

**Town of Cohasset  
Select Board Meeting  
Thursday, July 7, 2022  
Virtual Meeting – 143TV and Zoom**

**Select Board Present:** Jack Creighton, Chair  
Jean Healey Dippold, Vice Chair  
Diane Kennedy  
Paul Grady

**Select Board Absent:** Corey Evans

**Others Participating:** Christopher Senior, Town Manager

Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Roll Call Vote; All aye. Chair Creighton recommended that the pledge be recited by a different Select Board Member each meeting.

**Pledge**-Recited by Vice Chair Dippold.

**Ballot Deadline**- Select Member Kennedy recommended not putting the debt exclusion on the Ballot in November because they have not discussed many of the proposed projects in Town Meeting. She recommended prioritizing all projects, come up with a long-term capital plan and present them at Town Meeting. Then, if necessary, hold a Special Election for the debt exclusion.

**Field and Courts**- Assistant Town Manager Michelle Leary gave an overview of the Field Study and related costs. Capital Budget Committee Chair Brian Host requested more detailed information on the costs. ATM Leary recommended handling the field and courts improvements in phases and creating a Recreation Committee. The fields would benefit youth organizations as well as the middle school and high school. Vice Chair Dippold stated that parking at the new fields would also need to be addressed.

**Town Hall**-Town Hall Building Committee members Mark Cameron and Carolyn Coffey reviewed the Town Hall Project Study. The study recommended a Renovation/Rebuild Combo. Estimated cost is between nineteen and twenty million dollars. A fall start time is recommended. Jon Lemieux from Vertex discussed the RFQ and turnaround time for the proposal. He also provided an overview of the selection process for the Construction Manager at Risk.

**Roads and Sidewalks-Existing Plans for Paving**-Director of Public Works, Brian Joyce reviewed the plans for road paving and sidewalks. Vice Chair Dippold recommended that Town Manager Christopher Senior have Justin Shrair communicate with the citizens the road construction timelines. Mr. Joyce stated that once the roads are repaved, there is a moratorium on opening them for five years. Mr. Joyce stated that National Grid would like to replace a section of gas pipe on Pond Street and that National Grid will be responsible for the cost of repaving the road when they are done. He also stated that parts of Beechwood will be having older water lines replaced. The bid for this work is out now. This construction is expected to begin in the fall, and it will be paved next season. Mr. Joyce is anticipating a road assessment from a consultant group reviewing all Cohasset street's conditions by July 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Senior explained the history of funding these road projects. Mr. Joyce explained Chapter 90 funding. Sewer Commission Chair Bill McGowan requested that the Town work with the Sewer Commission to coordinate efforts with regards to paving the roads and the Clean Harbor project they are working on with Scituate and Hull. He explained that the replacement of old sewer lines in Cohasset that are leaking into the gulf will be paid for by the

Town of Scituate. Select Member Kennedy requested that the Sewer Commission be added to an upcoming Select Board Agenda to have a longer discussion. **Traffic Safety Recommendations**-Police Chief Quigley discussed Traffic Enforcement and the need for better engineered roads and signage to slow down speeding. He stated that enforcement is sporadic and driven by call volume. He discussed the benefits of radar speed signs and said they will be getting more via grants. He discussed the value of engineering roads, with strategically adding islands to certain roads to slow down speeding. Chair Creighton then asked Chief Quigley his thoughts on school safety. Chief Quigley described the newly created workstations located at each school. On-duty officers can utilize these stations to write daily reports increasing the presence of uniformed officers at the schools while they are open. Chief Quigley stated that the police department has a large meeting scheduled next month to address school safety. Select Member Grady asked Chief Quigley if he would look into more signage and limited one way during school hours for pedestrian safety. **Elm Street Working Group**- Select Member Kennedy gave an update on from the Elm Street Working Group. She described the Option 1 design for the Elm Street Corridor which was proposed by the working group committee for the project. Mr. Joyce reviewed estimated costs for the project. Chair Creighton explained the possible State Forward Act funding of approximately \$500K that is awaiting the governor's signature. Citizen at Large for the Elm Street Working Group, Mike Sardina, 100 Pond Street #56, explained that the proposed plans were produced in January and their purpose was to gather estimates on project costs. He said that the committee previously worked closely with Chief Silvia relative to intersection designs to incorporate fire equipment needs and pedestrian safety concerns. His opinion is that the proposed plans will significantly improve the pedestrian experience. He also proposed that they raise the grade of a portion of the road to help mitigate the risk of Elm Street flooding. Vice Chair Dippold felt that this should be investigated further and that there is grant funding available for flood resilience measures. Select Member Kennedy recommended that they continue the conversation in the next Select Board Meeting. Chair Creighton stated that the board also needs to recharge the committee and reappoint the members in the next meeting. Mr. Joyce reviewed the status of the other road, sewer and sidewalk projects that were under way.

**Motion by Select Member Grady to adjourn, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Creighton, Chair