



**Town of Southwick**  
454 COLLEGE HIGHWAY, SOUTHWICK, MA 01077  
**Community Preservation Committee**  
Telephone (413) 569-6056 - Fax (413) 569-5284  
Town Web Site: [www.southwickma.org](http://www.southwickma.org)



**Minutes**  
**February 26, 2020**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Land Use Room**

**ATTENDANCE:** Chris Pratt, Acting Chair  
Joanne Horacek  
Susan Fox  
David Spina  
Tom McLaughlin  
Beth Thomas

**Absent:** John Whalley  
Maria Seddon  
Ruth Preston

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** See attached list of public in attendance

- C. Pratt opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. The minutes of the last meeting from January 15, 2020 were reviewed by the members present.
- **A MOTION** was made by D. Spina to accept the minutes and seconded by S. Fox the (Vote- Unanimous.)

First Item on the Adgenda.

- C. Pratt called forward the Select Board to present their application and new information information regarding the bids for the Alum Treatment of the Congamond Lakes.

**DISCUSSION:**

- R. Fox and K. Stinehart discussed the current bids had come in at \$705,000.00 and \$720,000.00.
- D. Grannells explained the new mapping of the lakes has been completed using GPS and it added approximately 40% to the depth to be treated. They now have a more accurate meaurement of exact depths and area of the lake than previously calculated.

- C. Pratt explained the money that the town is asking from the state would have to be applied to other projects, but the town would be able to use reimbursements in other ways.
- D. Grannells explained the last treatment lasted 12 years and was not done to the accuracy this one would be now that they know the correct depths and areas to be treated.
- R. Fox asked that they ammend their request from \$600,000.00 to \$800,000.00 to account for the new increase shown by the mapping and future added unforeseen costs.
- D Grannells stated the were asking for the 40% more because of the recalculations.
- S. Fox asked if they were still going to ask for state funds and about how much more the the bonding would be adding on to money from the town.
- C. Pratt said yes the reimbursements to the town would not be directly applied to the CPC but would be used by the the town in other ways.
- K. Stinehart explained the duration of the notes and that we would need to pay other contractors and engineers and that is reflected in the money requested, also in the adjusted increased amount for the increased area.
- R. Fox stated the article would look for the money to be given up front and the balance going out to bond, if approved by the voters. This was to be done to be able to meet the Spring start of the treatment.
- K Stinehart said this would leave them plenty of time to look for a short tem note.
- S. Fox asked it it would still be reliant on the town vote? The answer was yes. She further asked if we have paid off any bonds lately.
- D. Moglin explained the borrowing against future tax was separate CPC assessment and would not be raising any taxes.
- C. Pratt stated there was adequet money in the general unreserved account for this and other projects that come in the future.
- K. Stinehart added the earmarked money was still going to be coming in from the state and there was money left in reserve that would not impact the CPC monies coming in this year.
- R. Fox suggested they were requesting \$200,000.00 from the unreserved fund and they would be looking to bond the additional \$600,000.00 in hopes this would leverage the states funding, and that timing was critical.
- C. Pratt referred to the budget sheet and explained they did have money in the unreserved fund.
- K. Stinehart referenced the new budget sheet for members to see the current figures available and mentioned the balance.
- D. Moglin restated that the committee would still me able to fund other projects or applications.
- B. Thomas asked if the \$200,000.00 was given and the \$600,000.00 bonded where would the other money go? She asked abouth the bids at \$705,000.00 and \$720,000.00 why were they looking for the \$800,000.00?
- D. Grannells explained about the costs incurred from the limnologist.
- B. Thomas asked if it was a separate bill and they answered yes.
- K. Stinehart explained they were ready with the warrant article for next week.
- R. Fox said they again were requesting \$800,000.00 to cover the treatment, bond council, financial advising, attorney costs and other unforeseen expences and that timing was important and that they have sufficient funds to begin.

- B. Thomas asked about the term of the bonding and its' effect.
- J. Horacek asked if there were any other bonds for this committee and the answer was this was new but approved use.
- R. Fox assured her that they would do what was most advantageous to the town and it would not increase taxes.
- K. Stinehart explained that often smaller bonds can be rolled into larger bonding issues and they commonly do that.
- C. Pratt asked if there were any guests that wished to speak.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

( *Not verbatim-comments can be heard on the studio tape [www.southwick.org](http://www.southwick.org)* )

- M. Pratt-152 Berkshire Ave. spoke in favor stating that there are over 500 households around the lakes that support the treatment and she appreciates the consideration made by the board.

### **Committee/Applicant Discussion Resumed**

- D. Grannells stated that now in the Spring is the time to do it before the lake temperatures affect the thermal water levels. He explained the depths of the lakes and stated they were some areas deeper and now more accurate than previously thought. He further explained that the treatment is ment to sit on the bottom at the deeper depths and is most effective if done in the Spring. The new depths ranged from: North Pond to 45 ft., Middle Pond to 40Ft., and South Pond being the shallowest at 22 ft deep.
- B. Thomas asked if there would be any lake closures due to the treatment?
- D. Grannells assured her the project would be overseen by the Conservation Commission and things they were told it would not affect the public use, and safety precautions could be done around the treating vessels and that they were told there would be no lake closures necessary.
- K. Stinehart reiterated that Lake Management would help coordinate the efforts to oversee the projects saftey concerns.
- C. Pratt asked if anyone was ready to make a motion to accept the recommendation that \$200,000.00 be moved from the general reserved fund to put forward the application and bond for the \$600,000.00 and to being it forward to town meeting.
- **A MOTION** was made by B. Thomas and seconded by C. Pratt to approve the request. (Vote-Unanimous) Vote 6-0.  
The audiences applauded.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Applicant Park and Recreation committee represented by:

Jeanne Reed Waldrom and David DeiDolori

- C. Pratt explained the Park and Recreation Committee's was here to file an application because they were looking to install electricle hook-ups at Whalley Park.
- J. Reed Waldron representative of the Park and Recreation Committee, detailed the bid for the lighting system to be installed at the pavillion would cost \$9917.00 to put in the additional lighting and install additional electrical hook-ups.

She cited the upcoming town's 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration, Rotary Club events and concerts as well as the need to increase the pavillion's ability to be rented for other events, as well as safety concerns. She mentioned it being very dard and that there were not sufficient electric hook-ups for bands, or to have other activities that could generate revenue.

- K. Stinehart said that to cover the finishing off of the new work correctly the Committee would need \$12,000,00, which would cover the instilation and for other contingencies.
- D. DeiDolori explained they had amended their with a new bid request to \$10,500.00 and were now asking for \$12,000,00. He also stated this was a project that was left unfinished after thet last go round.
- R. Fox stated the Select Board was in favor of these improvments and that it was good timing and would improve safety and they had encouraged them to apply for funds.
- J. Reed Waldron said the current use of extention cords worked only as a temporary fix.
- D. Moglin also explained the CPC had funded the project 4 years prior and this would help insure revenue coming in and increase the usage of the park.
- D. DeiDolori explained they had no money left in their budget to get this done.
- D. Horacek asked if they had tried to raise other money themselves.
- D. DeiDolori also of the Park and Recreation Committee explained they had earned other money through parking and events. but they now needed to have perminant hook ups for the bands and have other interior lighting installed.
- K. Stinehart replied it would finish the field lighting and other contractor issues as well.
- D. Spina asked about the amount of power and the need for circuit breakers and where the lights would be placed.
- D. DeiDolori explained what they would like for lighting and circuit hook-ups.
- R. Fox stated that in late August the pavilion and parking lots were dark and portable lighting had to be used. He felt the need for lighting was great.
- S. Fox asked if there was a list of the monies already spent, and no amount was given but they discussed the project began 4 years ago.
- K. Stinehart explained lighting had been done, but was left with more to be finished like this lighting and circuits.
- C. Pratt called for a vote all that were in favor.
- **A MOTION** was made by D. Spina and seconded by C. Pratt to fund the project (\$12,000.00) from the open space and recreation budget that had a \$74,000.00 reserve. (Vote-Unanimous)

#### **Cont. Park & Rec. and New Business**

- D. DeiDolori made a comment about the, "Rail Trail" clean-up and that the CPC may be asked to look at that if it becomes another project.
- R. Fox spoke about encouraging the restoration projects on the, "Rail Trail" be brought to the CPC.
- C. Pratt Agreed the importance of the, "Rail Trail."
- K. Stinehart stated that he would see the 2 proposals turned into warrants.
- C. Pratt spoke about asking the committee to vote on Coalition dues for the year 2020.

- S. Fox asked about the purpose of the dues.
- C. Pratt explained it like insurance for the CPC to get counsel or other assistance rather than paying out directly that they would have access to the coalition. The cost is \$1750.00 annually.
- J. Horacek verified they voted last January on the prior year's dues.
- **A MOTION** was made by S. Fox to renew the Coalition Dues for 2020 and pay the \$1750.000 and seconded by B. Thomas and the (Vote-Unanimous).
- C. Pratt asked if there were any other new or old business items to be discussed.
- **A MOTION** was made by S. Fox to *adjourn at 6:43* seconded by J. Horacek the (Vote-Unanimous).

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Corey  
Secretary – CPC

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Chris Pratt, Acting Chairman

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Beth Thomas

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John Whalley III

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Thomas McLaughlin

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David Spina

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Ruth Preston

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Joanne Horacek

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Susan Fox

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Maria Seddon