

## FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

6:30 P.M.

The meeting was conducted through remote access by telephonic, video, and electronic means. The public was able to attend by viewing the livestream at <http://mtbluetv.org/program-live-stream-farmington-selectmen.html> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MBTV11/> and/or calling 778-5874.

Chairman Matthew Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Michael Fogg and Joshua Bell. Stephan Bunker and Scott Landry were unable to attend. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Nancy Martin, Atlantic Salmon Federation Project Manager Maranda Nemeth, and Mt. Blue TV camera operator Kai Strine were also physically in attendance.

**Votes were taken by roll call.**

### **ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Chairman Matthew Smith led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **ITEM 2: To Review the Walton's Mill Park Landscape Improvements and Timeline (Maranda Nemeth, Project Manager for the Atlantic Salmon Federation)**

Maranda Nemeth gave an update on the Clover Mill Road and Cummings Hill Road Crossings. The installation of the culvert on Clover Mill Road is complete. Clover Mill Road was raised three feet bringing it further out of the flood zone. Richard Davis stated that the addition of guardrails and the paving will be completed over the next 2 -3 weeks. Ms. Nemeth reported that, due to the inability of the contractor to acquire the necessary supplies, the Cummings Hill Road project was postponed until 2021.

Ms. Nemeth outlined the plan for the dam removal and park redevelopment at Walton's Mill Park on Temple Stream. Redevelopment plans include drawing the water down 3-6 feet after the ice out next spring. This will allow the waterfowl enough time to adapt before nesting season and will allow the vegetation time to established itself during the summer and fall months. The fresh water mussels will be relocated. Starting on July 15<sup>th</sup>, an access road with bypass pipes that allow water flow beneath the road will be built for the heavy machinery. Completion of the access road will take 4 to 6 weeks. A landscape architect will be onsite saving and repurposing the boulders from the dam. The redevelopment plan includes reinforcing the failing concrete retaining wall and removing the wooden walkway, concrete buttress, dam gate, and the dam. The waterwheel will be relocated within the park and become a featured piece of the park's history. Stabilization of the historic overlook area/patio will include a concrete retaining wall with 2x6 wood top rails, powder coated wire mesh panel inserts, and 4x4 posts. The parking lot improvements will include asphalt paving with striping, twelve standard parking spaces and one ADA parking space, four new parallel parking spaces, compacted stone dust paths, vertical granite curbing, and timber guardrails. Park improvements include: compact stone dust pathways, path lighting, reinforced turf, salvaged granite pavers, salvaged granite freestanding block, granite steps leading to the shoreline, a conservation area, creative/nature play space, wash room and a pavilion to accommodate six picnic tables.





**ITEM 8: To Approve the Minutes of August 25, 2020 (continued)**

**VOTE            AFFIRMATIVE    3                    ABSENT    2                    MOTION CARRIED**  
**(Bunker, Landry)**

**ITEM 9: To Discuss Other Business**

- A. Richard Davis reported that Public Works Mechanic Kenneth Schmidt has resigned, and the Town will advertise to fill this position. The Town hired Peter Brennick to fill the Recycling position. Mr. Brennick is a former member of our Fire Rescue Department.
  
- B. Joshua Bell inquired about people sleeping in Hippach Field. Richard Davis stated that the Police Department is aware that someone has been sleeping in the grandstand and they have spoken with them. Mr. Davis stated that he spoke with Matt Foster about posting the park rules up inside the grandstand. Park rules state that overnight stays in the park are prohibited between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 4:00 A.M.
  
- C. Joshua Bell reported that a contractor asked him about Bulky Waste/Recycling fees. The contractor stated that the construction debris fees differ from day to day. Mr. Bell asked if the Town could establish a list of set pricing. Richard Davis stated that he believes the issue of inconsistent fees was resolved with the personnel changes. The Town does have set pricing and they are listed on the green Bulky Waste/Recycling brochure which is available at the Town Office or on the Town's website. Mr. Davis stated that Joe Arsenault built a one cubic yard box which gives people a better idea of what one cubic yard looks like. Matthew Smith stated that he believes the Recycling crew listed the fees on a white board at the recycling site and that they have a pamphlet that lists the fees. Mr. Smith stated that the new hires have made some good improvements and the drop off process is now very coordinated and organized.
  
- D. Matthew Smith read a letter from the Town of Industry's Board of Selectmen and Fire Rescue Depart expressing their sincerest gratitude to the Farmington Fire Rescue Department for their mutual aid provided on August 4<sup>th</sup> for a structure fire at 183 West Mills Road. Having mutual aid from several resources was important as crews were frequently rotated in the hot and humid conditions. Richard Davis requested a copy of the letter and will share it with the crew.
  
- E. Michael Fogg generated a discussion regarding safety at the crosswalk near the Whistle Stop Trailhead. Mr. Fogg stated that cars, pedestrians, and recreational vehicles are all using the crosswalk. Mr. Davis stated that vehicles must access the trailhead there, because it leads to the big parking lot that allows them to unload their snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles. Some drivers choose to use Farmer Lane to access the parking lot; however, the Town cannot ask them to use Farmer lane, because it is a private road. Mr. Davis stated that he spoke with Police Chief Jack Peck, and over the past five years, there have been no accidents at the location, other than a deer running in front of a vehicle.

