



OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

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SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

May 5, 2021

Chairman Paight stated, as Chairman of the Marlborough Board of Selectmen, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during the meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

Roll call attendance:

Chairman Paight	Yes – Present on Zoom	No one else in the room
Selectman Pitt	Yes – Present on Zoom	No one else in the room
Selectman Nelson	Yes – Present on Zoom	No one else in the room

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. Also present in the Zoom meeting were Ellen Smith, Town Administrator, Tom Weller and David Bergeron.

Selectman Pitt turned the meeting over to Tom Weller and David Bergeron. Mr. Bergeron shared his screen and the proposed plan for the driveway. He did a bit more investigating, looking into the watershed area and what water flows into the underground water way. He reports that the water way cannot handle any additional water, it is maxed out.

The proposed plan includes a detention basin to catch the runoff from the new parking lot, reducing the water that would go into the water way. It is no longer feasible to tie into the waterway. The site is at the bottom of an approximately 400 acre watershed area so not only do we have the site water to deal with but also the water from above the site as well. The plan also shows a 24 foot driveway which would allow for traffic swing. It is also being recommended that at some point the end of Library Way towards Route 124 be widened by 5 feet which also gives a larger vehicle swing and would allow 2 cars to pass. There was a question as to the cleaning of the detention basin. The basin would be grass that needs to be mowed.

Ted Fellows joined the meeting at 1:15 pm.

There was another recommendation that a swale be added on the Pleasant Street side of the building.

The headwalls at the end of Library Way were discussed and would create a problem if Library Way was widened. Other issues and challenges with the parking lot were discussed. It is a dead end lot making turning and maneuvering a challenge. The addition adds people and vehicles and there is concern about the flow or lack thereof of traffic. Again, if not for the addition there would be no need to do anything to Library Way.

The architect and engineers then said that the Route 124 access is no longer an option as there is no way to control the water. Currently water from the parking lot sheets and goes onto Route 124 eventually making it to the drains at the bottom of the hill in front of the monument.

The Board asked what took the Route 124 entrance off the table? The group responded by saying one reason is to protect the tunnel. There is not a lot of cover over the top and there is not a lot that can be done to reinforce it. The additional site runoff is a problem as the tunnel cannot handle it making storm water control difficult. The project will result in additional runoff due to the expanded parking lot. And finally, the site being crowded makes the storm water management more difficult.

Discussion shifted to the current underdrain around the older addition. Mr. Bergeron said that the drain will be interrupted and there will be 2 feet of crushed gravel all around the non-granite part of the building.

Mr. Fellows noted that what is being proposed is the most cost effective option.

Mr. Weller suggested a phase-in of the road widening. The Board needs to know the details on cost and other implications. What is involved in the 5 foot widening? Will there be significant base work needed or can it just be paved over? There are questions that need to be answered before a decision can be made. It was further noted that there would be no need to consider any work on Library Way but for the addition. Mr. Weller agreed that analysis was needed to make an informed decision and that the work could be an add alternate.

The Board then stated that the 3 foot distance of the addition to the tunnel is very concerning and we do not want to wait to dig it up during construction to find out what is going on. This needs to be investigated. Do we know if the soil type against the wall makes a difference? Can you investigate the granite on the outside wall of the tunnel? Will this also give a correct sense of the width of the wall? The answers were yes.

Mr. Fellows said they would need to be authorized to spend up to \$1,000 and dig some pretty big holes. They can dig 2 test pits to the depth of the building and test the area of Library Way widening. The Board will need to discuss this and get back to the group.

Mr. Weller, Mr. Fellows and Mr. Bergeron left the meeting at 2:35 pm.

After some discussion the Board agreed that a detailed site plan is needed. This is a small site at the bottom of a 400 acre watershed with an existing historic building.

The Board is not willing to abandon the entrance on Route 124. Library Way has its own set of expenses and problems. Perhaps eliminating some of the additional parking spaces would allow for additional storm water mitigation and less impermeable surfaces.

Selectman Pitt moved and Chairman Paight seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 pm, roll call vote Chairman Paight – yes and Selectman Pitt – yes and Selectman Nelson – yes, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted

Ellen Smith, Town Administrator