



Braintree Town Council
Committee on the Department of Public Works
One JFK Memorial Drive
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

MEMBERS

Charles Ryan, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice Chairwoman
Lawrence Mackin, member

June 20, 2023
MINUTES

A meeting of the Committee on the Department of Public Works was held in Johnson Chambers, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7:00p.m.

There was a moment of silence for all those serving in our armed services, past and present, and the meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Councilor Charles Ryan, Chairman was in the Chair.
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Charles Ryan, Chairman
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman

Not Present: Lawrence Mackin, member

Also Present: Margaret Laforest, COS
Jim Arsenault, DPW Director
Ryan Matheson, Engineering Manager
Jeffrey Kunz, Director Trash & Recycling
Mary Mulroney, National Grid representative

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- None

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

• 23 040 National Grid Petition: 5-54 Liberty Street or take up any action relative thereto

Chairman Ryan discussed the recommendations by BELD and DPW. He stated National Grid agrees to all requested staff recommendations. This is not subject to moratorium. It was noted 150 feet of this work will occur in a landscaped area.

Jim Arsenault, DPW Director having this done now will eliminate the need to open the street in the future.

Jim Arsenault, DPW Director stated National Grid will come do this work and put down a temporary patch in the Fall and then DPW will do an overlay in the Spring.

Motion was read by Vice-Chairwoman, Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council with Staff Recommendations:

MOTION: To replace approximately 650 feet of 4-inch bare steel gas main (installed 1930) and approximately 10 feet of 4-inch plastic gas main (installed 2008) with approximately 660 feet of 6-inch plastic gas pipe in Liberty Street, from Union St. to Lisle Street with staff recommendations with staff recommendations:

BELD: BELD has no conflicts with this location.

DPW: The DPW has reviewed the subject petition and the accompanying plan for the gas main replacement on Liberty Street. The work is being proposed to eliminate aging gas infrastructure. This section of Liberty Street is not subject to the excavation moratorium having been resurfaced by total reconstruction in 2008. It should also be noted that approximately 150 feet of the work will occur in a landscaped area, which was created when the alignment of Liberty Street was adjusted at the intersection of Union/Commercial Street. The pavement on Liberty Street is in fair condition, and the DPW is currently planning on placing a microsurfacing treatment on this section of roadway in 2024. As such, the DPW recommends the following conditions be met if the subject petition is granted:

A temporary asphalt patch shall be placed immediately following the work in all paved areas. Street excavations should be saw-cut, backfilled and compacted in 8-inch lifts, paved to match existing asphalt depth (with a minimum depth of four inches) in two-inch lifts to match the existing street grade.

After maintaining the temporary patch through one winter, a permanent patch shall be placed the following spring. The permanent patch shall be an eight-foot-wide mill and overlay with a pavement depth 1.5 inches. Tack coat should be applied to milled surfaces and joints prior to paving. Finished joints should be treated with a rubberized asphalt sealer.

No trees shall be removed for the work unless absolutely necessary given the gas pipe alignment, as determined by the Town. All disturbed landscaped and grassed areas shall be replaced in-kind

immediately following the work, to the satisfaction of the DPW. Grassed areas shall be hydroseeded and maintained until growth is established.

National Grid and its contractor shall arrange a pre-construction meeting with DPW and Engineering Division personnel prior to the start of work to review the proposed corridor of work.

We also recommend that the following requirement be added to the permit, if it is to be granted:

“No contractor is authorized to close any street or to close a direction of travel to facilitate their work without authorization from the Director of the Department of Public Works or the Highway Superintendent. The Chief of Police can also authorize a closure for a police or fire emergency. Construction zone traffic safety issues are to be addressed by using appropriate traffic control signs and devices and the use of police officers for traffic control to safely guide traffic through the work zone. If a closure is authorized by the DPW, it shall not be implemented until signs and police officers (where needed) are properly in place in conformity with the written plan prepared by the contractor’s engineer and approved by the DPW and Police Department.”

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to Approve Order 23 040

Second: by Councilor Ryan

Vote: For (2 – Flaherty, Ryan), Against (0), Absent (1 - Mackin), Abstain (0)

• **23 045 Mayor: Intermunicipal Agreement Extension - South Shore Recycling Cooperative or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Ryan asked Jeff Kunz to give an update on this item.

Jeffrey Kunz, Director Trash & Recycling stated it a few years ago the decision was made to join the South Shore Recycling Cooperative. It has grown into the current 18 towns. We decided to join for a couple of reasons. One being the political ramifications of the towns working together around the subject of solid waste, recycling, trash, hazardous waste etc. that there is strength in numbers. DEP dictates what we can and cannot do. This Recycling Cooperative works directly with the DEP. I sit on the Board of Directors for the SSRC along with Rosemary Nolan. The biggest impact it has had is with the wastebands and having to deal with legislation and take-back programs. The new mattress program is a good example. Either towns put the burden on the residents or have a private company pick up mattresses. There is legislation to have the mattress companies set up a fund that the town can then tap into. This program in Braintree will run us at least \$200,000. DEP said we are going to ban mattresses from landfills. It is up to the town to figure it out.

They are working for one community to collect household hazardous waste. We are a couple years off but in joining this SSRC we thought this is one effort we thought was good instead of every community trying to set up these collections one or two times a year.

There is an aging issue with the Solid Waste Personnel within the Town. Rosemary Nolan will be fading out within the year. Our other Administrative person will be fading out within 9 months. At some point in time, I will be retiring. We can rely more on an organization like this to do the grants and different things in house. We are as successful as the SSRC. We are also working on a hauling contract.

All the towns have different haulers that move materials. We are looking at a consortium contract. It is good to talk with people who are going through what we are going through. I look for a favorable recommendation. This will come up every 5 years.

Councilor Flaherty stated I understand why there would be strength in numbers. Councilor Ryan stated being involved in this collaborative gives strength in numbers and this is something we should look at with all different levels.

Motion was read by Vice-Chairwoman, Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council with Staff Recommendations:

MOTION: Authorizing Mayor Charles C. Kokoros to extend the Inter-Municipal Agreement for Cooperative Recycling on the South Shore, which provides for membership in the South Shore Recycling Collaborative.

Motion: by Councilor Flaherty to Approve Order 23 045
Second: by Councilor Ryan
Vote: For (2 – Flaherty, Ryan), Against (0), Absent (1 - Mackin), Abstain (0)

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:18p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan M. Cimino
Clerk of the Council

Documents provided for Meeting

- 23 040 National Grid Petition: 5-54 Liberty Street or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 045 Mayor: Intermunicipal Agreement Extension - South Shore Recycling Cooperative or take up any action relative thereto