June 23rd until Tuesday, July 5th.
10. **End of Year Transfers:** We will have several End-of Year transfers that will need to be authorized by the board before July 15th. I would like to schedule a quick Zoom meeting after I return from vacation for the board to meet, review, and sign the documents before the year closes out. Currently, I have received notice that the following accounts will need transfers.
 - Town Planner \$7,194.13
 - Fire Expenses \$5,636.62
 - General Insurance \$2,156.00

I am sure there will be additional budget overage notifications coming from the accountant's office that will need to be authorized as well.

Seth added that he will be out of town for a little while.

Approval of meeting minutes: 05.23.2022 and 06.06.2022

Seth – June 6th – page 4 – said we had our next meeting on 6.19, but it should be 6.21.

Matt Mecum made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 05.23.2022, Jamie Underwood seconded, Voted all in favor.

Matt Mecum made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 06.06.2022 with changes, Seth seconded. Voted all in favor. Jamie abstained.

Sheriff's Department – Lew Evangelidis:

Matt has been reaching out to State Representatives to see how they can help Boylston out. He gets a lot of comments from people in town that other towns are getting a lot of things and Boylston isn't so Matt figured he would reach out to anyone he can to try to help Boylston out. He spoke with Chief Annunziata regarding Police Department needs and shared services and wanted to see if the Sheriffs Department has any sort of mental health services that they could piggyback on. Chief Annunziata described the shared services he has been looking into, such as a counselor for department. Lew asked if the Chief has reached out to the DA and described different programs that they use regarding mental health.

Lew thanked the Board for bringing him in and discussed his path to get to the position he is in today. He stated he understands the issues in small town government and looks at Boylston and West Boylston as his partners. He understands that since their location is in the town, he understands that they have an impact on the community and if Boylston needs anything to please just call him. He invited the Board, or anyone interested to come take a tour of the facility and discussed different programs that the house of corrections has to offer, Culinary Program, RV Program, hands on training, and the Partnership with Anna Marie College. Lew started to mention what he could do for Boylston and described the facilities they have at their location. One building is a mental health facility that they do individualize treatment plans for everybody who comes in. He wasn't sure how Boylston would be able to utilize this facility. He stated they do have a lot of resources available but the work release program that would help paint buildings in town is quiet right now but assured that he will look into it if we give him a direct call. He also stated that they can donate food to the food pantry if needed.

Matt brought back up the mental health discussion and that when he goes to his son's school, 2-3 years ago kids were the happiest kid and now they are a shell of a kid. There are some groups in town run by a former psychologist in town and are setting up a program for middle school girls and asked if some of the experts at the jail could help coach some of the people helping out these groups. Lew asked to put this request in writing and reach out to him and he will try to see what they can do. He brought up the Vanessa Marcotte Foundation which is a self defense training that they do and offered to have that available for Boylston. Matt brought up a few other programs that may be able to collaborate with the Sheriff's Department and Lew responded that if we have a need, to reach out and they will do everything in their power to add them to the list. Matt stated its time to ask, maybe there's nothing there, but if we don't ask, we don't know. Matt thanked Lew for coming in and listening to the Board. Lew stated that the first step is starting the dialogue and putting together a list of needs and reaching out.

Jean Therriault and Howard Drobner:

Seth – no reservations for Howard Drobner. Its great for both of these candidates to volunteer to serve. April added that Jean has been on the Library Trustees Board for years.

Jamie Underwood made a motion to appoint Jean Therriault as an Associate Member of the Library Trustees for a one-year term, and to appoint Howard Drobner to the Feasibility Study Committee, Matt Mecum seconded. Voted all in favor.

Board and Committee Appointments FY23:

Amend: Replace Town Administrator with Dennis Goguen – COA. Town Administrator will not be on it, but be helping out with the process.

Matt Mecum made a motion to approve board and committee appointments for FY23 as amended with the feasibility study committee, Jamie Seconded. Voted all in favor.

Boylston Carving Club:

Steve Berard: Here to discuss New England Wood Carvers Association. Showed the Board a few examples of the work that he does and teaches; hand tools used only. He is trying to increase the

group attendance and introduce people to the woodworking hobby. Looking to use the downstairs of the Town House to get people interested in woodcarving. They have filed their federal nonprofit ID with the Town. They will not be using power tools.

Matt suggested that if they do approve this, they use the upstairs as it would be easier for clean up since the downstairs is carpeted. He suggested that we approve this for one night/event, waive the fee, and have our facilities tech Bob check it the next day to see if this is something they could continue to do. Jamie stated that he doesn't have a problem with that, and it doesn't look like we are stepping on the Town House Committees feet. Seth mentioned that in the past they have waived the fees for nonprofit and wants to make sure they stay consistent. Steve added that this is the same model as the Garden Club. Steve added that they want to teach this to the Boy and Girl Scouts. April stated that if you are charging an entry fee, you would pay to rent the space. Jamie questioned if he has a Certificate of Insurance and Steve stated they are working on that right now. The Board decided that they will approve the use of the space and waiving of the fee, and he will have to follow all the rules and regulations to use the space; having a Certificate of Insurance.

Matt Mecum made a motion to approve the Boylston's Carving Club one time use of the Town House and waive the fees, use will be reevaluated subject to the requirements of the town house use, Jamie Underwood seconded. Voted all in favor.

Stefanie Covino: Blackstone Watershed Collaborative:

Katie mentioned that herself and Stephanie are here today asking the Board of Selectmen to pass a resolution in support of The Blackstone River Watershed needs assessment report and The Blackstone Watershed Collaborative. This would appreciate all the efforts of the groups involved in its creation and continued maintenance. Apart of the Blackstone geographic watershed, flows 48 miles down to the bay of RI; covering 39 communities in Massachusetts and RI. Katie mentioned that we have had a lot of indigenous communities surviving off of the River for a really long time, with Nipmuck meaning Fresh Water people and it being really important to them. The industrial revolution really changed things and they used that massive elevation drop (500ft over 50 miles) to damn the river in multiple locations to create Americas first water powered cotton mill in Pawtucket, RI. Stephanie went onto review the slideshow and provide the Board of Selectmen with a lot of information in which can be found in the Board of Selectmen's Office.

Worcester just reached over 200,00 people, being the fastest growing city in New England. They know that this area has a lot of population change occurring and there is a lot of influx of people, so they are trying to plan ahead, such as looking at culverts. They are trying to look into how we are managing the landscape we currently have and is it giving us challenges or providing us benefits. This program started because the Blackstone River is getting ignored. They don't have a lot of federal funding, and don't have the capacity to apply, manage and deal with those grants. They created this program to really try and help identify the needs on a large scale and try to work with towns to get grants. Towns have a lot of the same problems, but they need capacity. They want to look a different regulation and see what can benefit Boylston, taking in a lot of communication and giving a report back at the end of the year. They are currently looking into a federal grant for culvert assessment. Their goal is to help fill in gaps, help prioritize projects, provide technical assistance, look at regional funding, and compress all these different goals – to

bring areas of concern from smaller towns to higher levels to let them know of the needs and things that are affecting the Watershed.

This is a non-binding resolution, and they are asking all of their 39 municipalities in the watershed to show that they are aware of this work, aware of this needs assessment report, that some of this information is relevant and reflective in our community and intend to put it in our local plans.

The Board did not have any specific questions for Stephanie or Kate. Seth stated it was a very good presentation, very thorough. Matt asked if she could send us the template so they could read it and then we can vote on it at the next meeting. Matt asked if it was the Board of Selectmen only, or if it was any other Board of Committees. Stephanie responded that they are asking the Board of Selectmen to approve it. The Board thanked them for coming in and will review it to vote at the next meeting.

Police Chiefs Report to the Board of Selectmen:

Budget and Balances were reviewed.

- Expenses should be in good shape
- Police Payroll – looks like they are going to be slightly over but much less than previous years.

May Breakdown:

- o 4 Accidents
- o 18 Criminal Summons/Arrests
- o Conducted 11 Investigations
- o Conducted 119 Motor Vehicle Stops
- o Dispatch Processed 76 Emergency 911 Calls
- o Total Activity was 2,274 calls

- Worked with Edgebrook Drive association regarding a structure that had been built in the woods.
- Observed the driving simulator trailer that Berlin requested through MIAA.
 - We will request this.
- Sgt. Thomas attended leadership training.
 - Sgts. Thomasian and Shepard will also attend
- Officer Monaghan attended a firearms training and is hosting our qualifications.
- Submitted the first round of POST paperwork.
- We were able to debut the PD's motorcycle at Memorial Day.
 - A lot of positive feedback.
 - Would like to thank LEI again for their generous donation.
- Monday 6/13 we had a significant car accident on 140.
 - Met the criteria to request accident recon.
 - Would like to thank all our town departments for assisting
- Would like to thank LEI again for helping during this.
- Their employees had control of the scene before services arrived

- Sgt. Thomasian was able to receive a 2013 Ford Fusion through a program with MSP at no cost.
- Beginning to plan for National Night Out
 - This is a community-building event to continue to foster relationships between the police department and the community.
 - Held on the first Tuesday in August
- Details are being worked out
- 6/15 we had an attempted kidnapping.
 - Due to officers' quick response and the victims detailed statement, officers were able to make an arrest of the suspect.

Seth stated that there were a few accidents on 140. Was there any similarity that caused those? The Chief responded no. The first one, someone crossed the line and the second one someone went through a redlight. Pure accidents, nothing that shows a defective roadway.

Matt stated that he feels like it's just the times and everything that is going on – there is very little curtesy in drivers anymore. In general, seeing an uptick in accidents is going to be part of it. Chief stated that Route 140 is a bit chaotic especially with the FedEx trucks.

Matt stated that they are discussing later the mechanics grade salary and asked the Chief how much being able to utilize Jim saves the Police Department. Chief Annunziata responded that Jim has helped us a lot. He actually just wrote the Highway Superintendent a letter today thanking him for letting them use him.

- Didn't have a cruiser offline due to him
- He always prioritizes things for us.
- 50 hours of work so far
- 50 hours of work coming up
- Should be finishing in the black, but if we were sending these vehicles out for repairs we would be ending in the red.
- It's not just the amount of money he is saving us.
- Matt just wants to make sure it is a part of the conversation.

April added that the Chief was a beacon of light at the end of the tunnel for the event on Father's Day while gathering on the bridge for the bridge dedication and keeping everyone safe. Seth added that although we were technically on the Shrewsbury side, it was nice having the Boylston Police there.

Chief Annunziata added that regarding the new hire for July, he has been speaking with Jeff in HR.

The Board thanked the Chief for coming in.

Fire Chief's Report to the Board of Selectmen:

CALL VOLUME –

May 1st – June 16th

EMS – basic life support	71
EMS – advanced life support	13
Fire – total	13
Motor vehicle accidents	9
Mutual aid given- Fire	6
Mutual aid given - EMS	27
Mutual aid EMS transports	4

Total Fire Department responses 143

Fire Department Responses

The fire department was very busy with responses in the month of May and into the first half of June. Most calls continue to be for EMS, both in town and in surrounding towns via mutual aid. The department has responded to several EMS calls in Worcester, Shrewsbury, and West Boylston in the last month and a half. The department responded to two significant motor vehicle crashes within the last two weeks; a single vehicle crash with a driver trapped in the vehicle on Mill Rd., and a multiple vehicle crash with two people trapped and several vehicles involved on Shrewsbury St. The first crash involved a single vehicle vs. tree with the driver pinned inside the vehicle. Crews used extrication tools to cut open the vehicle and lift the dashboard up so that the patient could be extricated. The patient was transported to UMMC-University Campus at the advanced life support level with the assistance paramedics from Worcester EMS. The second crash involved two commercial vehicles and an SUV. A total of three patients were taken to the hospital for further evaluation. We were assisted at the second crash scene by the Shrewsbury Fire Department, West Boylston Fire Department, and Worcester EMS.

The department also responded to an early morning call for a dumpster fire next to a garage on Main St. On arrival, it was determined that the fire had spread from the dumpster into a commercial garage causing extensive damage to the side of the garage and contents. The garage was used to store building products for a remodeling company. This fire was investigated by the fire department, the MA State Fire Marshal's Office along with assistance from the Boylston Police Department. The cause of the fire was undetermined after investigation.

Chief Flanagan responded to a multiple alarm fire in Orange in his capacity as regional coordinator for State Fire Mobilization. Several buildings burned in the center of Orange requiring mutual aid from several communities. Two structural task forces were sent to Orange to assist local firefighters working at the fire. The fire was determined to be arson and three youths are currently under investigation for the fire. The fire department's light tower was deployed to Orange to assist crews working overnight to contain the fire.

End of Fiscal Year Updates

Due to a marked increase in emergency calls for service this year, along with accelerating costs for supplies, equipment, and fuel, the fire department has been unable to control spending as it has in previous years. As of this report, the department is over budget by \$5,636.62 on the expense side with another approximately \$4000 outstanding for equipment repairs that haven't been made yet. The department is working with the Town Administrator on these shortfalls.

The increased cost of fuel and supplies was not expected and so was not factored into the FY 22 budget.

On the salary side, due to the increase in call volume, COVID-19 costs, and requirements through the collective bargaining agreement, we have seen a large increase in overtime costs. As of this report, we have overtime costs of \$22,821.57 and the department budgeted for overtime at \$5000. Further information on end of year salaries will be available at the meeting.

COVID-19 Related Activities

Although the need for testing has slowed down, the fire department continues to perform occasional COVID-19 testing at the fire station. The department also has in-home tests available to town residents, along with both KN95 and surgical masks. An additional supply of masks was obtained through MEMA, and more in-home tests kits have been ordered through the Department of Public Health.

Lt. Bradford and Chief Flanagan staffed a regional vaccine clinic at the Northborough Senior Center two weeks ago. This clinic was offered to the region and was geared towards supplying booster shots to young children; approximately 350 vaccines were administered at the clinic. This was the last scheduled clinic for the region, pending any uptick in cases.

Last week we had two full-time staff members become infected with COVID-19; these two members missed three days of work but were back to work on Thursday. Their shifts were filled with other full-time staff and on-call staff members. We continue to test all our employees if they show any symptoms or if they have a direct exposure. It doesn't appear as though the two full-time staff members were exposed at work, but it is hard to tell.

COVID-19 reimbursement for the regional vaccine clinic through FEMA is still pending. The fire department has submitted for reimbursement for all salary costs associated with the regional vaccine clinic that was run at the DoubleTree Hotel in Westborough.

Grants

The FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant for replacement of self-contained breathing apparatus has been submitted and is currently in the review process. The total amount of this grant is \$213,262 with the town requiring a 5% match. The 5% match money was allocated at last year's town meeting, so no additional action is needed this year.

Lt. Bradford applied for and obtained a grant for the purchase of an automated defibrillator to replace one of our aging AEDs. Many of the AEDs currently in use by the fire department and police department are reaching their end of life; replacement parts are no longer available for many of the AEDs.

Town Meeting Results/New Hires

The fire department is very thankful to town meeting voters as they approved the annual budget providing two additional full-time staff members for the department. In addition, town meeting voters approved spending to upgrade communications equipment and for a feasibility study for a new public safety complex. These two projects are much needed, and the fire department is

looking forward to being involved in the process. Chief Flanagan will serve on the feasibility study committee.

The department posted the two new full-time positions internally, and four candidates have submitted their resumes and applications for the positions. All four of the candidates have worked as on-call firefighter/EMTs for several years and all are well-qualified for the positions. Chief Flanagan spoke with HR Director Jeff Vander Baan regarding the new positions, and it was Mr. Vander Baan's recommendation that the collective bargaining agreement will need to be modified for the new positions, since it is the goal to expand the full-time coverage to seven days a week. The current CBA lists a shift schedule as Monday-Friday. Once the shift schedule is set, the department will begin the interview process with the potential candidates.

April stated that the Board will need to meet to determine if they would like to open the CBA Agreement but need a written request from the Union in order to present this to the Board. Joe will let the union know.

Fire Prevention

Blasting operations at construction sites at 160 Shrewsbury St. and 80 Pine Hill Drive have been completed. As the Board is aware, the department has fielded several complaints from residents regarding the blasting. Both blasting companies have been very cooperative with the department and have addressed residents' concerns. The MA Fire Marshal's Office was brought in to investigate one complaint regarding damage to the building and vehicles at FedEx. That investigation is ongoing.

Another blasting permit was submitted for work on a small development on Sewall St. in the vicinity of the Boylston Elementary School. The blasting company performed a series of small blasts for home foundations on the site. No complaints were received from these blasts. Additional blasting may be needed at this site later, but if so, another permit will be required.

Other Activities

The fire department will be participating in the Wachusett League Muster on Saturday, June 18th. This year's muster will be held in Rutland and will be part of Rutland's 300th anniversary celebration. The fire department has taken a couple of years off from participating in the muster, but we are hoping to get back to our winning tradition!

Highway Superintendents Report to the Board of Selectmen:

- Not going to be over budget
- Started off June down a guy due to COVID
- Street Sweeping has started. 2 trucks working.
- weekly trash at parks and Cemetery
- Continue to monitor beavers at Rocky Pond, Stiles, and Linden Street
- Tree work
- Roadside mowing has started and will continue (new machine was ordered)
- Street Sweeping has started and will continue until completed
- Crew and I have completed ALB compliance training

- Attended meeting @ 211 Mile Hill Road for Parking area for summer star trails
- Met with Phoenix Communications about installing 4" pipe from area of 630 Central to Northborough to complete a fiber loop
- We are working on a handicap playground for kids that will be installed at Central Park. I have spoken to chairman Eric Hoffses of Parks and have his approval and completely supports 100%
- Maintenance and repair continue on Highway and PD equipment (we are currently installing lights, siren, and radio into car that PD got from MSP)
- June 29th and 30th we will be closing Central Street both days between hours of 8am to 3pm for repairs that are needed before road grinding starts
- We are still on schedule for resurface work to start on Central Street on the 25th of July and will continue to completion

Jamie asked Steve if there was a hunting season for beavers as he has been receiving complaints of water issues up on Stiles Road. Seth stated that he believes there is a particular time that you can trap them but was unsure. Steve responded that a private landowner can hire a contractor to trap them, and Matt added that he believes you may need a permit from the Board of Health.

Yard Waste:

- Daily yard waste has been working out great.

Cemetery:

- 2022:

- 7 full Burials
- 4 Cremations
- 1 Infant

Appoint a board member to work with the Town Administrator and Highway Superintendent to re-evaluate Highway Mechanic Position Grade/Salary:

Seth asked what the timeline was to have this evaluated and the response was urgent. Jamie asked if a board member would be the correct person to be involved in this. Matt stated that they would need to appoint someone at the next meeting and this item has a bit of urgency to it for a couple reasons. April stated that Steve reached out to her last week and there is an opportunity on the table. He works for more than the Highway Department and is truly a town mechanic; with the current job market she believes it may be difficult to find someone. She added that they wanted a Board of Selectmen member as this involves increasing their salary and that would affect the budget. Matt stated that he would be able to do it the following morning. Jamie added that their needs to be a motion to appoint a board member to work with the Town Administrator and Highway Superintendent to make a decision on the Highway Mechanic position grade and salary. Seth asked how we would pay this out and April added that it would need to be a transfer. Discussion continued where the finances would come from. April and Matt decided to meet tomorrow with Steve Mero at 2:30 PM and go from there. The town has not had a formal classification study in about 9-10 years. Seth added that he is looking to be placed in the proper classification ahead of when this classification study would be taking place.

Jamie Underwood made a motion to appoint Matt Mecum to work with the Town Administrator and Highway Superintendent for the possible reclassification one grade up of the Highway Mechanic position, Matt Mecum seconded. Voted all in favor.

Town Planner Report to the BoS:

CMRPC awarded the Town the Community Planning Award, given all of our efforts over the past couple of years.

ZBA will be closing the 100 Shrewsbury Street Project: Board has asked Council to begin drafting the conditions of approval. It will be curious to see what suggested conditions Attorney Costa and the consultant come up with. The next meeting will be held mid-July. Matt asked is this was just the apartment portion of the project and Paul confirmed yes. He added that there has been some slight misconceptions in the community with residents being concerned about retail development. It may be a concern in the future, however the matter before the ZBA is strictly for the 63-apartment unit development.

- Submitted required documentation related to the Town's closing on the former Camp Harrington Property to EEA.
- Organized and staffed the Planning Board meeting on 6/6/22.
- Participated in the Master Plan Steering Committee meeting on 6/8/22.
- Along with Town Administrator April Steward and Planning Board Members Homaira Naseem and Richard Baker, I attended CMRPC's annual meeting held in Sturbridge, where Boylston received an award recognizing our recent Community Planning accomplishments.
- Prepared for and staffed the 6/13/22 ZBA meeting focused on the continued public hearing for the proposed LIP project at 100 Shrewsbury Street. Since most of the technical matters have now been addressed by the applicant and third-party review with a few minor items pending, Town Counsel Adam Kosta and MHP consultant Joe Peznola will begin drafting a decision with conditions of approval for the ZBA's consideration ahead of the July meeting.
- Organized and attended a pre-construction meeting for the Summer Star parking area at 211 Mile Hill Road on 6/15/22. That project consisting of a six-space gravel parking area was approved by the planning Board last September and will provide access to trails on Summer Star's property.

Grants Updates:

- As I reported in May, we successfully applied for a grant through MassDOT's Shared Streets and Spaces program to undertake pedestrian and safety improvements along Rt. 140 in the vicinity of N. & S. Sewall streets. I will also note that the N. & S. Sewall intersections themselves have previously had plans done for design improvements at those locations. Given the synergy with the proposed 100 Shrewsbury Street LIP project, it makes sense to preform that work concurrently. We have held an initial internal staff meeting about this and we are currently awaiting guidance from MassDOT's District 3

office on our ability to explore installing a traffic signal at one or both of the Sewall/140 intersections before drafting.

April added that she did hear back from Mr. Gomes and he had a few questions. April is going to loop Paul into the conversation, and he can follow up.

Seth stated that Paul talked about the traffic mitigation on Route 140 and showed them the plan for the \$187,000 grant and mentioned there had been some previous work that had been done that was a different plan and also mentioned possibly a streetlight. He questioned if there would be an analysis of all three of these plans to see what would make the most sense. Paul responded that his thought was with the grants we have in hand plus the mitigation money we had previously set aside for the Sewell intersection. The Sewell designs were more about striping where as the newer grant would be adding stuff. They are looking to combine both the Sewell design work for those intersections independent of the traffic light, plus the work that was covered under the grant. When we submit it to bid it would have to be a unified project and make sure that these plans are compatible, as there are things on each plan that need to be sorted out before those steps are taken.

Flagg Estate Discussion:

Matt stated that on Memorial Day he had a resident approach him on different ideas for the Flagg Estate. Today, they had our first Feasibility Board Committee meeting today for the Police/Fire/Community center Building. They talked through it quite a bit and the place that made the most sense was near the Highway Department; whether that is where the study says is a different question. They decided to include the Flagg Estate in the study to see what it could be used for. Jamie asked what the timeframe looks like for the Feasibility Study and April stated that it's a little bit longer than you would think. Just to get this out would be a minimum of 12-28 weeks. Matt stated that we are hoping for end of September, early October to have the bids back. The bids will take a little bit more evaluation. Matt spoke with two realtors, and they told him it was impossible to find comps for this location: older building and location. Seth stated that incorporating it into the Feasibility Study is a great idea. April believes that we could get our Feasibility Study proposals back by September 1st. Paul mentioned MA Development which is a one stop program that the state has and pulls in a bunch of different programs. They have a real estate services division which does a bunch of analyses for buildings for reuse of repurposing and he could reach out to them to get some input.

Vote to accept the new IRS Mileage rate of 62.5 for the remainder of 2022:

Matt Mecum made a motion to accept the new IRS Mileage rate of 62.5 for the remainder of 2022, Jamie Underwood seconded. Voted all in favor.

Accept \$5,000/year gift for four years from LEI: Motorcycle for Police Department:

Matt Mecum made a motion to accept \$5,000/year gift for four years from LEI: Motorcycle for Police Department, Jamie Underwood seconded. Voted all in favor.

Board of Selectmen Goals Discussion:

1. Moral at Town Hall
 - a. Implemented the pay/step program
 - b. Discussed team building – have not gotten around to that
2. Subsidized Housing Inventory
 - a. Master Plan which is still ongoing, almost done
3. Accountability with large scale developers - ongoing
4. Senior Services
 - a. Finding a way to compile contact information
 - b. Waiting for the census to get released
 - c. Authorized the BOH to hire a nurse for the town
5. Collaboration between various boards - ongoing
 - a. Tuesday Talks

Matt stated that a lot of past goals are ongoing. Senior services part, we need to put our foot on the gas a little. Jamie stated a lot of the goals that we put forth were not goals that we knew were going to be attainable in a year, but we are on our way to knocking a few of them off in a few months. Seth stated that for Subsidized Housing, we currently have a total of 33. When the new one that comes online it will be 63 and be a total of 93, which puts us about halfway.

Selectmen's Miscellaneous:

Matt prefaced this that its going to be a bit uncomfortable conversation and is purposely leaving some names out of this because they are residents, and he does not want to put anyone on the spot. He began by saying that as a BoS, each one of us is individually elected, each seat on this board is for an individual representative; we each have our own styles, own campaigning styles and we each got elected for that. Our vision for Boylston may be aligned most of the time but the Board isn't designed for us to be a team, its designed so we can each have our own individual opinions and represent the residents the best we see fit. He brings this up because twice now very recently after a meeting, he has been contacted by resident's that were very upset with his stance on an issue. In both of these instances, it became evident that the information they received was from another member of the board and it was not the whole story, it was only parts that they chose to share. He wants to make it clear that none of us have the right to speak for anyone else on this board, and that includes as speaking for the Board as a whole. If we give the inclination that we are speaking for the board and its not true,, not only does it give a sense of disarray, it stinks of politics and starts trending towards an ethics issue that he does not want to be apart of. This board needs to be very aware of this as this board cleans up messes from previous board members that went out and spoke on behalf of the board without authorization. Matt ended that he wants to be clear that he wants to speak for himself, no one in this room or anywhere else has the right t speak for him and asks that if anyone is watching he asked them to not assume anything they hear is correct unless you hear it directly from himself, and he is available to speak with anyone if needed. It happened twice now to himself and that's two times too many.

Seth stated absolutely and its important to emphasize that. Speaking for himself, he cant speak for other board members and stated that's something he always makes clear.

Future Agenda Items:

School Resource Officer: Spoken extensively about this. The School Committee is going to take this up and once they get their hands around it more, they will have a conversation with them.

Citizens Comments: None

At 8:45 PM, Matt Mecum made a motion to adjourn, Jamie Underwood seconded. Voted all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Mack, Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

Meeting Materials

Agenda	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Town Administrators Report	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Police Chiefs Report	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Fire Chiefs Report	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Highway Superintendents Report	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Building Inspectors Report	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Town Planners Report	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Volunteer Board and Committee Vacancies	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Superintendents Safety Report	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
FY23 Appointments	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
Blackstone River Watershed Assessment Report	On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office