

Kathleen M. Feldman-Chair
Hannah L. Bowen
Steven M. Crowley

PUBLIC SERVICES / CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

Monday, January 30, 2023 6:00PM

City Council Committee Room, 3rd Floor, Beverly City Hall, 191 Cabot St.

Feldman called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Members present: Hannah Bowen, Steven Crowley, Kathleen Feldman

Other Councilors present: Matthew St. Hilaire, Scott Houseman

Others present: Stephen Drohosky (Cummings Center), Lorinda Visnick, Rachael Abell

Order Number	Date to Committee	Description	Action Taken
#326	12/20/2022	Councilor Bowen-Regarding Beverly Regional Airport	Hold
#328	12/20/2022	Councilor Bowen-Regarding Storm Water Management	Receive and place on file 3-0
#331	12/20/2022	Notice of Availability Public Comment Draft Phase III Remedial Action Plan -Former Varian Facility Site, 150 Sohler Road	Hold
#013	1/17/2023	Reappointment-Mr. Sean Leach, 63 Kernwood Avenue to serve as a Mayoral Appointee to the Clean Energy Committee	Approve 3-0

Discussion on Order #326

Feldman asked about the progress on finding a new airport manager. Collins stated there have been almost 20 applicants. The hiring committee will forward three names to the Airport Commission for interviews. It should be a short timeline for getting the new manager in place.

There was some discussion about the hope of finding someone who will work with the public.

Houseman joined the meeting at 6:06pm, and Committee of the Whole was called to order.

Feldman asked about the building with the broken staircase.

Collins stated the Airport Commission was going to tear it down years ago, but his department rehabbed some of it. Funds ran dry on that project.

Bowen asked if it would be helpful for councilors to be advocating for changes regarding leaded gas.

Collins stated it is regulated by the FAA, so it would take advocacy at an even higher level.

There was some discussion about clean up projects at the airport. Collins stated testing would be going on for a long time.

Houseman asked where the most recent report would be.

Collins stated those are available on the DEP website.

Feldman stated she will be meeting with someone from the Airport Commission and wanted to hold the item until after that conversation.

Order #013

No discussion on Order #013. A motion to approve was made and seconded. The motion passed (3-0).

Discussion on Order #328

Feldman asked for an update on the work being done.

Collins stated that a company has been out cleaning the culverts from the high school to the pond by the Cummings Center. Lately they have run into more rainwater than expected this time of year and may have to wait for that to drain a bit before they can get in there, but they are doing a really good job overall.

Feldman asked if there is anything in this round of work that will be different in terms of long-term solutions. Collins stated that right now we are just trying to increase capacity in what we have. We have not applied for anything yet this time regarding the brook because we are waiting to schedule a meeting with DEP to discuss the options to work together. We are hoping to do something to prevent erosion and migration of material.

At 6:37pm Houseman left the meeting.

Collins stated hopefully there will be some opportunities to get the Cumming Center portion to be more efficient. A 3D scan will be done at the end of the cleaning which will help to look at where there could be some possible improvements.

Bowen asked if the delay of the project happening in the winter instead of the fall is impacting costs.

Collins stated it is not impacting costs, just the payment schedule.

Drohosky stated cleaning the culverts is great but not the solution Cummings Center is looking for. Cummings Center is willing to invest time, effort, and money. We need to get some of the water to go another way to the Bass River or be staged somewhere. The cleaning is awesome and will definitely help, but we want to work together to figure out what the project is.

Feldman suggested the option of quarterly updates on these larger ongoing projects.

Collins stated he is hoping to look at the entire watershed. There are not a lot of opportunities to slow the water down at the top end. The other option would be to speed the water up where it comes out. Collins spoke about some options for storing water and infiltrating it back into the ground that have been used by the middle school and other places.

A motion to receive and place on file was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion passed (3-0).

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

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