



# Ware

MASSACHUSETTS

Finance Committee  
126 Main Street  
Ware, MA 01082

Meeting Date: Monday, March 7, 2016  
Meeting Location: Selectmen's Conference Room

Present: Denis R. Ouimette, Brendan O'Neil, Scott Mosso  
Absent: Janice E. Hills, Daniel J. O'Connor  
Guest(s): Dick Kilhart, DPW Director

Quorum met, meeting opened at 7:04 p.m.

Reserve Fund: \$39,744.17

## **New Business:**

DPW #421: Discussion of all three phases (Hwy, Water & Sewer) took place. The Water Department collects sufficient fees to cover its operating costs; Sewer does not. The Anderson Road standpipe was cleaned of a foot plus of sediment, making for a cleaner and stronger flow of water. West Street has two (2) water mains along it: a 6" iron pipe from about 1906 and a 12" concrete pipe from the 70s. The 100+ year old iron pipe is severely tuberculated: a combination of rust and sediment has reduced the diameter to about 1". Long term goal is to slowly wean houses from the iron pipe to the larger concrete pipe and finally abandon the iron pipe in place. Hydrants will continue to be flushed semi-annually.

A road survey to itemize and rank the roads in town by their severity of need shows that there is a serious shortfall of funding for their upkeep. Ware contributes nothing to road repair beyond the Ch.90 money from the State. And Ch. 90 monies have been used for operating costs (salaries) plus equipment purchases; as a result, there is a backlog of repairs needed to roads and underground infrastructures totaling **\$21 million**. A *transportation bond* for several million dollars will eventually need to be considered. A suggestion was made that the DPW appear before the Capital Planning Committee to ask for funds (\$100,000/yr.) to do makeshift repairs to streets that don't qualify for Ch. 90 funding which would otherwise never get repaired.

A second backhoe is needed; A small leak in a 1" pipe @ 80 lbs/sq. in. pressure leaks nearly 40 million gallons over the course of a year. That's the equivalent of \$200,000 in fees not charged to anyone and therefore a major loss for the town.

**Old Business:**

Minutes: of March 2, 2016, reviewed; motion to approve made by Scott, seconded by Denis and passed 3-0 vote.

Town Elections: **Monday, April 11, 2016**    Annual Town Meeting: **Monday, May 9, 2016**

**Next Meeting:**                      Monday, March 10, 2016, School Dept.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm by motion of Denis; seconded by Scott and passed by a 3-0 vote.

March 7, 2016, minutes reviewed and approved:

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