

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
McCulloch Building-Mary McElroy Room**

August 10, 2017, Thursday

Present: Michael Molisse , Chairman
Patrick O'Connor, Vice Chairman
Rebecca Haugh, Councilor
Brian McDonald, Councilor

Absent: Jane Hackett, Councilor

Also Present: Brian Connolly, Chief Financial Officer
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor
Owen MacDonald, Traffic Engineer

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Molisse called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

**17 094-Land Taking Easements-Pingree School Vicinity-Commercial Street,
Cottage Street School Driveway**

This matter was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on June 26, 2017. Owen McDonald presented the request for the administration. It is part of the Safe Routes to School state and federal program to provide safe walking access to school. Weymouth was awarded a grant and the design and construction costs will be at no cost to the town. Action is needed immediately to meet the grant schedule, necessitating the need for this Council meeting. Mr. MacDonald provided a powerpoint presentation outlining the history and scope of the project.

History of Public Outreach

- September 2012- Assessment request submitted to MassDOT
- May 2013-Infrastructure Assessment and Field Visit
- Preliminary concepts shared with Town and Engineering staff/follow up meetings and field visits
- December 2016- Field visit to review 25/75% design plans

Project Team

- MassDOT District 6
- Consultant Engineering Firm
- MassDOT Highway Division
- Federal Highway Administration

Project Area- Pingree School

- Pingree School Driveway
- Commercial Street

- Cottage Street

Existing Issues

- High traffic volumes during parent drop off/pick up hours
- Wide curb-to-curb roadway width and large turning radius
 - High vehicle speeds
 - Limited sight distance
 - Long crosswalk
- Non-compliant wheelchair ramps
- School zone flashers are out- of -date or not functioning effectively

Project Goals

- Intersection Safety
- Deficient Pedestrian Accommodation
- Noncompliant school zone flashers

Project Scope

- Construct roadway bump outs
- Reconstruct existing sidewalks
- New accessible wheelchair ramps and crosswalks
- New pavement markings and signage
- New flashing school zone warning beacons
- New MUTCD complaint school zone flashers

Construction Plans

Effect on Traffic

Next Steps- by Consultant

- Review and respond to public comments received
- Prepare next design submission package for MassDOT review

Vice Chairman O'Connor asked whether enhanced crossings will be used. Mr. MacDonald responded that they will be the same idea as those in use outside SS Hospital.

Councilor McDonald asked about the construction timeframe. Mr. MacDonald reviewed it-there will be temporary lane closures; and the time of day will be determined by MassDOT. The construction should be a single one, from spring to fall, and may require temporary lane closures like on Libbey. The contract will be awarded in November and the work will start the following spring. Modifications may be made following public comment.

Six temporary easements will be required for the work. The School Committee approved the vote for land taking. Two of the property owners have agreed to donate, and the other four will be temporarily taken at a fee.

Councilor Molisse asked if the work will begin around March 18, 2017. Mr. MacDonald responded yes.

A Motion was made by Councilor Haugh to forward measure 17 094 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Vice Chairman O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:47 PM, there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Vice Chairman O'Connor to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Councilor Michael Molisse as Budget/Management Committee Chairman
Voted unanimously on 5 September 2017