

Board of Public Works Meeting of January 26, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Public Works was held on Thursday, January 26th, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at City Hall, 229 Main Street, Nashua, NH 03060.

Mayor Jim Donchess, Chair, declared the meeting to order at 4 PM and called the roll.

I. Roll Call

Members Present:

Commissioner Kevin S. Moriarty, Chair
Commissioner Shannon Schoneman
Commissioner Paul Shea
Mayor Jim Donchess

Also Present:

Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works
Patti Rogers, Executive Assistant DPW
Alderman Ernest Jette, Alternate Aldermanic Liaison
Dan Hudson, City Engineer
David Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent
Bradford Marx, Manager, Gas Engineering, Liberty Utilities
Jason Langianese, Colinbrooke Homes, LLC
Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Jeffrey Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste
Michael Rush, Fleet Manager

Members Absent:

Commissioner June Lemen
Michael O'Brien, Aldermanic Liaison

Mayor Donchess

Thank you for joining us. So, we have a motion first to approve the agenda.
Commissioner Moriarty.

II. MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty to approve the agenda as presented.

Mayor Donchess

Discussion. All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Next, we have a motion to approve the minutes of the December meeting. Commissioner Shea.

III. MOTION: Commissioner Shea to approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works meeting of December 15th, 2022.

Mayor Donchess

Any discussion? All those in favor say aye. Thank you.

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

IV. Public Comment

Mayor Donchess

Public comment. Is there any member of the public who would like to address the board?

V. Wastewater Department

Mayor Donchess

Alright, Wastewater Department. We have a Motion A, Commissioner Schoneman.

A. MOTION: Commissioner Schoneman to approve the user warrants as presented.

Mayor Donchess

Any discussion? All those in favor, please say aye.

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

We now have Item B, Commissioner Moriarty.

B. MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty to approve the last six months of FY23 purchase of polymer from Polydyne of Riceboro, GA in the amount of \$362,000. Funding will be through: Department: 169 Wastewater; Fund: Wastewater; Account Classification: 61 Supplies & Materials.

Mayor Donchess

Thank you. Mr. Boucher.

David Boucher

Thank you, Mayor. Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent. So, this is the purchase of polymer to get us through the end of the year, I mean, sorry, the end of fiscal year 23. Polymer is used at the wastewater facility in two separate processes. Helps aid in the drying and thickening of sludge. We have to do this every six months because this company does rate increases or decreases every six months. It's not through a consortium. This is a company - we have different companies come in and test their product against our sludge. See which one works the best. Polydyne is the company that sells the product that works the best. So, we'd like to continue using them. I can answer any questions.

Mayor Donchess

Alright, any questions or comments? All those in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

David Boucher

Thank you.

VI. Engineering Department

Mayor Donchess

Thank you. Engineering Department. Item A, Commissioner Shea

- A. MOTION:** Commissioner Shea to approve the Sewer Service Permits and Fees as submitted.

Mayor Donchess

Any discussion? All in favor, say aye.

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item B, Commissioner Schoneman.

- B. MOTION:** Commissioner Schoneman to approve the following Pole License Petitions as listed in the staff report.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone? All those in favor of the motion say aye.

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item C, Commissioner Moriarty.

- C. MOTION:** Commissioner Moriarty to approve the award of the construction contract for the 2023 Paving Program Contract 1 to Continental Paving, Inc. of Londonderry, NH in the amount of \$1,684,994. Funding through Departments: 160 Admin/Engineering and 169 Wastewater; Funds: Bond and Wastewater; Activities: Paving, Sewer Improvements and Stormwater.

Mayor Donchess

Okay, Mr. Hudson?

Dan Hudson

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Good afternoon. Dan Hudson, City Engineer. This is part of our annual paving program. Given the recent funding approval, we're looking to pave about seven and a half million dollars' worth of road this summer. This is contract 1 of 2 contracts that we will be advertising. Contract 1 was put out to bid. It involves the arterial roadways, of particular note, Main Street. We intend to pave Main Street from West Hall Street to the bridge this year. Intending to do that late in the season. Towards the end of the outdoor dining. There's three bids received on the project. Low bidder was Continental Paving. Continental is a well-known and well-respected paving company that does quite a bit of work in New Hampshire and for DOT. So, we're pleased with their bid and look forward to working with them, should you choose to award.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Thank you. Any questions, comments? Alright, all those in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item D, Commissioner Shea.

D. MOTION: Commissioner Shea to approve the engineering services contract with Hayner/Swanson, Inc. of Nashua, NH in the amount of \$300,000 for the management and construction administration of the paving program. Funding through Department: 160 Admin/Engineering; Fund: Bond; Activity: Paving.

Dan Hudson

Dan Hudson, City Engineer. So, this is a companion contract to the one that was just approved. This is Engineering Support Services. Of course, we manage the program within engineering, but we require additional help due to the scale of the program. HSI has served us for a number of years in this capacity. They help with administration, but they also provide the boots on the ground, day-to-day inspection work, so to speak. So, they're out there every day with the paving contractors, overseeing their work and making sure it complies with specifications and the quality we expect. So, again, this year we're asking to approve a contract with them. This contract would also cover Contract 2 Administration, once that is bid and awarded. So, you should only see this Engineering Contract once, but it will cover both Paving Contracts this season.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Moriarty.

Commissioner Moriarty

Yes, Mayor, I just had one question. Going back to the previous motion on the award with Continental. We've used Continental in the past. I know they did the Parkway, and we also used them for some of the paving program, correct?

Dan Hudson

Yes, that's my understanding. That predated my being at City. I've only been here three years. But yes, we have used them in the past and I'm very familiar with that company. I've worked with them on a number of projects in different communities I've worked in. So very, very comfortable with them.

Commissioner Moriarty

Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone? All those in favor of the motion say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item E, Commissioner Schoneman.

E. MOTION: Commissioner Schoneman to consider the hardship waiver request from Liberty Utilities to excavate in moratorium streets for Grade 2 gas leak repairs through Calendar Year 2023.

Dan Hudson

So, this is a request Liberty's made the last couple years. It's been approved the last couple years, but it's basically a blanket approval for them to address Grade 2 leaks and moratorium streets, without bringing each of those individually for approval to the board. As has previously been discussed, Grade 2 leaks are ones that they're required by the PUC to address within six months and within the same calendar year. So, whichever thing comes first because there's a time restriction there. We've described previous years about how we work with Liberty. They do pre-screening of streets to clear them, and then we do our work. And, unfortunately on occasion they do find leaks after the fact. And that's where this comes in. So, I believe Brad Marx from Liberty is here and he can address any questions about what they do in their operations and obviously knows details much better than I about gas leaks. So, if the board has any questions for him, I'm sure he'd be happy to address them.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

In the past couple years, this blanket approval of what's supposed to be occasional gas leak repairs for Grade 2 leaks has been brought to the board. And it's gone through though, I

have personally not supported it and I continue to not support it because the work of this board is to give approval for these things and to have them come to us so that we can discuss it and consider whether it's a good thing for the overall health, if you want to use that term, of our streets. So, the streets of moratorium, if we're digging into them in the first five years, are decreasing the life of these very expensive streets. You know, we're spending millions and millions of dollars to pave these streets and they're going back and digging into them within a year or two years, three years. The life of that particular street is decreased by over 33% is what we've been told. So, if Liberty Utilities is coming through and inspecting the roads before they're paved, why are they coming back again within three years for the occasional Grade 2 leak, which is not an emergency situation. And if they're finding not very many of them, the occasional leak, as you said, why can't they bring them to the board, as everyone else does? So, I -

Dan Hudson

Yes, I'll defer to Brad. I would just quickly say that they are required to repair these within those time periods they've specified. So, it's not a matter of can they do it or not do it, they're going to have to do it per POC regulation. In the past, I think the board consensus has been, if that's the case, why not let them do as quickly as they can? We provide a report every month about, you know, when and where we've had those situations. So, I do understand your point. We'll have you come up and just describe, you know, what you do before we pave and then why you find leaks afterwards.

Brad Marx

Yes, thank you. My name is Brad Marx, I'm the Engineering Manager for Liberty Utilities. So, when we know that the city is looking to pave a street, we get their list, and we go out and we survey before they go ahead and pave. If we find any leaks at that point, we will address them before they get paved. This blanket that we're asking for here, this approval, it's for those unfortunate leaks that happen after we've already screened it and after it's already been paved. Each year we find new leaks typically through frost and thaw cycles. You know, that's what the ground loosens, and leaks get exposed unfortunately. What this allows us to do, we're still coordinating with the city. We're still going through the normal excavation permit process here. But it allows us to schedule these better and it allows us to address these leaks in a more timely manner. I'm willing to answer more questions if need be.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman, any follow up you want?

Commissioner Schoneman

Well, I continue, you know, to ask why it is that Liberty can't find these leaks before the paving is done.

Brad Marx

It's because they happen after the paving is done. They happen sometime after the paving has already been completed. So, it's the following year or two years, or even, you know, three years within that moratorium window. Again, you know, it's an unfortunate situation. We try to avoid it. We try to address leaks. Another thing we do is, you know, types of main

that we know are typically leak prone, such as cast iron and bear steel. Those actually get fully replaced, based on their paving list. So, if we see a street on the paving list we know as cast iron or bear steel, we'll actually create a project to go and replace the entire main, knowing that it is particularly leak prone. But we don't replace every main in advance of paving. So, some of them, we end up discovering leaks after they have been paved and unfortunately before the end of the five-year moratorium.

Mayor Donchess

Yes, Director Fauteux.

Director Fauteux

To Commissioner Schoneman's point, you're saying that you check all of the streets -

Brad Marx

Correct.

Director Fauteux

- when you get our paving list to determine if there are any leaks.

Brad Marx

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Director Fauteux

What would cause out, and at that time you don't find any right? Because otherwise you'd address them.

Brad Marx

Correct.

Director Fauteux

What would cause leaks after paving? What sorts of thing, what sorts of issues will cause a leak to occur?

Brad Marx

Yes, so typically it's ground movement through a frost and a thaw cycle. Some of our, for example, we have some of our mains out there that are connected via couplings. These couplings can loosen over time. They use, there's rubber gaskets involved. So again, the weather impacts coming in out of winter into a spring site, you know, thawing, that can impact it and cause a leak unfortunately. There's other variables as well, but that's a common one that we see.

Director Fauteux

Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

How many miles of gas piping do you think you have in the city of Nashua? Do you have any idea?

Brad Marx

Top of my head -

Mayor Donchess

We have 300 miles of street, so I don't know if there's some correlation there.

Brad Marx

Yes, if there's 300 miles of, I say we have gas in at least half of the streets. I would venture to guess somewhere at least half, maybe close to 200 if it's 300.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Moriarty.

Commissioner Moriarty

Yes, what is the typical depth of the gas line?

Brad Marx

Typical depth of cover is three feet. In the city we had been installing them at 42 inches, so three and a half feet for a period of time. But industry standard federal code is three feet of cover.

Commissioner Moriarty

So, then the frost line is more than three feet, is it not? Typically? So that's why you get that shifting.

Brad Marx

Yes.

Commissioner Moriarty

So, but to go deeper would cost much more, I guess. I mean, is that why we don't go deeper with the gas line? So, we don't have these shifts and the gas leaks? I mean, there must be a reason.

Brad Marx

Yes. No, we typically don't go deeper. That's industry standard. For one, it gets more expensive on the rate payers. If we have to go deeper, of course more time. It also allows us; I know typically water and sewer are deeper. It allows us to, if we have to cross them, avoid, you know, hopefully avoid creating an offset.

Commissioner Moriarty

Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

So, when natural gas leaks, is it methane? Is that right? Technically?

Brad Marx

Yes. The primary makeup of natural gas is methane. Correct.

Commissioner Shea

So, and methane is, I think we discussed this the last time we reviewed this. And I just want to kind of ask the series of questions to illustrate my thoughts on it. And so, methane as far as greenhouse gases is significantly stronger than carbon dioxide. Do you believe, is that the case?

Brad Marx

I believe that is correct, yes.

Commissioner Shea

And so, when the trucks are going around with little sniffer dongles -

Brad Marx

Yes.

Commissioner Shea

- or whatever those are, you know, and they pick that up, there's natural gas that's leaking out and going straight to atmosphere the entire time until it's addressed.

Brad Marx

That is, that's correct.

Commissioner Shea

I mean unless the re-frosting shifts the pipe back miraculously yes. And so doing this, not only addresses a near term safety issue, but it also addresses, the extent to which there's an environmental impact, by reducing the duration of the leaks. And -

Brad Marx

Yes.

Commissioner Shea

- by not having to go through the process, you know, you may be reducing the time to fix by four to six weeks or more. Is that about right?

Brad Marx

I would say that is accurate, yes. This allows us to address leaks in a more timely manner.

Commissioner Shea

Okay, thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

Not to be the Chief Gorgon of the Board of Public Works, but I will reiterate that

Mayor Donchess

The chief what? <laugh>

Commissioner Schoneman

Gorgon. You know, snakes?

Mayor Donchess

Why that's a first. I've not heard that word used in the Board of Public Works before. That's pretty good.

Commissioner Schoneman

You'll enjoy the pictures when you look it up. Okay. Anyway, I want to reiterate that I know these leaks happen. I know they're not emergency leaks, they're not releasing massive amounts of methane to our poor environment. And it still stands that they should come to us. If we've got six months, there's no reason they can't come, the request can't come to us. So, there it is.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else?

Director Fauteux

I have one more question,

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner, or excuse me, Director.

Director Fauteux

I just have one more question. If the leak happened December 15th, would you have needed to fix it by January 1st because it's been a calendar year? How does that work?

Brad Marx

By the letter of the law? Yes. You know, there tends to be some reason within that. Like yes, in that scenario, we probably wouldn't get in trouble with our regulatory bodies. But yes, typically we do have that rule on six months or end of the calendar year, whichever comes closer.

Director Fauteux

But if there was a leak, say November, in mid-November -

Brad Marx

Yes.

Director Fauteux

You would need to repair that or is there some leeway?

Brad Marx

November would be hard to justify not getting it done by the -

Director Fauteux

So that could be a challenge if -

Brad Marx

Yes.

Director Fauteux

- we didn't have a meeting until mid-December, then -

Brad Marx

Yes.

Director Fauteux

- that could put them out of compliance with POC regulations.

Brad Marx

Potentially.

Director Fauteux

Just a thought.

Commissioner Schoneman

Do these repairs go through in the winter?

Brad Marx

Sorry, say that again?

Commissioner Schoneman

Do you do these repairs in the winter? All winter long?

Brad Marx

If need be. So typically, on the grade 2s, no. We're mostly just fixing grade 1s, which are emergency situations that need to be fixed immediately. You know, grade 2s, we typically, like I said, the bulk of that we end up seeing more in the spring anyway. We typically don't see a lot of grade 2s this time of year. But, if we were, we would try and put in a request to fix them. If not, maybe wait until April. But, you know, again, we try and whenever we find these, we want to try and fix them in a timely manner.

Commissioner Schoneman

Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

Do you have any sort of data on, just ballpark on what the volume is like as far as these leaks and how much comes out of them?

Brad Marx

It really depends on the nature of the leak. I could maybe try and find some kind of data associated with that.

Commissioner Shea

I imagine that that measurement might have some something to do with the threshold of 1 versus 2, right?

Brad Marx

So, it does. It's also based on location as well. How close it is to a house. There's other factors that play into severity of leaks.

Commissioner Shea

Mm-hmm <affirmative>. I would just reject the notion that though these leaks are small they're not of environmental impact of significance. When we have one city, Nashua, it might not be a big deal. But when we're talking about hundreds of cities across the country, if every city adopted this policy or every city adopted the make it wait six weeks policy, that those little bits add up over time. And I do respect your position on it Commissioner Schoneman, but I would just disagree with the idea that the environmental impact is not worth considering in the decision making that we have today.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Anyone else? I think you understand the motion. All in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: 3 yays, 1 nay

Mayor Donchess

Thank you very much. Item F, Commissioner Moriarty.

F. MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty to consider the hardship request from SD Realty, LLC to excavate to allow the reconfiguration of an existing curb cut and sidewalk on Lake Street.

Dan Hudson

So, Dan Hudson, City Engineer. I'll introduce this and then provide an opportunity for the representatives to speak to it. But this is a moratorium request on Lake Street. This was a development that was approved by planning board back in January of 2022. We've worked with them to try to minimize the cutting in the street on this one. The planning board approval at our request includes replacement of some sidewalk along Lake Street. And so that's part of the reason for this request. And the other part of it is so they can reconstruct their driveway. What we're proposing here is to limit the cutting into Lake Street to within a foot of the proposed curb line, which would again enable them to basically redo their driveway and redo the sidewalk, without cutting deeply into the street. And that's something that we've

done kind of as a pilot on some other projects as well. So, with that, I'll be happy to answer any questions of course, but I'll turn it over to I think Katie from Bedford Design is here and she can speak to the hardship aspect in terms of having to wait for the five-year moratorium to be up.

Katie Weiss

Good afternoon. My name is Katie Weiss. I'm with Bedford Design Consultants. I'm the project manager for the project. The reason that we're asking to cut into the pavement now is because the exit point that we created is at this moment open wide. The actual curbing is flushed with the street and there's no way to tell where the pedestrians are walking and where cars are coming in and out. So, it's more of a safety issue. We want to make sure that the cars that are leaving the site, they know exactly where the pedestrians are, and the pedestrians know exactly where the cars are going. So, it's a safety issue and that's why we're asking to be able to cut into the road, like you said, just along the curb line. And hopefully you will consider that hardship. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

And what is the project?

Katie Weiss

This is the old Poor Pierre's Restaurant. It's down over where the Shaw's Plaza is at that intersection where Main Street and Lake Street are. It's an old kind of 1950's diner.

Mayor Donchess

Yes.

Katie Weiss

So, they're proposing to renovate it and they're doing a smoke shop there. And so, we've changed circulation where the entrance is off of Main Street and the exit point is on Lake Street.

Mayor Donchess

And what would happen if this weren't approved?

Katie Weiss

Well, the issue would be just pedestrians knowing where they're supposed to be in regard to where the people are stopping to take left turns and right turns out of the site. Like I said, it's a wide-open space. It's about 40 feet wide. And it's level. So, the road is level of the same level as the sidewalk at the same level as the pavement as you're exiting. So, it just is all one plane of pavement. There's no delineation for a sidewalk.

Mayor Donchess

And if this weren't approved, would the project go forward?

Katie Weiss

The project could go forward, yes. It would be interesting looking, but it could go forward.

Mayor Donchess

It would be what?

Katie Weiss

It would be interesting looking. There'd be curbing in weird places on the site that would end at the property line, and that could also be an issue. I'm not quite sure how it would integrate the two.

Dan Hudson

Speak quickly on that -

Katie Weiss

Yes.

Dan Hudson

So, the sidewalk improvement is required as part of the planning board case. We would make them bond that such that they'd have to install it after the moratorium period was up. But the city wouldn't have the benefit of that sidewalk for the period of time between when they get done and when the moratorium runs out. It's just bringing this forward now enables them to do that sidewalk work that we'd like to see done. Do that sooner rather than later. And again, the cut limitation is just a foot along so they can dig and construct a sidewalk curbing and build the sidewalk. It's not a cutout into the middle of the street or anything like that.

Mayor Donchess

So, you're saying the conversion would go ahead and you would request they would build bond that the work be done?

Dan Hudson

Yes, I think they, if essentially, we'd have to work with planning, but my sense is -

Katie Weiss

We already have bond for it. The bond is already completed.

Dan Hudson

Yes. So yes, we do have a bond for it already anyway. Yes. Because we bond the whole thing. We have a bond. We have a bond that covers this work already because they needed

that. But we would hold that for a longer period of time so they could do it. I mean, I think what would happen is, I'm assuming that the planning board would allow them to go and complete their project, occupy the space, and then come back later and do the sidewalk. Because that was a city request.

Mayor Donchess

Would a denial require a return to the planning board?

Katie Weiss

I believe it was a condition approval.

Dan Hudson

It was a condition approval, yes. So, it probably would go back to the planning board for reconsideration or amendment or something to that effect, changing the timeline. Because that was a condition that would be required to be completed prior to occupancy, otherwise. So, the board would have to take that up again and consider that.

Mayor Donchess

And when -

Dan Hudson

But the board was aware of this moratorium request and we -

Mayor Donchess

And when did this go to the planning board?

Dan Hudson

- and they approved it. When did it go?

Katie Weiss

It was approved last January.

Dan Hudson

Yes, it was approved last January.

Mayor Donchess

Last when?

Dan Hudson

Yes. And we've been back and forth talking about a couple things with them since about, you know, looking at their sewer service and talking about limiting this cut and things like that. So that's why the year has transpired.

Mayor Donchess

Sometime last year, I think you said, but do you remember what month or anything?

Dan Hudson

It was January. January of last year is when the -

Mayor Donchess

January of 22.

Dan Hudson

January 6th is when the planning board approved the case.

Mayor Donchess

Okay. Any other questions, comments? Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

When is Main Street on our schedule to be paved?

Dan Hudson

Well, this moratorium piece is actually on Lake Street. That portion of Main Street, I don't know offhand.

Commissioner Shea

Okay.

Dan Hudson

I mean, we're paving the section I mentioned earlier, and we'll continue to the south I think after that. So, it'll probably be coming up in the next few years.

Commissioner Shea

Okay. But the nature of my question is that I'm wondering if this could be done in such a way that when Main Street is done, we can have a nice, clean connection because that's going to happen anyway with Lake Street past the drive here and pass the disturbance. And but what are your thoughts on that?

Dan Hudson

Yes, without a definition of exactly when we're going to pave Main Street, I'm not sure I can speak to that. I mean certainly when we pave the street, we're going to make a nice match to whatever's there. This work is planned to precede the Main Street work, which will be preferable. We'd rather have them cut and have that done, and so we can come back and, and match to it in a clean fashion as you suggest. But yes, it's good considerations.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

And so, the proposal here, is it to go to the center of the street or all the way across?

Dan Hudson

No, this is proposed to be addressed under our pilot program where when we're just doing something along the edge of the road, we don't actually cut into the road -

Commissioner Shea

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Dan Hudson

- 20 feet, you know, or the whole road width, basically what the ordinance says, and then 20 feet beyond. From our sense, it doesn't make sense to repave the whole section of the road there if it's been recently paved. And all we're doing is work along the edge. So, this is just a curb patch, along the edge of the roadway so that only the shoulder area of the road basically is disturbed.

Commissioner Shea

Okay. Is it safe to say, sorry, I just have one more follow up. Is it safe to say that that part of Main Street is probably coming at like, paving season 2025 or beyond?

Dan Hudson

I haven't looked at it enough detail to be able to tell you that.

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

Dan Hudson

So, I'm reluctant to commit, but as I said, I think we're in a program of want to do the downtown proper.

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

Dan Hudson

And then I think we'll be working out both directions beyond that over the following, you know, subsequent years so.

Mayor Donchess

This was paved, I'm going to guess 2016, 17? Remember? Because there were a few problems down there.

Director Fauteux

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Commissioner Shea

Oh.

Mayor Donchess

It was before we began doing it.

Director Fauteux

Yes, it wasn't paved that long ago.

Mayor Donchess

It was before we began inspecting asphalt quality at the site of manufacturer.

Commissioner Shea

Okay.

Dan Hudson

So, we would typically expect 12 years on an arterial-

Mayor Donchess

Regarding the, just the durability of what was done.

Commissioner Shea

Okay. I would just foresee that if we are paving Main Street in the near term, this would leave us in a place where we would want that connection on Lake Street to likely be redone all the way back past the impact area. Which could be 150 feet or something like that. I don't know what paving costs per linear foot per road, but I bet it's probably in the thousands of dollars. And if we are to pave that section of Main Street, which it sounds like maybe we're

not inside the moratorium period, I would like to ask that the additional cost for pushing that clean connect between Lake Street and Main Street be borne by the developer. And that's kind of, I just want you to understand kind of where I'm coming from with my questions. But it sounds like maybe that's not the case here. You can correct me if I'm wrong. And so, I'll thank you for your time.

Dan Hudson

Well, that wasn't what we asked for, but I mean that if that's what the board desires and that's something that we could talk to them about. I don't think it's in their current plans, obviously. Through this work and staying out of the roadway, they're trying to avoid some of that work in the roadway. I don't know what conditions would be when we get there, when we end up paving Main Street, like I said, arterials typically we would expect to get 12, 15 years out of. So, if it was paved in 2016, 17, I mean, it will be coming up, you know, in the next five, six years, something like that. And it may be appropriate at that point in time to pave that approach of Lake Street too. I just don't know.

Commissioner Shea

I don't think the onus would be on them if that's the case because it's past the moratorium period. So, and that's why I appreciate you entertaining all of this with me.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

Director Fauteux.

Director Fauteux

Well, I just want to thank you. I just wanted to make a point in that this not only benefits the developer, but this work also benefits the city as well.

Dan Hudson

Yes, that's what I was trying to point out. We're going to get a sidewalk a new section of sidewalk and certainly the city needs that -

Director Fauteux

The city needs that to be. So, I just want to make that point clear there.

Dan Hudson

There is a, you know, benefit hardship. In the same sense, you know, we really don't like cutting into these streets at all, newly paved. I think this is a fairly good compromise where we're just limiting the cutting along the edge of the roadway to get that additional feature that we, that the city desires and will benefit from.

Director Fauteux

I just wanted to make that point.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

When you anticipate doing this work?

Katie Weiss

The client received his building permit back in last month. So as soon as we can get approval, which I think is April sometime generally is when you're allowed to start doing that kind of work, he hopes to start at that point.

Commissioner Schoneman

Okay. This seems like a safety issue. Is there any way that something can be done to improve the visibility and the safety of, you know, your folks that are going in and out and the pedestrians. A very busy intersection, a little complicated sometimes.

Katie Weiss

Our plan is to narrow the intersections. Right now, is that it's like about 30, 40-foot wide. So, it'll be narrowed down to a 24-foot lane with a left turn lane and a right turn lane to leave the side -

Dan Hudson

The driveway.

Katie Weiss

The driveway, yes.

Commissioner Schoneman

The driveway, yes. Okay. Is there any temporary things that you can do to keep folks a little more safe until the work can be done in the spring?

Katie Weiss

I don't believe that they'll be able to, I mean, they might start construction, but they won't be able to open until after that work is completed.

Commissioner Schoneman

No, after that.

Katie Weiss

So, there shouldn't be any issues until it actually opens.

Commissioner Schoneman

Alright. Thank you.

Katie Weiss

Yes.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Moriarty.

Commissioner Moriarty

Mayor, if I could put you on the spot. Do you have reservations about this project? By your questioning, I thought there might be some reservations.

Mayor Donchess

Yes.

Commissioner Moriarty

I thought that might be. I'm actually surprised the planning allowed for left-hand turn onto Lake Street. That is a very busy intersection there. But I'm surprised that that was a go. But that's not our jurisdiction. That's the planning board. Right? The turn lane?

Dan Hudson

The plan doesn't include adding a turn lane on Lake Street. All site traffic will come in off of Main Street and depart on Lake Street.

Commissioner Moriarty

Right.

Dan Hudson

Maybe you're talking about left turn out of the -

Commissioner Moriarty

The left-hand turn is -

Dan Hudson

Yes, it is -

Commissioner Moriarty

- asking for trouble.

Dan Hudson

It is a site that's in a tough location. It's not going to be great getting in and out, whether it's Main Street or Lake Street in this case. But yes, I understand that concern.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else? Alright. You understand the motion, I think. All those in favor of the motion say aye. Opposed?

MOTION FAILS: 2 yays, 2 nays

Mayor Donchess

Next item is, where are we? Item F and I believe this becomes Commissioner Moriarty.

Commissioner Moriarty

That would be item G, Mayor.

Mayor Donchess

Oh G, sorry, G. Alright. Commissioner Moriarty.

G. MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty to consider the hardship requests from Colinbrooke Homes, LLC to excavate for water, sewer, and gas services at 7 Westbrook Dr.

Dan Hudson

Okay. Dan Hudson, City Engineer again. I'll introduce this and then representatives can come to speak to their hardship. This, I believe, was a one to two lot subdivision. It was approved by Planning Board on August 4th of last year. Westbrook Dr was last paved in July of 2020. The new Law & House requires utility services and the request here is for a moratorium waiver approval so that they can install those in accordance with the moratorium requirements with limited work extending 20 feet beyond any of the impacted area. So with that, I would turn it over to Jay here, to speak to the hardship aspect.

Jay Langianese

Jay Langianese, Colinbrooke Homes. I just wanted to, I started the project about a year ago and I bought 7 Westbrook Dr. Renovated and fixed it and got an additional lot. And I just wanted to continue on with the project. The neighbor, if you're looking at the house to the right, and the neighbor across the street seem to think there's a drainage issue. And they continue to call the town and the Public Works Department that there's water running down

that lot from the higher area that this abuts the school. Which is set up, to the back of the school.

And they are saying that water is running down that lot into the road and down into the drain. So, I disagree with that, but I would like to just do the project and take care of any issues that are coming up from them. Because they continue, we had a heavy rain a couple of weeks ago and they made calls. I had to send guys out there, and there was really nothing that I saw, and I didn't do anything. And Public Works said there was nothing as well, but they continue to think that there is an issue. So, I would just like to get it taken care of.

Mayor Donchess

Any discussion? Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

By that do you mean that you're going to do a little bit of grading work is -

Jay Langianese

Correct.

Commissioner Shea

Okay.

Jay Langianese

Yes.

Commissioner Shea

Thank you.

Dan Hudson

Sorry, I did mean in my introduction to point out that there's an error in the staff report. This approval is for 5 Westbrook Dr. As was described. There was a 7 Westbrook, which was subdivided. In the request before you, is actually for a waiver request for a 5, which is the new lot. So, I'm aware the motion and whatnot says 7. That should be replaced with a 5.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else? Alright. All those in favor of the motion say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

H. INFORMATIONAL: 2023 Paving Program Contract 1 – List of Roadways and Map.

I. INFORMATIONAL: Street Opening Permits issued for Streets in Moratorium.

Mayor Donchess

Items H and I are informational items, not requiring formal action. Any questions or comments on either of those informational items?

VII. Park and Recreation

Mayor Donchess

Alright, then we'll go on to Park Rec, Mr. Conant. Item A, which is in the agenda. Commissioner Shea.

- A. MOTION:** Commissioner Shea to approve the purchase of a 2023 Steel Green SGXL in the amount of \$41,296 from Valley Green of Holyoke, MA. Funding will be through Department: 177 Parks and Recreation; Fund: Prior Year Escrow; Account Classification: 81 Capital.

Bryan Conant

Good evening. Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation. This piece of equipment was on the escrow equipment list I came up with. Currently right now we have a machine that's similar in nature. It's a 2016. It's heavily used. It allows us to spread granular fertilizer and make some soluble applications to our athletic fields, different park locations. It's essential in the quality of turf we maintain throughout the parks.

A lot of the applications we make you know, have to be done in a certain timeframe throughout the year. Depending on what you're talking about. I find it concerning that we only currently have one machine right now that we can utilize to make these applications. And that's why I went ahead and put this on the escrow list. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Mayor Donchess

Alright, discussion. Alderman Moriarty?

Commissioner Moriarty

Yes, Superintendent. I was just wondering, so the 2016, we're not losing that. You're still going to have that?

Bryan Conant

Still going to utilize that Commissioner, yes.

Commissioner Moriarty

That was, it's only six years old. I was surprised that we would have to replace it, but we're not replacing it.

Bryan Conant

No, we're not replacing it. But we have to remember is that, you know, we have, throughout the 900 acres of parks that we have, we have about 150 acres of turf. Within that 150 acres we treat about 80. So that's 3.5 million square feet. It's quite a bit for a machine to go over, even only being six years old. So, if something was to happen to it, we don't have anything to back it up. That's my concern, Commissioner.

Commissioner Moriarty

And then, Mayor?

Mayor Donchess

Go ahead.

Commissioner Moriarty

Getting the quotes. This is a vendor I'm not familiar with. I don't know if we've used them before. So, did you get other quotes or is this a sole quote?

Bryan Conant

This product actually went, this piece machine went out to bid. So, we came up with specific bid specifications, and it did go out to bid.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone? Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

I appreciate your efforts and mission to better treat our turf and will support this.

Bryan Conant

Thank you, Commissioner.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else? All those in favor of the motion say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Thank you. And of course, now we have item B. Commissioner Schoneman.

B. MOTION: Commissioner Schoneman to approve the purchase of a new playground structure and playground equipment for Atherton Park with a total cost of \$107,523.40 pursuant to the Sourcewell Contract #010521. Funding will

be through Department: 177 Parks & Recreation; Fund: Capital; Activity: Citywide Playground Improvements.

Bryan Conant

Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation. As you're all aware, Atherton Park has, you know, gone under some renovations. A thirty-space parking lot has been added. Two softball fields, or excuse me, two soccer fields have replaced two softball fields. A new basketball court. I think we could all agree that with those upgrades, there'll be a lot of activity at the park, and I think it warrants this playground. And I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Donchess

Any discussion? Questions? Commissioner Moriarty?

Commissioner Moriarty

I was just wondering, I know you're busy, the whole department's busy. But we can't install this ourselves? \$25,000 to install this?

Bryan Conant

No, we cannot. We are understaffed, we are. We've got 17 laborers. And it would be my suggestion, this is going to go in the spring when we're at our busiest. I would disagree with that. I would have them install it, Commissioner, if you want my honest opinion.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

I know there was a lot of connection with the neighbors, I believe, over the course of this project, and people kind of talked about different priorities and whatnot. Paving, parking, you know, what they're looking for. Was the neighborhood involved in this concept at all? Or was this kind of presented by the vendor?

Bryan Conant

No, the neighborhood was not involved in the concept. The Director and I picked out the concept of the playground. It's got some inclusive pieces and we felt confident that people would like the design. I believe they will.

Commissioner Shea

Okay. Just the one thing that stands out, and I'm sure it'll be fine, but as far as like looking for potential issues, the conga drums. I just wonder, and I've been to way too many playgrounds over the past two years -

Mayor Donchess

And the what? What is it?

Commissioner Shea

The conga drums. So, a neat thing that a lot of the playgrounds have is a couple of musical instruments that are fixed in place. So, you have a conga drum, some have like a steel drum equivalent, bells, and things like that. So, there's no bells. And so, I'm sure, you know, you're not going to hear a lot of dinging and stuff, and that would be the most annoying possible thing. So, I'm sure it'll be fine, but I'm just curious about that. The other thing I would say is, did they give you a rendering for this? Like a concept image or something?

Bryan Conant

Yes, they did.

Commissioner Shea

So, in the future, because that makes this job much more fun. I would love to see those included. That's all.

Bryan Conant

Okay.

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

Director Fauteux

We actually can bring that next month.

Bryan Conant

Yes, we should do that. That was in the file.

Director Fauteux

Yes.

Bryan Conant

The concept design was in the file for this.

Commissioner Shea

I personally wouldn't hold it up based on that, but I would just moving forward, I'd -

Director Fauteux

We'll bring it next month.

Commissioner Shea

Yes, it's nice to see.

Bryan Conant

We'll bring it to you.

Mayor Donchess

So, are you going to be playing the congo drums?

Commissioner Shea

I probably will, yes.

Mayor Donchess

Yes, good.

Commissioner Shea

Yes, I'll be sure to be there after dusk.

Commissioner Moriarty

We have a lot of firsts at today's meeting.

Commissioner Shea

Yes. When we go to, I'm trying to think of, I think it's Main Dunstable. There's a soccer field over there. Is it?

Bryan Conant

Yes.

Commissioner Shea

And they've got the music set, is that right?

Bryan Conant

In the school.

Commissioner Shea

The school, yes. And I think that most of that playground was the result of donations. But that's a really cool setup. So, they've got a couple of drums and the bells and I'm trying to think of what else. Yes, but it's cool.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Any other discussion? Questions? All those in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Bryan Conant

Thank you.

C. INFORMATIONAL: The Mine Falls Committee at the meeting that took place January 9th voted no on allowing the memorial boulder that was proposed to the BPW from Sharon Marcotte this past November.

Mayor Donchess

Item C is an informational item. Does anyone have any questions on Item C? If not, we'll go to Solid Waste. I'm sorry.

Director Fauteux

I think we need a recommendation from the Board of Public Works.

Mayor Donchess

Well, it says informational -

Director Fauteux

Yes, it should have, yes -

Mayor Donchess

You want a motion on this?

Director Fauteux

We should have a motion. Yes. This is basically the Mine Falls we brought the boulder - You remember the woman had asked for her brother. And so, Superintendent Conant brought it to the Mine Falls Advisory Committee, and they advised against placing the boulder in Mine Falls Park, because of their concern of, you know, the precedent that might set that a lot of people might want to put boulders. So, I think we need a motion from the Board of Public Works, whether you want to accept this or whether you want to approve the boulder in Mine Falls Park, because ultimately, it's your authority.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. And I forget where we are. Who did the last motion? Commissioner Schoneman. So, Commissioner Moriarty.

MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty to endorse the decision by the Mine Falls Committee to not allow the memorial boulder.

Mayor Donchess

So, the motion is to agree with the advisory committee. Any discussion? Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

Do you know to if any extent they had a discussion about dedicating items of utility versus simple memorial and how did that go?

Bryan Conant

The discussion that took place, Commissioner Shea, was you know, they were worried, like the Director says, if you accept this, where does it end? I think they all agreed that, and Mrs. Marcotte had looked into this in the beginning, and thought that it was just, it wasn't feasible for her financially, but they seem to be willing to accept a granite stone bench -

Commissioner Shea

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Bryan Conant

That would have a concrete footing so that way it wouldn't move up and down with the frost heaves that we have in New England.

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

Bryan Conant

And would last for a very long time. That they seem to be acceptable too. But in talking to the person that they were talking to on, I can't think of the business name, it was around \$6,000 for that setup.

Commissioner Shea

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Bryan Conant

And it just, it was something that she couldn't do. I think that they, if that had been proposed, I think that they would probably accept that. So.

Commissioner Shea

Okay, yes. It's good to know kind of where they stand on that question.

Bryan Conant

Yes.

Commissioner Shea

Because that was part of our discussion when we -

Bryan Conant

I think part of our discussion is how many, you know, with that, how many people are going to spend \$6,000 on a granite bench?

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

Bryan Conant

So, it's not going to be flooded with boulders and plaques and things of that nature.

Commissioner Shea

But there's various things in the park, like the Boy Scout / Eagle Scout picnic tables and things like that are really nice and dedicated and have a name on them.

Bryan Conant

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Commissioner Shea

But it's good to know that the Mine Falls Advisory Committee has some openness to that kind of application.

Bryan Conant

They were very appreciative that this had gone to them. There is a granite bench currently in the park that according to them just appeared one day -

Commissioner Shea

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Bryan Conant

And they had no knowledge of it. So, they were very appreciative to be involved.

Commissioner Shea

Good. Thank you.

Bryan Conant

You're welcome.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else? All those in favor of the motion say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Thank you. Solid Waste Department. Item A, Commissioner Shea.

VIII. Solid Waste Department

- A. MOTION:** Commissioner Shea to approve the purchase of GPS units and equipment for the landfill at a cost of \$179,735 from Carlson Machine Control Software of Watertown, MA. Funding will be through Department: 168 Solid Waste; Fund: Bond; Activity: GPS System Landfill

Jeff Lafleur

Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent, Solid Waste. This system here that we're requesting to buy will hook up to both of our compactors and both our dozers and will give us compaction rating. It'll help us, you know, project that how much good compaction we're getting. We're getting maximum compaction. It'll also help us with our side slopes when we start shaping for closing of our phase three landfill or any of our side slopes. It'll tell us our grades; it'll keep us on track. We're also getting or requesting a mobile unit where I'll be able to go around and actually physically mark our wells where they are. You know, any settlement that's happening, we'll be able to check all of that while we're using these units.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

So, does this tie altitude data to GPS data to figure out the height of the surface? Or?

Jeff Lafleur

There'll be a base unit tied in.

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

Jeff Lafleur

So, all my units that are going to be connected to my equipment will be able to be satellite driven. We'll be able to see where they are, what they're doing, the, the actual height of the landfill, how much compaction. So, there'll be a unit inside the compactor that every time that they go over, it'll turn colors. Once it turns red, it means it maximum compaction and then they can stop going over the trash.

Commissioner Shea

And then that data's all cataloged.

Jeff Lafleur

All cataloged. We'll be able to do it on CAD files and look at stuff. We can actually shape the landfill the way we want with our engineering unit, Sanborn, Head & Assoc. They could actually help us so we could shape the landfill. Once we get to the certain heights, the machine will tell you, you're done, go to another spot and it can go down to almost the inch. That's how close we can get. So, it'll maximize as much airspace as we have.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

And will this, is there any sort of software as a service required from this company or another company that would be an enduring cost? Or is this a one-time cost for the system?

Jeff Lafleur

No, there'll be some software costs eventually. We haven't actually calculated out the costs yet, but this gets us going for the first year. We'll also be able to tie in with Sanborn, Head & Assoc.'s software that's already doing some of our calculations for us. So, it's going to tie in. They highly recommended this unit because they used this already at another landfill. So.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Moriarty.

Commissioner Moriarty

Yes. Thank you, Mayor. Should this motion pass and the equipment is purchased, I would love to see a demo of it in, you know, at the Solid Waste. I don't know about the other Commissioners, but I certainly would like to see it working.

Jeff Lafleur

Yes, absolutely. Anytime. I'll put you in the machine. You can run it.

<background laughter>

Mayor Donchess

No way.

Jeff Lafleur

Mayor, you haven't come yet. We're waiting for you.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

You did mention that other landfills are using this system. Have you been able to see it in action?

Jeff Lafleur

There's a lot of YouTubes that we've watched. We've watched multiple on them. I've actually talked to Turnkey, their head people over there that use it and they love the -

Director Fauteux

Which is a Waste Management landfill.

Jeff Lafleur

Yes, a Waste Management landfill. They say it's an amazing system. We're going to love it. It's going to gain us the maximum capacity that we have at our landfill. So.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Okay. We should have had this a long time ago.

Jeff Lafleur

Yes, we should have.

Mayor Donchess

Anything else? All those in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

IX. Street Department

Mayor Donchess

Thank you. Street Department. Item A, Commissioner Schoneman.

- A. MOTION:** Commissioner Schoneman to approve the purchase of a 2022 Toro 4300-D Groundskeeper for the price of \$81,560.33 pursuant to the Sourcewell Contract #18696-CEC Funding will be through Department: 177 Parks & Recreation; Fund: Trust; Activity: CERF

Michael Rush

Michael Rush, Fleet Manager. This is an addition to the Parks equipment that they have over there. So, I might defer this one to Bryan to explain why it is he wants to purchase this.

Bryan Conant

Good evening. Bryan Conant, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation. This is a mower that we can use in several different locations. One thing I'm after here right now, currently in taking in the operation after being here for almost a year, is currently right now we use a large-scale Toro mower. It's called a 5910. If you want to write down the model number and look it up on our website, the machine weighs 7,300 pounds. This machine weighs 3,200 pounds. That's a two-ton difference. I look at some of our athletic fields and some of the areas where we can only turn this machine in the same spot, in the same location. It's hard to get to grow grass in these locations. So, with this, I think we'd maybe be better off trailering up the mower, bringing it to the park, which would then allow the piece of equipment to last longer. If you'd talked to the fleet manager on the 5910, the big Toro mower, he replaces wheel bearings on a yearly basis. He's gone to the biggest ply tires that they have because when we drive down the road and we go over a pothole, the tires blow out. So, I think not only this would allow us to have a better-quality turf feel at the end of the day, but it's going to allow us to have a piece of machine that's going to last longer in the end. So, I'd be happy to answer any other questions.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

As a technical question, why is this purchased under the Street Department? Is that because the CERF? Why is it under Street Departments instead of Parks & Recreation.

Director Fauteux

We usually do this; I'll answer this question. We usually do this because the Fleet Manager is really the one that presents all of this. And Fleet is still currently under the umbrella of the Street Department. So that's why we just list all of our equipment under one. But if you look at the funding, it is being purchased through Park & Rec funding.

Commissioner Schoneman

So, this big mower is considered part of the Fleet?

Director Fauteux

Part, yes. Part of our Fleet, correct.

Commissioner Schoneman

Which includes all the trucks and all that stuff?

Director Fauteux

Right. Part of the CERF plan.

Commissioner Schoneman

Part of the CERF plan.

Director Fauteux

Right. So, these were purchases that were approved, through our budget for the budget process. Correct.

Commissioner Schoneman

I understand.

Director Fauteux

So that is a little confusing. Sorry. But that the reason we do that is because the Fleet Manager is really the one that does the heavy lifting on getting all of the quotes and if necessary, putting things out for bid and determining whether or not equipment needs to be replaced or does not need to be replaced based on -

Commissioner Schoneman

I see.

Director Fauteux

- the maintenance history and that sort of thing. So -

Commissioner Schoneman

I see.

Director Fauteux

So that's why it's all under the Street Department.

Commissioner Schoneman

Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Commission Shea.

Commissioner Shea

How is the health of our CERF account? I know that maybe five years ago was somewhat perilous if I recall. And I know that we've been working to kind of build that back up so that we have the capacity to meet our needs. I'm just curious.

Director Fauteux

Every year we look at our CERF schedule, and we determine what we absolutely need to replace in a current year. And the Mayor's been very supportive of that. And he understands where we were -

Commissioner Shea

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Director Fauteux

- probably 15 years ago. And we don't want to go back there. So, the Mayor has supported funding CERF for the necessary purchases every year. So, we have had enough money to -

Commissioner Shea

Good.

Mayor Donchess

There's not a big balance in it. I mean, there's enough to buy the equipment scheduled for this year.

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

And then maybe a little more money. But there's not a big balance over and above what is required for the current purchases. Definitely more money would need to be, you know, to make the next set of purchases. There's not enough money in the account to do that, so more money will be required.

Commissioner Shea

Okay. Yes. I, I feel like it, and I could be way wrong on this, but I feel like maybe in 2015, like the account was dwindled down to like sub \$200,000 or something like that. And capacity wise, it behooves us to have more on hand in case something happens.

Mayor Donchess

Well, 3 million just went into it.

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

Mayor Donchess

But that will be used through the course of the year to make these purchases. And at the end of the year, I forget what the balance is projected be exactly. But it's not as low as 200. It's like a million or two -

Commissioner Shea

Okay.

Mayor Donchess

- at the end of the year. But then in the next fiscal year, there will be, or in the next year or two, there will be more purchases, you know, that need to be made.

Commissioner Shea

Mm-hmm <affirmative> good. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. What are we on Motion B, right?

Commissioner Moriarty

We're still on B, yes.

Mayor Donchess

Okay. Commissioner Moriarty.

Commissioner Moriarty

Oh no, we're on A, I'm sorry.

Commissioner Schoneman

We haven't voted.

Director Fauteux

We're on A.

Mayor Donchess

Sorry. And we're still on A, the 3,200 versus 7,000 pounds.

Commissioner Moriarty

Okay. I think I have the answer, Superintendent. I was wondering, I thought Groundmaster was some kind of manufacturer, but it's actually a Toro.

Bryan Conant

Yes.

Commissioner Moriarty

Okay. So, I didn't see Toro on the paperwork, but I see it in the motion. Because I know we're trying to, as a division, we've talked about trying to keep the same manufacturer so that, you know, replacement parts are the same on what we do and

Bryan Conant

Yes.

Commissioner Moriarty

I'm happy to see it's a Toro if we're buying Toro.

Bryan Conant

Yes. I think the Fleet Manager you could speak to that their service is impeccable. So, I'm pretty sure he likes working with him just as much as I do.

Michael Rush

Mike Rush, Fleet Manager. So, in regard to the Toro brand, so we're trying to obviously stay with the brand. A lot of these mowers, even though they're different sizes, a lot of them take the same parts, the same tires. And the service that we get from this current company has been outstanding considering all the challenges that we've been presented with over the last two, three years. This company has been above everybody else, in my opinion, and we get really good support. And their pricing is government contracted as well. So, we do get the premium government contracted pricing with them as well. But a lot of the mowers that we purchase have a lot of commonalities, so all the parts are sort of interchangeable. They might just be a little bigger, but we might be able to borrow something from something else to get us by. So, it gives us kind of a backup too.

Commissioner Moriarty

Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

Do you know if the big old ruts in Greeley Park kind of near to the wading pool, there's like two real low areas in Greeley Park, where it gets soggy and then there's ruts out there. Is that vehicle that you were talking about, the one for that caused those? And would this resolve issues like that?

Michael Rush

I'll defer that to Bryan.

Bryan Conant

Yes.

Commissioner Shea

Yes, great.

Bryan Conant

You're welcome.

Commissioner Shea

Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else? All those in favor of the motion say aye.

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item B, Commissioner Schoneman.

B. MOTION: Commissioner Schoneman to approve the purchase of a 2022 Toro Reelmaster 3573-D for a price of \$77,697.76 pursuant to the Sourcewell contract # 18696-CEC. Funding will be through Department: 177 Parks & Recreation; Fund: Trust; Activity: CERF.

Michael Rush

So, this mower is similar to the first one. Just a different model. You know, after going over it with the Park Superintendent, this is going to replace one of the other mowers that we currently have. We're not going to take that other mower out of service. We're going to try to keep that as a backup, so that they continue to utilize the mowers. We did have a couple of issues this year where we had all the mowers down at the same time, and it was in the height of when we had all that rain. So, the grass grew a little faster than I expected, and

they had to play catch up. So, we're going to, you know, replace that mower and keep the older one as a backup and try to keep repairing it until it's no longer feasible to keep in service.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

The quote seems to indicate that the lead time on this mower could be quite long. Do we expect to get it for the season, for the summer?

Michael Rush

So, this has been a problem with vendors across the board. No matter which company we seem to go out on. Toro is getting a little bit faster. I believe these mowers are maybe about eight months out, which is not horrible considering what we've been going through the last few years, getting equipment across the board. It could be a little sooner. But the last time that we checked it was about six to eight months.

Director Fauteux

And, Mike, just to take that one step further, most of the trucks are how far out?

Michael Rush

So, most of the heavy equipment if we're going on that is almost two years. And that's recent within the last six months. So, what the manufacturers are currently doing on that side of things is they're only slotting a certain amount of trucks per year. So, it's first come, first serve. So, if you miss the boat on that first one on getting a spot, you now have to wait for the next slot for the next season to get your equipment. So, you could be pushed out even further and in two years if you don't get it when it comes available. So, looking at the smaller equipment, eight months is not too bad in the current industry.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

Is this only one 22-inch blade on this vehicle? Five.

Michael Rush

Five.

Commissioner Shea

So, it's five wide. Okay. I was like, oh my god, \$80,000 for something that you're going to be going zigzag back and forth for three days for each ballfield.

Michael Rush

It's a little bigger than the residential mower.

Commissioner Shea

Good. Good. Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. All those in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item C for Commissioner Moriarty.

- C. MOTION:** Commissioner Moriarty to approve the purchase of (1) 850L John Deere Crawler Dozer from United Construction and Forestry. For the total purchase price of \$525,100. Funding will be through Department: 168 Solid Waste; Fund: Bond; Activity: CERF.

Jeff Lafleur

Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent Solid waste. This purchase is obvious. It's a dozer. We use our dozer every day up there for, it's our main covering material. So, whenever we do daily cover over our trash, which is a permit driven thing, I have to have six inches of daily cover over it. A dozer is the perfect piece of equipment to do that. The current one that we have is scheduled to get replaced. I'm not going to get rid of it. I'm going to keep it as a backline unit. We're having a hard time getting our dozers or any of our heavy equipment fixed, so having a backline unit is going to be critical for our department. Now, it can take me, you know, 3, 6, 8 weeks to get a piece of equipment fixed if the dozer goes down. I have nothing to really cover the landfill with, except for the compactor. And I'm using way too much airspace when I try to cover with a compactor. So, my dozers up for replacement this year. We're going to purchase this one, and I am going to keep the other one as a backline unit. So now we'll have a spare to do side slopes and other stuff.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

I feel like we are accumulating a lot of backline units over at over at the landfill, which is good. And so, my question kind of in relation to that is, you know, these vehicles don't live under any sort of canopy or anything like that, do they? Or did we?

Jeff Lafleur

Yes, I'm glad you mentioned that. For my trash trucks and my loaders and stuff, they're actually getting installed next week. They -

Commissioner Shea

Okay, that's right, we did.

Jeff Lafleur

They're finally coming in. So, I did buy three big covers. So, I'll have most of my equipment underneath. You are correct with the having backup equipment. We've never had that before at the landfill.

Commissioner Shea

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Jeff Lafleur

It's essential. We're doing stuff. Heavy equipment, we're running it every day. Something breaks down, we can't afford to have it. So, you know, the dozer will be a backup. The next excavator I buy, I'll have a backup. The end dump, when that finally goes, we're going to have a backup so I can continue my operations properly and not have to scramble and use inadequate equipment to do the work.

Commissioner Shea

Will the new and old live under a canopy? Or that's for other vehicles?

Jeff Lafleur

We'll do whatever we can to get stuff under the canopies.

Commissioner Shea

Yes.

Jeff Lafleur

You know, I backline stuff I'm not going to be overly worried about because it's already old and you know, it's only going to be used once in a while. The new stuff is going to be underneath the canopies first. That's our high priority.

Commissioner Shea

Great.

Jeff Lafleur

Keep those things running as long as possible.

Commissioner Shea

Great.

Mayor Donchess

Thank you. Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

I appreciate the need for this kind of heavy equipment. That's a lot of money. Half a million dollars.

Jeff Lafleur

Yes, landfill equipment is outrageous. I mean, it's a million dollars for a compactor. I mean, but we run them, you know, 7-8 hours a day, 6 days a week. They're running hard. It's not like it's an easy job for the equipment to use.

Commissioner Schoneman

Yes, that's a lot of money.

Jeff Lafleur

Believe me, I'd love to find something that's not as expensive, but we just won't get the life out of it.

Commissioner Schoneman

Did you ever find these kinds of things used good condition?

Jeff Lafleur

Well, we did do a compactor refurb on the last one we had. It was \$500,000 instead of a million dollars. That machine's working well, but you can only do that once to the piece of equipment. If I do it to my dozer, my dozer is down for six, eight, maybe a year, you know, six, eight months to a year.

Commissioner Schoneman

Mm-hmm <affirmative>.

Jeff Lafleur

Then I don't have a dozer. If I buy this one, maybe John Deere or the next, you know, the Cat, I could repair it, you know, keep it on a rotating schedule. That's what our replacement schedule's really designed to do, to give us the time to do it.

Commissioner Schoneman

And it does have an extended warranty.

Jeff Lafleur

A five year on that one.

Commissioner Schoneman

Five-year. That's not too bad. Okay.

Mayor Donchess

All those in favor of the motion say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item D, Commissioner Moriarty.

- D. MOTION:** Commissioner Moriarty to approve the purchase of (1) 410-p-tier John Deere Backhoe from United Construction and Forestry. For the total purchase price of \$166,900. Funding will be through Department: 161 Streets; Fund: Trust; Activity: CERF.

Jon Ibarra

John Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department. So, this backhoe purchase will be replacing 64, which is getting tired. It's a frontline unit used daily, both for excavating, whether it's a sewer repair or street work, sidewalk panels, and also snow removal. So, it is a frontline unit. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone? All those in favor of the motion say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item E, Commissioner Shea.

- E. MOTION:** Commissioner Shea to approve the purchase of (1) 2023 International CV515 SFA Cab and Chassis from Allegiance Trucks of Manchester, NH in the amount of \$82,125 pursuant to the State of New Hampshire contract #8002661. Funding will be through Department: 161 Street; Fund: Trust; Activity: CERF.

Jon Ibarra

John Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department. This will be replacing a 2012 550. This also is a frontline unit used to transport crews and materials to the job site, as well as attack the snow. It'll be set up for snow plowing operations. And again, happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Moriarty.

Commissioner Moriarty

Alright, so Superintendent, tell me why we're going with International. We're getting away from the Ford or what happened here?

Jon Ibarra

This is a little bit bigger truck, a little over the same weight class. We'll get a better lifespan out of this unit. It'll last us longer and push more snow. Bigger blades.

Commissioner Shea

I believe this is a diesel.

Michael Rush

It is a diesel.

Jon Ibarra

Yes. Over the CNG, we've had some misfortune with those particular CNGs. And the trash truck CNGs worked out good, but for our line of work, we're going to get away from that in the smaller unit.

Commissioner Moriarty

So, do we have other Internationals in the fleet?

Jon Ibarra

Yes, we have another CV515 that's worked out great for us, set up similarly. To your point, trying to get the same units for parts and [inaudible].

Commissioner Moriarty

Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else? All those in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item F, Commissioner Schoneman.

- F. MOTION:** Commissioner Schoneman to approve the purchase of (1) CV515 flatbed Up Fit Packages from Vikings Cives USA of Williston, VT for the total purchase price of \$26,000. Funding will be through Department: 161 Street; Fund: Trust; Activity: CERF.

Jon Ibarra

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Streets. This is the outfit package to include the flatbed that'll be mounted on that Cab and Chassis, and it'll be equipped with a spreader for snow ops.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

Are we doing brine still?

Jon Ibarra

We are. We haven't had much luck with it this year, due to the warmer climate or temperatures that we're getting. A lot of the systems seem to come in wet, so that would dilute the brine. So,

Commissioner Shea

And so, this spreader that would just be for salt and sand, right? Not the, the brine trucks are a separate thing?

Jon Ibarra

Correct.

Commissioner Shea

Yes. Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

All those in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Item G, Commissioner Moriarty.

G. MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty to approve the purchase of (1) 324G John Deere Skid Steer from United Ag & Turf. For the total purchase price of \$70,452.84. Funding will be through Department: 161 Street; Fund: Trust; Activity: CERF.

Jon Ibarra

Jon Ibarra, Superintendent Street Department. So, this'll be replacing our 2010 Bobcat, which will go to the backline. This will be a frontline unit used on our summer projects for reclamation of fields, any construction projects, sidewalk repairs, paving, and again, used for snow removal ops. And I can answer any questions you may have.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Schoneman.

Commissioner Schoneman

What is a Skid Steer? Bulldozer?

Jon Ibarra

No, it's a four-wheel unit. Looks like, it has arms with a bucket on the front. It can take many implements. We are going to put a snow bucket on it, snow blade, a Harley rake for treating fields on construction projects.

Commissioner Schoneman

Okay.

Jon Ibarra

Looks like a compact loader.

Commissioner Schoneman

Okay. Like a little front loader. Okay. Alright. Just curious. You know, pictures would be nice.

Jon Ibarra

Okay. We could do that.

Director Fauteux

That's a good idea. We'll do better with pictures.

Commissioner Schoneman

If we're going to spend half a million dollars on something, at least it would be nice to know what it looks like. My opinion.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Anything else? All those in favor of the motion, say aye. Opposed?

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Jon Ibarra

Thank you.

X. Administration Department

A. INFORMATIONAL: Right-to-Know Request Disc Golf

Mayor Donchess

Thank you both. So, we have Administration item A as informational. Item B is the Director's Report, which the Director is going to give us.

B. INFORMATIONAL: Director's Report

Director Fauteux

Yes. You're all welcome to leave if you'd like. Yes. Oh, it's so riveting. Okay. This is, we talked about paving Main Street, which we're very excited to do. We've received a lot of complaints about the condition of Main Street. It's definitely time. So, we are in preparation for that. Engineering and Wastewater are inspecting storm drain structures and pipes using closed circuit television cameras. Wastewater is shown here, inspecting the storm drain structures on Main Street in late December. This is a buried sewer manhole that we found on Batchelder Street. And SUR Construction raised the structure to grade and replaces the manhole cover. So that sometimes happens. We find buried because of they've just been paved over. Is part of our CMOM project, which is Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance. Phase 2 project, National Water Main Cleaning Company continues to inspect sewer and storm drains using closed circuit television, again, cameras. This is National Water Main is shown inspecting the Mill Pond Interceptor on Riverside Street, in early January. We've been very busy doing tree work with a lot of the heavy wet snow. It's pictured on left to right is the left is a ballfield area on Lead Street, Main Street in the middle, and then far right, The Rail Trail. We recently did some tree work at Greeley Park, which is badly needed. We have a lot of dead trees that were in danger of falling. We removed some of them and also trimmed up some limbs. We are currently putting up the lights at Levine Park, which is really exciting in the ballfield. And the demolition will begin next week, I believe. We've been having a lot of graffiti citywide, unfortunately. That's becoming a bigger and bigger issue. We're trying to keep up with it. Some of it is very resistant to the cleaners that we've used. So, it's becoming more and more challenging. This is the sculpture at Rotary Common that we recently cleaned.

This year we are celebrating 50 years of our Summer Fun Program, which is something that began in the 1970s. So, Lauren Byers and her team are working on some fun things to celebrate. We've got some people like June, Alderman Caron, who has been involved in Summer Fun for a very long time, on the committee. So, if you have any ideas, they've got concert series and other exciting things planned. Winter weather reminders: We want to

remind everyone about our snow removal and emergency protocols. And during a snow emergency, there is no, of course, we haven't had one yet, thank goodness. I don't think this has ever happened in my tenure here with the city, this late in January, not to have a snow emergency, but let's hope it continues. During a snow emergency, there is no parking on streets. Parking in the downtown garages are free. As soon as the snow emergency is declared, residents can park in the parking garages for free. So, it's not just during the snow emergency, but as soon as the snow emergency is declared, we will post those on message boards. We'll post it on the city website. There'll be an announcement. We'll post it on Facebook. So, there are a lot of ways that the residents can find out about snow emergencies. We will try to declare them as early as we possibly can to give people enough notice. Vehicles left on the street, though, will be towed to the landfill. And the tow fee is \$315. So, it's fairly steep.

We do clean 50 miles of sidewalks, but we can't clean all of the sidewalks. We really encourage residents to clean the sidewalks in front of their homes. That's a huge help for us. We just, we don't have the, if we have a lot of time between snowstorms, then we can clear more sidewalks. But lately we've had three back-to-back. So, we can't. We do also do snow removal on Main Street, which will be coming up soon, if it doesn't all melt with this warm weather. The best place to reach us to is not to call us during a snow emergency or during a snow event because we're really busy and straight out. The best place to reach us is DPWrequest@nashuanh.gov. We encourage and that's worked very well. A lot of residents are now accustomed to using that email. So, again, DPWrequest@nashuanh.gov. You probably won't get somebody if you try to call. This is our crews installing electrical conduit to a meter pedestal at the pump house at Atherton Park. This is just a picture of some sidewalk clearing. As I mentioned earlier, we clear 50 miles of sidewalk, but the same crews that clear the sidewalk are also plowing. So, we don't often get to them immediately. It usually takes the next day or so because staff needs to get some rest after plowing for an extended period of time. So, I just want to remind it's the same crews that are out clearing sidewalks that are plowing. Again, we faced some challenges in the last 10 days with back-to-back weather systems. And it went from rain to snow to ice to back to snow to rain. These were very challenging storms. So, we appreciate everybody's patience.

This crew are patch repairing a catch basin, due to brick work failing, which created a sink hole at 2 Travis Road. We've been filling potholes in between weather events. The weather has been crazy. It's just, it's been cold. And then very warm, which is just prime for potholes. So, we've been doing that in between plowing events. This is new piping at Blackstone Pump Station. This is part of our phase 2 pump station upgrades. We have our bypass gate, which is the gate that goes into wet weather. The gate was failing, so we had to rent a bypass pump to bypass the flow so that we could fix the gate, which was a real challenge. But that we got that done. We're not allowed to, you might ask, well, why don't you just bypass? We're not allowed to do that unless there's a wet weather condition from our permit. So that's why we had to, we had to use a bypass pump. We want to remind everyone, please don't bury your toters in snow. Clear them out. We can't get to them if they're covered with snow or stuck in a snowbank. And we're very excited to announce, Superintendent Lafleur's gone, that we are phase 4 permit, was approved for the landfills. So, we'll be going into now design of the phase four and construction. So, this has taken, we've been at this for about four years now. So, there's a lot of effort that went in from city staff and our consultants. So, we're really very excited about this. We found out just before right before Christmas. So, it was a great Christmas gift. I wanted to give you a, a recycling update. Our single stream rate for December was \$84.45 cents per ton. Last year in 2021 it was \$21.76. So, it's gone up significantly. So, this is down a little bit from what it was though. We were up

at around a hundred. So, it's been pretty volatile and we're hoping it's going to trend back down. But I'll keep you updated as to what happens. But it's been, you know, 80 to a hundred, the past five or six months. And the Four Hills Landfill and the Nashua Recycling Center will be closed on Monday, February 20th in honor of President's Day. So, all curbside collections will be delayed by a day that week. And that's it. Any questions? Yes.

Mayor Donchess

Commissioner Shea

Commissioner Shea

So, you touched on Main Street and how it's in dire need of paving someday. Is that on our near-term schedule?

Director Fauteux

Yes.

Commissioner Shea

And how near term.

Director Fauteux

This fall? Tell, this summer, end of the summer. It'll be the last week of August, September, October.

Commissioner Shea

Okay. The City Master Plan, or I don't think it's called a master planning document anymore, it's called something else, but the Vision Nashua Exercise calls for a concept of kind of reworking some of the curbs with bump outs and things. Are we going to pursue that concept for review in earnest before Main Street is paved? I would just hate to see us put a surface down that we really want to see, you know, us get 15 years, is that about right? Like 15 years before really - 10 to 12. I would hate to see us pave all of Main Street and then kind of leave us feeling like we want to back burner that for 10 or 15 years. And so I'm wondering to what extent that has been discussed and if not, is that something that we could work towards between now and then?

Director Fauteux

I think, and the mayor might want to speak to more of this, but right now we are doing capacity analysis that will show, so there's a number of things that are under review, for instance, taking West Pearl, making in the opposite direction, and some other traffic changes. So, they're doing a capacity analysis. And then I think that's a very expensive project. So, we're looking at grant opportunities that we might be able to get, to do some of that work. So, I think that even if we got a grant, it's a ways out. As you know, you were involved with -

Commissioner Shea

Oh, with the 10-year plan?

Director Fauteux

Right. And we're still, you know, how long ago did we get that grant -

Commissioner Shea

For French Hill? Yes.

Director Fauteux

Yes. It's been a long time.

Commissioner Shea

That'll be what, 2026, I think? Give or take 10 years.

Director Fauteux

Yes, hopefully it's coming. It's coming finally. But it's taking a long time. And so, I think Main Street really needs to be paved. It's really bad. So, I don't think we could wait the however many years it's going to take us for us to be able to do that.

Mayor Donchess

We're desperate on Main Street. Finally, the utility work is done. But, you know, it's desperately needed really. And, you know, we can't hold it up, you know, on the idea, well, maybe pretty soon, you know, there's money allocated for kind of a little more of a design than we've got now. Now we have a concept, and Imagine Nashua is what we actually called that, The Master Plan. But I think there's a hundred thousand dollars allocated to provide a little more preliminary design work. But that's not a project that the city has money for.

Commissioner Shea

On a 5-to-10-year horizon? Yes.

Mayor Donchess

You know, I don't know. 10 is a long time. But Main Street needs to be paid like last, like yesterday –

Director Fauteux

Like five years ago.

Mayor Donchess

Yes. So, you know, just, we cannot delay it.

Commissioner Shea

Okay. That makes me so sad. But I understand. And just one more follow up. Is it possible to do anything down by the train tracks that would be like a cement fixture that would have some more durability?

Director Fauteux

We are, in fact, Dan is sitting there shaking his head. We've been talking about that. And I know that's something that will be a topic at our staff meeting tomorrow. And Dan is trying to reach out to the railroad and trying to have a discussion with them. It's something we can't obviously do on our own. It's something they have to work with us because we can't touch their tracks. So, we're hoping that they're going to be willing to work with us to get that done, because that really needs to be done. It's terrible.

Commissioner Shea

Yes. My doctor is a bicycle enthusiast and lives downtown and is involved with The Strong Towns Effort. And he reminded me of what an issue that is. And so, I appreciate that you're working on that.

Director Fauteux

We are.

Commissioner Shea

Thank you.

Commissioner Schoneman

How much of that stretch of track, how much in that area is the city and how much of that belongs to the railroad itself? Whose jurisdiction is where?

Director Fauteux

Of the track itself?

Commissioner Schoneman

So, the road at grade where the road crosses the tracks. Is it the city right up to the tracks? We're responsible for the pavement right up to the tracks or -

Director Fauteux

Pretty much pretty close to that. Pretty close to that. Yes, I think there's a little bit of, I don't know Dan if you know the answer to that, but it's pretty, we can't get close enough to impact their tracks. So, we have done some mill and fill, you know, close to their tracks, but that's why there's such a mess. Cause we can't get close enough that we'd impact their tracks. So, it's definitely a project we'd have to work through together. We did on East Hollis Street; I don't know if you'll remember. We did, this is going back quite a few years now, probably

seven years or so. We did those tracks and they worked with us to get that done. But you know, so we're hoping that we can get them to, railroad is tough to work with.

Mayor Donchess

There is a new owner now. They claim they were going to be more cooperative as they were seeking to be approved for the purchase. So, the sale went from PanAm to CSX, which is a bigger national company, which we're hopeful, you know that they will be more interested in and more able to invest money and various improvements like this and cooperate. Now I thought there was a meeting? No, not held yet.

Director Fauteux

Not yet. We're trying.

Commissioner Shea

Hey, even if we have to like pony up something for it, like it would be nice if they would pay for it, but as far as like, if we could have it be more durable, like I think, you know, we'd be well served by doing that. I'm sure it would help with equipment too, like plows and stuff.

Director Fauteux

Absolutely.

Commissioner Schoneman

Mr. Hudson has that, "I don't want to talk about it" look.

Director Fauteux

Yes.

Dan Hudson

No, I don't have much for details. I just, that crossing is ripe for a complete overhaul. The issue there is, you know, were we to do that, they'd probably have to replace crossing signals, you know, railroad signals and all kinds of things. I think that's why it was avoided previously. I know we have done kind of a paving operation previously where they were there and observed it. So, they, but they had some oversight, but it really warrants a more in-depth improvement to that. Maybe there's a little paving thing we can do to buy some more time, but it is a discussion we're going to have to have with them. And there are some other locations where we have similar issues. So hopefully it is true that we have a new company and they're more receptive to that and we can address some of those issues. But we just, we're going to have to engage them and have meetings to talk through all that and figure out what can be done.

XI. Commissioner's Comments

Mayor Donchess

Alright, anything else on the Director's Report? If not, Commissioner's Comments? Any comments from Commissioners? Commissioner Moriarty.

Commissioner Moriarty

Thank you. I was just, I was unable to make this golf committee public meeting, and so I was wondering if at some point we can have an update on what's going on with that whole situation. It doesn't not be tonight, but I mean, just to put it on the agenda.

Director Fauteux

So, I can certainly give you an update. That meeting was a meeting for the Oak Hill Condo Association at the request of Alderman Sullivan. And it turned into more of, there were some people that had questions, but it turned into sort of a couple of residents, being, you know, incredibly rude, frankly. And yelling and screaming. And I unfortunately was sick, so I wasn't there. But Lauren Byers took a beating by a couple of residents and it's unfortunate. There are a couple of residents who are spreading just misinformation and trying to scare people and on Facebook and in other areas. And when the disc golfers tried to correct the misinformation, they're blocked. So, it's unfortunate. This project has a tremendous amount of support. It's just a great project. It's a project I love because it's really been driven by, you know, residents who've asked for this. You know, it's not something that we came up with it, or Park & Rec, it's something that, you know, over 200 residents and climbing have asked for. So, I'm excited about that. For that reason. I think that's our job is to provide recreation opportunities that residents are asking for.

We are working right now with Sherry Dutzy, who is on the Conservation Commission. We will be going before them; I think hopefully in March. And we're working on, you know, a couple of items with them, a maintenance plan, which of course will come here. And we're just working with them to build the park and make it happen. So, we we're hoping that it'll be in under construction, probably, hopefully, you know, by late spring if everything goes the way we planned. We have a group of residents, the committee that you agreed to that are just so excited and so passionate about it. So, I don't know if there'll be another meeting, but they did develop some rules that will be brought before you, probably next meeting will bring them for you to comment on and hopefully approve. There was a lot of discussion about the rules, and they were very thoughtful. And so, we did take a few things back from the meeting. One from the meeting that you were asking about, Commissioner Moriarty, one of them is delineating where the private property is so people will know where the city property ends and where the private property began. Looking at whether or not we have any holes that are, you know, pointed towards private property, we don't think we did because we kept that into consideration. Some of the Oak Hill folks, and this isn't related at all to disc golf, were concerned about parking sometimes that their driveway gets blocked. So, we're going to be looking at that to try to do some striping and no parking signs. So that doesn't happen. That's currently happening now because of the sledding hill, you know, not really related to disc golf. And then just some general signage which would be part of the sign package anyway for the disc golf park, that would explain, you know, that there could be flying discs and that sort of thing. So, it's moving forward, but you'll be hearing more about it in the coming months. So, I don't know if that, hopefully that answers your question. If you have any other questions, happy to answer.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Any other Commissioner's Comments? Commissioner Shea.

Commissioner Shea

Is it Alex that's involved with the disc golf?

Director Fauteux

Alex McClain?

Commissioner Shea

Yes. So, when we were in for the pension meeting this week, I ran into him over at the DPW office and he was one of the guys that was working multiple shifts for snow. And you could just tell looking at him, he was dog tired. And so, I just wanted to note appreciation for, you know, all the city workers that have been pushing their limits. Because I know that, you know, I've worked nights and I know that it's, you know, it's disruptive on a whole lot of levels. So, thank you to them for that.

Director Fauteux

Thank you for saying that. I will make sure, not many of them are probably watching this evening, so -

Commissioner Shea

Probably in bed already.

Director Fauteux

I will pass that on to them. Thank you.

XII. Personnel

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Personnel. We have a Motion A, Commissioner Shea.

- A. MOTION:** Commissioner Shea to approve and unseal the non-public minutes for Personnel from the Board of Public Works meeting of December 15, 2022.

Mayor Donchess

Any discussion? All those in favor say aye.

MOTION PASSES: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

Okay. We need to go into nonpublic, and I think we have a Motion from Commissioner Moriarty.

B. MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty move by roll call that the board go to a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(b) The hiring of any person as a public employee.

Mayor Donchess

And I'm sure Alderman Jette will be disappointed to learn only board members and staff are supposed to be at ethics.

Alderman Jette

I'm very disappointed. Thank you. Always a pleasure.

Director Fauteux

Thank you. Thank you for staying. Okay. Are we?

Mayor Donchess

Oh, did we get the motion?

Director Fauteux

No, you, I'm sorry. You read the motion.

Commissioner Moriarty

I read the motion.

Mayor Donchess

Yes. The motion is made.

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Commissioner Moriarty, Commissioner Schoneman, Commissioner Shea, Mayor Donchess	4
Nay:	0

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

XIII. Possible Non-Public Session

Mayor Donchess

Alright. So, we're non-public.

...

Mayor Donchess

Okay, are we back in?

Director Fauteux

We're back in public. Are we back, Jeff? Yes.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Commissioner Moriarty.

MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty move by roll call to seal all the minutes of the Board of Public Works Personnel Non-Public meeting of January 26th, 2023 until such time as the majority of the Board votes that the purpose of the confidentiality will no longer be served.

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Commissioner Moriarty, Commissioner Schoneman, Commissioner Shea, Mayor Donchess	4
Nay:	0

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

I believe we have one final motion. Commissioner Moriarty.

MOTION: Commissioner Moriarty move that we adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Donchess

All those in favor say aye.

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

Mayor Donchess

And the meeting is adjourned at 5:48 PM. Thank you. Thank you all.