



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Lawrence H. Davis, III, Chair
Nathaniel H. Yohalem
Tara B. White
Board of Selectmen**

Minutes of November 19, 2012

The Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM.

All members were present.

The minutes of November 5th, November 8&9th & October 22nd, were accepted as amended.

Administrative Assistant Michael Skorput stated that all departments should have received their budgets forms Budgets are due back on December 10, 2012. Additional correspondence reviewed was a thank you letter from William C. Dunsay and a letter written to Army Corps of Engineers from Town Counsel, Jeremia Pollard.

For those who did not already know, Selectmen Yohalem announced the award of a \$500,000 grant from MassWorks. Nicole Reid was responsible for the application and submission of the grant. He stated that her efforts are greatly recognized and that we could not have done it without her. She and engineer Tom Laughlin "really brought home the bacon" and we are very thankful. Administrative assistant Michael Skorput stated the Town of New Marlborough was one of only two Berkshire Towns to receive funding from MassWorks. There were 26 grants awarded statewide. The \$500,000.00 will be used for the rebuilding of the Foley Bridge on Cannan Southfield Road.

The main topic of discussion this evening was the view of the BSC steel bridge contract proposal. Selectmen Yohalem gave a brief overview of the total costs on the eight bridges currently listed on a master list for repairs and rebuilding. The total estimated costs are \$3,145,000.00. Applying the \$500,000.00 from MassWorks brings the total down to \$2,600,000.00. The contract that we are looking at this evening includes the three bridges below:

- Keyes Hill Road over the Umpachene River
- Lumbert Cross Road over the Umpachene River
- Norfolk Road Bridge over the Whiting River

The total costs for the engineering and design on the listed Bridges are \$28,880.00. The Selectmen reviewed and discussed the contract and have questions and concerns. It was mutually agreed that prior to moving forward they would like to meet with the Highway Superintendent, Peter Marks and BSC Engineer Tom Loughlin to discuss them in more detail. 5 Village News writer and New

Marlborough resident Peter Schuyten inquired if the contract costs were for the work. The Selectmen all responded that it was for the engineering and the drawing. Mr. Schuyten also inquired as to the cost of the contract. The Selectmen responded; "not to exceed \$28,900.00 and estimated repair costs are about \$107,000 Mr. Schuyten questioned utilizing the \$500,000.00 for the Foley Bridge, "shouldn't it be a priority"? The Selectmen agreed however there is a frustrating uncertainty regarding \$150,000.00 that was written into the Bond Bill in June of 2012. \$150,000.00 was designated for the design and construction of bridges within the Town. Mr. Skorput stated that the Governor has received multiple inquiries from our office as well as Representative Pignatelli's Office.

In regard to the Army Corps of Engineers, it was agreed that a meeting needs to be arranged with the Selectmen, Highway Superintendent, Peter Marks, Emergency Management Director, Barbara Marchione, and Town Counsel, Jeremia Pollard.

Holiday Pay and Personnel Policy was discussed regarding Administrative Secretary, Nicole Reid's work schedule. It was determined that according to the personnel policy, all Town Employees are paid for time that the Town is closed. This applies to Nicole Reid if the holiday is on a day that she would normally work.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and so voted to adjourn at 7:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Reid
Administrative Secretary