

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

March 30, 2015

Meeting held at Town Hall

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Robert Merry, Vice Chairman Joseph Perry, Clerk Robert Snow (Town Administrator Deborah Eagan, Assistant Town Administrator Amy Lydon) David Petersen - ABSENT

**PUBLIC ATTENDEES:** Karen Summit, Treasurer; Larry White, Finance Committee, Frank Marchegiani, Health; Bill DiMento, Harbormaster; Bob Snow, Highway; MaryBeth Wiser, Roy Ricker, Water Department; Brian Sullivan, John Shikes, Mike Rizzo, Norman Brown, Bayside Engineering; George Pacenka, George Pacenka III, Frank Todd, Libby Tucker, Dave Jacquith, George Gallant, Steve Comley, Sr., Anthony Marinello, Curt Turner, Bill Freitag, Mary White, Don Reed, Alice Reed, Bill Gunzenmuller, Helen S. Dobbins, S.J. Slepoy, Fred Hardy, Charles Hazen, Susan Hazen, Wayne McCormick, Steve May, Maryellen Mighill, John Mighill, Jeff Pierce, Patricia Musial, John Peabody, Wayne Contois, Robert C. Tucker, Pauline Blasi, Sheryl Paquin, Deirdre Katzakis, Rowley Residents

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Robert Merry called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. He said the meeting is being audio and video recorded digitally.

### **PLEDGE**

Highway Surveyor Patrick Snow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Review FY 16 Debt budget, discuss Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrant articles

Treasurer/Collector Karen Summit said FY 16 is the first year for principal payments for the new ladder and highway trucks. She said there is a placeholder for Capital Equipment V which will be voted on at Town Meeting. She said Capital Borrowing II has been paid off, and Capital Borrowings 3, 4 and 5 are outstanding.

Chairman Merry read the following:

*We have rough drafts of the Annual town meeting warrant to review tonight. The special town meeting warrant closed at 4:00 p.m. Debbie is still formatting the articles and working with the town counsel.*

*We should plan to hold an informational hearing on the town meeting warrants on Monday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m. We should invite the Finance Committee and Town Moderator to attend.*

*Let's review the draft Annual Town Meeting warrant.*

Eagan reviewed each article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

She said Article #7 is a transfer of funds from the Water Department enterprise fund to the Town's General Fund for overhead. She said Article #14 is for a new revolving fund for the Board of Selectmen and Parks & Recreation Committee for a Community Activities and Events Fund, expenditures from this fund need to be approved by the Board of Selectmen. She said Article #15 closes two funds and the funds in these two funds will move into the newly created revolving fund from Article #14. She said Article #16 creates a new revolving account for the Treasurer for tax/title funds. She read the breakdown for the \$190,000 capital borrowing Article # 18. She said Article #20 transfers approximately 2 acres of land received from tax title to the Conservation Commission. She said Article #21 is from the Moderator to reduce the quorum required for Town Meeting.

## 2. Discuss FY 16 Water Department Budget

Chairman Merry read the following:

*Attached is the final version of the FY 16 Water Enterprise budget and water rate structure.*

*During last Thursday's meeting, the Water Board voted to institute a new rate and tier structure to support the FY 16 budget.*

*The selectmen have been asking the Water Board for the past couple of years what it would cost to operate the new water treatment plant. We never got a clear answer. The FY 16 Water Department Budget Plan answers that question. This budget provides for the hiring of additional operators because the DEP is requiring the Town to hire additional licensed water operators in order for the water treatment plant to be put on an automatic status. This budget lays out the expenses in a logical format. We thank the Water Superintendent for all of her hard work in producing this budget.*

*No one wants to see their rates and costs go up. We fully understand that. The simple truth is, the DEP ordered the Town to build a water treatment plant because of the high levels of manganese. Now we have to pay for the treatment plant loan and pay for the costs to operate this department.*

Our options tonight are:

- 1) *Vote to either recommend or not recommend this budget;*
- 2) *Hold off on the any action tonight and take this up next week for a vote;*
- 3) *Hold off on any action tonight and take this up next week for a vote and invite the Water Board Chairman and Water Superintendent or full Water Board to our meeting next week to discuss the budget and rates.*

*Additionally, looking ahead to the informational hearing on the town meeting warrant on April 27, we can ask Water Superintendent Marybeth Wiser to bring in the Water Rate consultants from Tata and Howard to provide us with an overview of the tier and rate structure.*

Joseph Perry said it is apparent that these are real numbers that we can work with and he appreciates the work by the Superintendent to format the budget in a way that allows people to fully comprehend it. He said he thinks the Board should vote to recommend the budget. He said he doesn't want to see rates increase, but the bills have to be paid. Snow said the Water Board met last week, they took a tough vote, and nobody wants to see the rates increase but we have to. He thanked Water Superintendent MaryBeth Wiser for her work on the budget.

Joseph Perry made a motion to recommend the FY 16 Water Department budget, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

### 3. Discuss Triton Stadium project and special election costs

Chairman Merry read the following:

*Joe Perry has consistently attended the Triton District Communications Meetings and has been reporting back on the various topics of discussion at these meetings, including the Triton Stadium Project. Months ago Joe was told that the School would be seeking bonding and funding approval from the three towns this spring for the Triton Stadium construction project. The Selectmen had no objections, and for the past several months, we have been planning on having a debt exclusion override question on the Annual Election ballot and an article on the Spring town meeting warrant funding Rowley's portion of this capital project. We would have funded the Town's portion of this project within our budget, had we not been faced with another huge assessment increase to the Triton budget. Because of the progress of the stadium project, we pushed out the Pine Grove School project for another year.*

*It is our understanding that the Triton District Communications Committee has determined that this project should be pushed out and that the School Committee will be taking up this funding portion of the project in August, thereby forcing the Town to hold a Fall town meeting for this item and a special election. Please note that it is our understanding, because we have yet to be informed in any official or formal way that the*

*School Committee has made a decision to delay the Stadium project. The cost to hold an election in Rowley is approximately \$5,000. This is an unnecessary expense for the Town's taxpayers. The Town's Fiscal 2016 Election budget was completed several weeks ago and has already been inserted in the Town's budget. The Election Budget does not have an additional \$5,000 to hold a special election.*

*It is a general practice of the Town to have tax override questions, whether they be general overrides, debt exclusion overrides or capital exclusion overrides on the Annual Town Election. The voters of this Town have an expectation that these types of questions, which affect their taxes, will be voted on during the Town's Annual Town Election, which is held every year on the second Tuesday in May. To hold a special election for an override of Proposition 2 1/2 during any other time of the year creates a trust issue between us, the Selectmen, and our taxpayers and voters. A special election for this project simply increases the project cost to the Town by \$5,000. We can and should have this on the ballot NOW, at no additional cost to the taxpayer.*

*We value the importance of this project. The Triton High School and Middle School need stadium facilities for a variety of reasons – sporting events, the marching band, high school graduation, etc. and the School Committee should be staying on course to have this project completed in a timely fashion. To put this off to the end of the summer is a waste of time and taxpayers' money. There has been so much fundraising done to support this project, it is sad that it is not been moved forward now so that the facility can be put out to bid and built sooner.*

*Furthermore, it is unclear as to why a project of this magnitude is being discussed at the District Communications Committee level and not by the full School Committee. The Triton District Communications Committee, pursuant to the Triton Regional Agreement, is a committee made up of one Selectman, one Finance Committee member and one School Committee member from each Town and the Superintendent for the purpose of exchanging information. This is not a policy-setting committee or a capital improvements committee. Why hasn't this project been on the School Committee meeting agenda? Who decided not to have this important \$3,000,000 capital project on the School Committee agenda for discussion? There should be updates on this project on every School Committee agenda. This capital project directly benefits the children in our schools. It is disappointing that the Selectmen and Finance Committee representatives from Rowley are consistently at these "communications" meetings and we have to find out last week at the District Communications Committee meeting that this project is being delayed to the end of the summer. Who made this decision? It was not on the School Committee meeting agenda. Who is making these high level decisions that affect the students, voters and taxpayers of the Triton Regional School System? Putting the Triton Stadium off and not having it on the ballot now poses an*

*unnecessary expense to the Rowley taxpayers. We are in the middle of working on our Annual Town Election ballot and need to vote to put a ballot question on to fund Rowley's portion of the Triton Stadium.*

*Debbie and Karen have worked on presenting a debt-exclusion ballot question for the Triton stadium that has been reviewed by the bond counsel. The Board of Selectmen needs to vote to place this on the ballot. The authorization to borrow and appropriate these funds will need to be placed on a special town meeting warrant at some point after the School Committee votes on this. Holding a special town meeting also comes at a cost to the Town too.*

#### *Ballot Question*

##### *Question 1.*

*Shall the Town of Rowley be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay its share of the bond issued by the Triton Regional School District to pay costs of renovating the Triton Stadium, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, which bond shall not exceed a total of \$3,200,000? The principal component of such bond allocable to the Town is expected to be approximately \$1,100,000.*

YES

NO

*Does the Board of Selectmen wish to send a letter to the Triton School Committee addressing the questions and concerns on why this important capital project is being abruptly delayed and who made the decision to do so? We haven't seen this on a School Committee Agenda. It feels like we have had the rug pulled out from under us. Rowley has been a consistent supporter of this capital project. If they were going to delay this project, it certainly would have been nice for us to move forward with the Pine Grove School project.*

Perry said the School Committee did not vote to go forward with the renovation project at this time, so the three towns do not need to take action. He said they have decided to put this off until August, and if approved by the School Committee, the towns will have sixty days to hold an Annual Town Meeting and election, or if the towns take no action, it will be considered an automatic approval of the project. He said the stadium is no longer usable for graduations or sporting events, Rowley is in favor of the renovation project, he thinks all three towns are and he thought it would be funded for the upcoming Town Meeting, but it was dropped somewhere. Snow said since the School Committee didn't vote on it, we cannot put it on the upcoming ballot. Perry said we have to get a legal opinion to see if we can put it on the upcoming ballot. He said the project will not move forward if only one of the three towns rejects it. Eagan said Treasurer/Collector spoke to bond counsel and after working with bond counsel and

Brian Forget, the ballot question has been approved by bond counsel. Summit said since the Town is not in the practice of having a fall election, it is possible to vote this override during the spring election, then have it accepted by the Town at the fall Town Meeting. She said if the numbers for the project change, it can be voted down at the fall Town Meeting. Eagan said people expect this type of ballot question on the Annual election, not a fall election, and this couldn't be funded by a Finance Committee transfer since this is not an unforeseen expense.

Snow said he agrees with the points that have been outlined and said a letter should be sent to Triton.

Joseph Perry made a motion to put the Triton stadium funding question on the ballot, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

Bob Snow made a motion to send a letter to the Triton School Committee addressing the questions and concerns on why this important capital project is being abruptly delayed and who made the decision to do so, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

#### 4. Discuss and evaluate Lease of Camp Area proposals

Chairman Merry said, "This item will be put on hold until next week because Selectman Dave Petersen is not in attendance this evening."

Snow said he will have to recuse himself from discussing this since he is a member of the Ipswich YMCA.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 1. Letter from Mass DOT re: Winter Recovery Assistance Program

Chairman Merry read the following:

*Mass. DOT has notified the Town that Rowley will receive \$35,560 in reimbursable roadway repair funds. These funds can be used to patch potholes, cracking and other surface defects; repairing and replacing signage, guardrails, storm grates or road striping and or painting; and related projects approved by Mass DOT.*

*The Board of Selectmen needs to vote to authorize Chairman Merry to sign the Mass DOT Standard Contract form. Chairman Merry will sign this tomorrow in the presence of a notary.*

Bob Snow made a motion to authorize Chairman Merry to sign the Mass DOT Standard Contract form, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

### **7:10 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Citizens Query**

Chairman Merry opened Citizens Query and reminded the audience that the meeting is being audio and video recorded digitally.

Steve Comley Sr. said on March 16, 2015 he gave two letters to the Board, one from Reverend Bob, another from Boylan, and asked why these haven't been read into the record. He said Amy contacted the individuals to ask their permission for them to be read. Merry said it isn't on tonight's agenda which is a full agenda. Comley said at the end of the meeting on March 16, Merry made an inappropriate statement that Senator Tarr and Representative Hill, who have been working hard on this safety issue, are not running the Town of Rowley. He asked when the REMA meeting is going to be held. He said he gets the feeling that the Board doesn't want to give the people of Rowley a say and the Board must feel that the NRC is doing a good job, and asked if they believe that leaving paralyzed people behind is okay. Merry said this topic is not on the agenda, and the Board can listen and take the comments under advisement. Comley said reading certain letters and not others into the record is inappropriate, and Merry's statements about Tarr and Hill are inappropriate. Merry said that is your opinion, and thanked Comley. Comley said it is many people's opinion.

Citizens Query closed at 7:15 p.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2. Sign state EOEA DEP Water Quality Management Planning**

Chairman Merry read the following:

*Coordinator of Health Services Frank Marchegiani is applying for a Water Quality Management Planning Grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Department of Environmental Protection.*

*If the Town receives these grant funds, the Health Department will conduct water quality testing in the streams. This activity falls under the Town's Best Management Practices under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System.*

*The grant application requires the signature of the chief executive officer. The Board of Selectmen needs to vote to authorize Chairman Robert Merry to sign the grant application documents. Chairman Merry will sign the documents at a later time with Frank, who is a notary.*

Bob Snow made a motion to authorize Chairman Merry to sign the grant application documents at a later time in the presence of notary Frank Marchegiani, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

3. Request from Triton Music Parent Organization for one day liquor license for fundraiser on April 11

Chairman Merry read the following:

*The Triton Music Parents Organization is requesting a one-day liquor license for a fundraiser on Saturday, April 11 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church. Beer will only be served and only individuals aged 21 and up will be allowed to attend. The bartender is TIPS certified.*

*Police Chief Robert Barker has approved this request.*

Joseph Perry made a motion to approve the request from Triton Music Parent Organization for one day liquor license for a fundraiser on April 11, 2015, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

**7:15 p.m. Street Layout Hearing - Dexter Drive**

Chairman Merry called for a motion to open the street layout hearing for Dexter Drive. Bob Snow so moved, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT

Public Hearing opened at 7:17 p.m.

Chairman Merry said, "The Planning Board has referred Dexter Drive in the Hawkesworth development for acceptance by the Town."

Chairman Merry read the hearing notice into the record.

Dexter Drive developers Dave and Jeff Clarke came forward.

Merry asked the Highway Surveyor if he has any comments. Highway Surveyor Patrick Snow said he sent a letter to the Planning Department in fall with his approval. He said they have met all the requirements, and the only concern is the fence at the beginning of the road which needs to be fixed or removed. He said it will likely be damaged each winter when snow is pushed onto it.

Jeff Clarke said he will speak to the new property owner about it. Dave Clarke said if it is in the right of way, it will be removed. Perry asked if it can be removed by Town Meeting. Dave Clarke said yes.

The Board reviewed the Street Acceptance Plan.

Chairman Merry asked if any one has any comments and if so to please state their name and address clearly for the record.



Anthony Mariniello from 24 Dexter Drive said he is one of the first homeowners, he thinks the work is more than acceptable, he is sure they will take care of the fence, and thanked Dave and Jeff for their hard work.

Chairman Merry called for a motion to close the street layout hearing for Dexter Drive. Bob Snow so moved, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT

Hearing adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Bob Snow said, "I Robert Snow, move that Dexter Drive, as described as follows, be laid out as a Town way, and I further move that the Town Administrator be directed to promptly file with the Town Clerk a copy of the vote to lay out Dexter Drive as a Town way. That the private way known as Dexter Drive, situated on Central Street and shown on a plan titled "Street Acceptance Plan Located in Rowley, Massachusetts - Roadway Layout Dexter Drive" this being the roadway shown on a plan titled "Hawkesworth Village A Subdivision In Rowley, MA." recorded with Essex South Registry of Deeds as Plan 38 in Plan Book 395; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift or deed, the land, easements, and rights therein located with the above-referenced Dexter Drive," Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

The Selectmen signed the motion.

Merry said, "Debbie will file this with the Town Clerk and an article will be placed on the town meeting warrant to accept this road."

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **6. Review proposed Harbor Fee Increases**

Chairman Merry read the following:

*Harbormaster Bill Dimento is requesting the Board of Selectmen to consider raising the river use and launch ramp fees.*

*Attached is a letter from Bill showing the proposed increases and an attached spreadsheet showing the breakout of the collections and revenues. He is looking for these changes to be made effective April 1, 2015.*

Bill DiMento said the fee will be \$15 per decal in 2015 instead of \$10.

Joseph Perry made a motion to approve the fee increases as proposed by Harbormaster Bill DiMento, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

**7:30 p.m. Public Hearing - Central Street Proposed Reconstruction with Highway**  
Surveyor Patrick Snow and Norman Brown of Bayside Engineering

Highway Surveyor Patrick Snow thanked everyone for coming and said this is an informal public hearing to discuss the Central Street Proposed Reconstruction. He then asked Norman Brown to provide an overview of the project.

Norman Brown of Bayside Engineering asked the audience to pick up a flyer in the entryway and to sign their separate sign in sheet. He said written comments can be left on the second page, and those comments are needed in the next two weeks. He said Bayside has been doing projects like this one since 1967. He reviewed the three phases of the project. He said this road is within the Federal Aid system and is therefore eligible for federal funding, and the need has been demonstrated since children use this road to ride bikes to school, so bike lanes are needed and there is elderly housing and the Council on Aging off this road, so sidewalks are needed on both sides of the road. He said storm water run-off also needs to be addressed since currently it goes directly into streams, but basins could be installed with the project that would allow for the pre-treatment of storm water. He said the guardrails are also sub-standard.

He said once the project needs are compiled, they are sent to the MASS DOT and MVPC for an assessment, and then an outreach phase begins, where they ask the people what they would like to see in this project. He said once all the public comments are received, a project initiation form is re-submitted to MASS DOT and MVPC for a review and if the project is supported, the Town gets a letter to move the project into the design phase.

John Shikes from Bayside Engineering reviewed the design standards on the project. He said since this project would be state funded, the project would need to meet the State's design standards. He said the existing travel lanes average twelve feet wide with a two foot or less shoulder and one sidewalk. He said the state requirements are for travel lanes eleven feet in width, a shoulder on each side of the lanes five feet in width each and sidewalks on both sides each five feet in width. He said the sidewalks would be ADA and MAAB compliant with ramps to road yellow in color with nubs.

Brian Sullivan spoke about the permitting and drainage for the project. He said he is responsible for obtaining any Historic, Public Land Use, state and federal permitting if needed. He said they don't anticipate any historic property impacts, and they are trying to avoid any impacts. He said for the drainage and storm water, after the survey they will take the base plan and looks at the hydraulic characteristics and identify any problem areas. He said they cannot discharge treated water to wetland areas, and rain gardens are typically used where they can be for sediment renewal. He said they will also assess culverts for repair or replacement.

Mike Rizzo spoke about the right of way process. He said the existing area is sixty feet wide and given the state requirements for the lanes to be eleven feet wide and the

sidewalk and bike lanes to be five feet wide each, a total of forty-three feet will be needed. He said no land takings will be necessary, but temporary easements may be needed which would go away after the project completes. He said some permanent easements may be needed for the handicapped ramps. He said the community would need to get all of the needed right of ways, then MASS DOT would sign off on the right of way certificate, and the project could not be advertised until that certificate is received.

Norman Brown reviewed the design process. He said if the letter is received from MASS DOT and MVPC authorizing the project to move forward, detailed surveyors will be working, and they will have to go twenty-five feet onto everyone's property to complete the survey. He said once the survey is done, they will create the base plan including curbs, sidewalks and drainage, and this 25% design submission is sent to MASS DOT. He said at the time the right of way plans will be created to see anticipated impacts such as seeding and driveway impacts, which would also be submitted to MASS DOT. He said MASS DOT would then review and get comments back to them, and then there would be a formal design public hearing in Rowley where comments would be taken and addressed to get ready to go out for advertisement. He said at the 75% design submission temporary easements would be arranged, and this would be sent to MASS DOT for comment. He said the 100% design submission would be sent to MASS DOT for comment again, then the plan would be final and put out to bid. He said this would take four to five years, so 2020 is the first year when this project could begin. He asked for questions and comments from the audience.

Mrs. White from 108 Central Street asked how much wider the planned road will be than the existing road. Brown said the area is 32 feet now and the narrowest would be 43 feet without a buffer zone, and they need to discuss whether or not a buffer zone is wanted. She said she only sees a biker every few days, the road is basically good, one sidewalk is adequate, and putting two sidewalks and a bike path is absurd. Brown said it will cost the Town a million dollars just to repair the road. Brown said they could ask for a waiver for a sidewalk on just one side, but if the federal government is paying, there would have to be a bike path. White asked how bikers will get to Central Street, she said they would have to drive and park somewhere.

Jeff Clarke of 128 Central Street said most of the lots on Central Street are non-conforming, and if part of those lots are taken, it will make them more non-conforming. Brown said they don't anticipate taking any land and if a sidewalk has to go onto someone's lot to some extent it would be an easement and the owner would still own the land. He said if an owner doesn't agree to an easement, there would be an eminent domain taking and the owner would be paid for it. Clarke said if the road is made wider and smoother the speeding issues will be worse. Brown said the road will be striped and narrow, and the speed is an enforcement issue. Clarke said the police can't monitor Central Street all the time, and since Wethersfield Street has been closed to trucks, they all come down Central Street.

Don Reed from 330 Central Street said the real need and safety concern is for a signal light at the Route 1 and Central Street intersection. Brown said he agrees and the MASS DOT did a road safety audit since that is under their purview. He said it would be nice to include that in the project, and that would fall under phase two. Snow said last year Representative Hill met with town representatives regarding that signal and this needs to go before the legislation. Bob Merry said this was filed, but he doesn't think it went through. Reed said someone was killed at that intersection, and Newbury was able to get a light further up on route one. Snow said there is a vision issue at that location, and we were able to get a left hand arrow at the intersection of 133 and Route 1. He said we have a long way to go and he will contact Hill about this signal. Perry said we have been in continual contact with MASS DOT regarding the Route 1 issues, and we have gotten two blinking lights installed, and this is an ongoing project. A woman from 73 Central Street said her car has been hit while she was turning into her driveway. Snow said we can put additional signage out to try to deter speeding. Dave from 245 Central Street asked what the weight limit will be on the road, he said the roads were not built for trucks with heavy loads. Snow said we can contact the police to ask them to monitor the road.

A resident from 180 Central Street asked why a state level repair is being proposed for this road. Patrick Snow said the price to repair this road is so high that they cannot save up enough Chapter 90 funding to do the work. He said using federal money for this project would allow them to use Chapter 90 funds on smaller roads in town. He said it is time to start looking at Central Street, and it will cost well over \$1,000,000 to just repair Central Street and not include the items such as the bike paths and sidewalks. Stan from 27 Dodge Road asked if this will be a full depth reconstruction. Brown said test pits will be used to see the condition of the road's foundation and they will work with a state pavement engineer to determine the best type of pavement to use. Jeff Clarke asked if there is a bylaw outlining the pavement depth. Patrick Snow said he will look into it.

Curt Turner of Wethersfield Street asked if there will be any out of pocket costs for the Town. Brown said not for the construction, but the Town will be responsible for the design of the project, and Chapter 90 funds can be used for the design, plus any costs for takings if necessary. Turner asked for the estimated design costs. Brown said in Groveland it cost \$650,000. Turner said the Town has other needs such as a new Police and Fire station. Bill from 157 Central Street said that the parking lot for his business Country Gardens abuts Central Street and asked how this will be handled. Brown said they will have to work together with the state to come up with a creative solution for this challenging area. Maryellen Mighill said her front steps are on the sidewalk and asked how that will be handled. Brown said they will have to work around that area. A woman said it was presented that the current road is sixty feet wide at its narrowest, and asked how this was measured. Brown said the roadway layout plans from Essex County Highway were used. Libby Tucker from 186 Central Street asked about the impacts to the water and gas lines, and asked who will maintain the sidewalks. Brown said the utilities are shown on the plans and the Town would have to replace the water lines. Patrick Snow said his department will maintain the sidewalks.

Dave Jaquith of 81 Railroad Avenue asked if a landscape architect or consultant will be used for placement of light poles and trees. Brown said no and Mass Highway plants the trees and MASS DOT pays for poles to be moved. Jaquith said there are many islands, and if this becomes a suburban road, speeding will increase. George Pacenka from Easy Street said two sidewalks would be overkill, but one would be nice. He said he wants his kids to have the ability to get around Town like he did when he was a kid, and although this project is huge and terrifying, he would like to see some of it happen to increase safety. Snow said the Town and the North East have grown, and many people use 133 and Route 1A, this is a fact of life, and he would like to see something done on Central Street.

Larry White of 108 Central Street provided a handout and said based on his calculations, he would lose the facade of the old General Store portion of his property and 25% of his house. He said Maryellen would lose 40% of her house, 84 utility poles and 12 fire hydrants would be disturbed, and all of the mature trees would be lost. He said he conducted an informal traffic survey from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and he saw nine joggers, 11 walkers and seven cyclists. He said this project would create a bike path to nowhere and only Main Street has sidewalks on both sides. Cheryl from 75 Central Street said her living room is almost on the street and she doesn't understand how they calculate the sixty feet in width of the current road. George Gallant from 360 Central Street said twenty years ago this was a nice quaint road, but this would turn it into a road like High Street in Newburyport. Frank Todd from 303 Main Street said he remembers there were sidewalks on both sides of Central Street in the 1930s, but cheap asphalt was used. He asked if the sidewalks will be cement. Brown said they anticipate using asphalt, but it is a better grade pavement. Todd asked how the culverts and guardrails will look in the historical district of town, and asked if Church Street will be included. Brown said different types can be used and when the survey is done, they can see if Church Street will be part of the project. A woman from 45 Central Street asked if the water mains will be replaced since the road cannot be opened if newly paved for five years. She asked how old the mains are and who will pay for their replacement, and if this is a done deal. Brown said he doesn't know how old they are, and Mass Highway would not pay for their replacement. He said Mass Highway would pay for new services and hydrants if needed. Patrick Snow said they are looking for feedback tonight to see if the people want this project. He said the Highway Department started looking into this two years ago since money is tight and they were exploring options to improve the roads. He said he lives at 382 Central Street as well.

Brown said we need an indication that the people want the project, and if the consensus is that it is wanted, they can fill out a project initiation form. Merry said the last time the road was worked on was in the mid 1960s. Brown said he will get the actual numbers to fix the road versus the reconstruction project. Brown asked for people to mail in their comments in the next couple weeks, then he will meet with Patrick Snow and the Board of Selectmen to decide how to proceed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

4. Request from American Diabetes Association to have North Shore Tour de Cure bike event travel through Rowley on May 17

Chairman Merry read the following:

*The annual Tour de Cure bike race is planned for Sunday, May 17, 2015. The bike route travels on 1A through Rowley from Newbury to Ipswich - estimated time through Rowley: 9:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The Police Chief, Fire Chief and Highway Surveyor have reviewed the request and have no comments or concerns.*

Joseph Perry made a motion to approve the request for the North Shore Tour de Cure bike event to travel through Rowley on May 17, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

5. Review and approve Antique/Junk license renewals

Chairman Merry read the following:

*The applicants below have submitted complete Antique Junk license renewals. All taxes, light and water bills have been paid.*

*Charles T. Davis  
Village Antiques  
201 Main Street  
Rowley, MA 01969*

*Judith Comley  
Bargain Hut Realty Trust  
280 Main Street  
Rowley, MA 01969*

*Vincent Manzo  
Manzo Salvage  
586 Main Street  
Rowley, MA 01969*

Bob Snow made a motion to approve these Antique/Junk license renewals, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Request from the Friends of the Rowley Senior Center to use the Town Common for Annual Yard Sale and Bake Sale on Sat. May 16 and rain date of Sunday, May 17

Chairman Merry read the following:

*The Friends of the Rowley Senior Center would like to move this annual event to the Town Common which is more visible and has better parking space than the Town Hall Annex location. The vendors will bring their own equipment and will leave the space free of debris.*

*The Highway Surveyor, Police Chief and Fire Chief have no concerns with this event. Coordinator of Health Services Frank Marchegiani said, "we're planning to have our annual White Goods Recycling event on that same day, May 16 from 8:30am to 11:30am at the Highway Department on Independent Street. As with any of our events it is unknown how much traffic if any will be produced."*

Merry said we have a slight conflict. Marchegiani said there shouldn't be too much traffic from the recycling event, and if it does back up, it would probably be onto Wethersfield Street.

Joseph Perry made a motion to approve the request from the Friends of the Rowley Senior Center to use the Town Common for Annual Yard Sale and Bake Sale on Sat. May 16 and rain date of Sunday, May 17, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

2. Letter from Fire Chief James Broderick re: invitation to attend the Essex County Fire Chief's Association breakfast meeting

Chairman Merry read the letter. Perry said he would like to attend.

Bob Snow made a motion to send Vice Chairman Perry to this meeting, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

3. Request from Opportunity Works to display the "Lend-A-Hand" Auction banner on the Town Common

Chairman Merry read the letter.

Bob Snow made a motion to approve this request, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

4. Review meeting schedule for April, May and June

Chairman Merry read the following:

*Debbie has proposed the following dates for Selectmen's meetings:*

- April 6, 2015
- April 13, 2015
- April 20, 2015 - Patriot's Day - no meeting
- April 27, 2015
- May 4, 2015 - Town Meeting
- May 11, 2015
- May 18, 2015
- May 25, 2015 - Memorial Day - no meeting
- June 1, 2015 - Start summer schedule
- June 15, 2015
- June 29, 2015

Bob Snow made a motion to approve the proposed meeting schedule, Joseph Perry second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The Town has the following vacancies:
  - a) **Fence Viewer**— three positions;
  - b) **Wood, Lumber & Bark Inspector**; and
  - c) **Zoning Board of Appeals Associate** – two open seats
  - d) **Historical Commission-Historic District Commission** - two seats
  - e) **Parks and Recreation Committee** - two seats
  - f) **Open Space Committee** is seeking membersFor more information on these positions, please contact the Selectmen's Office at 948-2372
- Rowley Food Pantry is in need of donations. The Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Town Meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pine Grove School
- Rowley Recycles - Sat. April 4 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Textiles/Books/CDs
- Check out the Library's website and Rowley Community Media for news on the Rowley Reads Program

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Merry called for a motion to adjourn. Joseph Perry so moved, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Dave Petersen - ABSENT.



Open meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Lydon  
Assistant Town Administrator

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Meeting memo re: Old Business #1 : Review FY 16 Debt budget, discuss Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrant articles.
2. Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant
3. Debt budget
4. Town of Rowley Capital Budget Plan
5. Meeting memo re: Old Business # 2: Discuss FY 16 Water Department Budget
6. FY 16 Water Department Budget and rate increase and revenues sheets
7. Meeting memo re: Old Business # 3: Discuss Triton Stadium Project and special election costs
8. Meeting memo re: Old Business # 4: Discuss and evaluate Lease of Camp Area proposals
9. Meeting memo re: New Business # 1: Letter from Mass DOT re: Winter Recovery Assistance Program
10. Letter from Mass DOT re: Winter Recovery Assistance Program, including contract
11. Meeting memo re: New Business # 2: Sign State EOEA DEP Water Quality Management Planning
12. FFY 15 604b Water Quality Management Planning Grant Announcement
13. Meeting memo re: New Business # 3: Request from Triton Music Parent Organization request for one-day liquor license for fundraiser on April 11
14. One Day Liquor License application from Triton Music Parent Organization request for one-day liquor license for fundraiser on April 11
15. Meeting memo re: 7:15 p.m. Street Layout Hearing - Dexter Drive
16. Notice of street layout hearing for Dexter Drive
17. Signed Motion to layout Dexter Drive as a private way
18. Street acceptance plan for Dexter Drive
19. Meeting memo re: New Business # 6: Review Proposed Harbor Fee Increases
20. Letter from Harbormaster Bill DiMento re: Request for approval to increase Harbor Fees
21. Proposed Reconstruction of Central Street in Rowley, MA Public Meeting Agenda
22. Written comment on proposed reconstruction from Pamela Bowen
23. Goggle maps and written concerns for Central Street reconstruction submitted by Larry White
24. Presentation slides used by Bayside Engineering during presentation of proposed Central Street reconstruction

25. Meeting memo re: New Business # 4: Request from American Diabetes Association to have North Shore Tour de Cure bike event travel through Rowley on May 17.
26. Meeting memo re: New Business # 5: Review and approve Antique/Junk license renewals
27. Meeting memo re: General Business # 1: Request from Friends of the Rowley Senior Center to use the Town Common for annual yard and bake sale on May 16.
28. Letter from Fire Chief James Broderick inviting representative of Board of Selectmen to attend Fire Chief's Association Meeting on April 8.
29. Letter from Opportunity Works to request a displaying a banner for Opportunity Works Lend-a-Hand Auction by the Sea.
30. Meeting memo re: General Business # 4: Review meeting schedule for April, May and June
31. Rowley Library Announcement regarding Rowley Reads 2015 program "In the Heart of the Sea: the Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex" by Nathaniel Philbrick.