

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

January 7, 2020

Convened: 7:00 P.M.

Present Dave Billips, Director of Public Works
Fran Cain, Assistant Director of Public Works
Casey Berube, Deputy Superintendent
Mark Cressotti, City Engineer
John Sullivan, Chairman
Jack Campaniello, Secretary
Cindy Harris- City Councilor
Brittany Rash-Senior Clerk

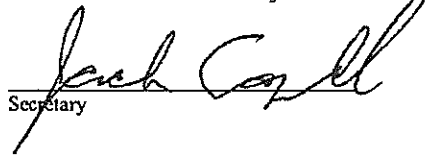


Reading of the minutes of the December 10, 2019 meeting waived and accepted.

1. **Public Participation:** None present.
2. **City Councilor Communications:** Cindy Harris spoke of the job well done being performed by the Public Works Department.
3. **Presentation of Director Billips Retirement Letter:** The retirement letter was presented, read aloud, and briefly discussed by all in attendance. Chairman Sullivan, Secretary Campaniello, and Councilor Harris all addressed the hard work and positive growth that Public Works and Water Department have been able to provide while Director Billips has been in charge of the Department of Public Works; as well as provided many compliments towards his accomplishments.
4. **Discussion and Public Hearing of Westfield Starfires for Permit of Banners:** Chris Thompson, owner of the Starfires, stepped forward and introduced himself. He stated that the banners would be hung from April to July as advertisement to get the Starfires name out there; also as a Welcome to Westfield approach. Thompson stated that they would be looking to hang about 40 banners from the Butcher Block (Elm St.) vicinity to the City Hall District with the suggestion that Westfield Gas & Electric would assist in the hoisting of the banners. Thompson did state that it may be less than 40 banners per the Banner Permit City Ordinance as well as the cost of the actual banner. Secretary Campaniello suggested creating a design of what the banner would look like and presenting it at the next Board of Public Works Commission Meeting. Chairman Sullivan asked if there was a contingent plan in place if a banner needed to come down, due to various different reasons (i.e. weather damage). Director Billips advised Mr. Thompson to follow the steps to post for a public hearing for the next meeting so it could be voted on. Motioned to move the item to the next meeting on Tuesday February 11, 2020 at 7:00PM.
5. **Department of Public Works Monthly Report:** Director Billips spoke on behalf of the Monthly Report. Billips stated that the first snow storm was not nearly as bad as the following second storm that piggy backed. The first storm of the season always presents as a hiccup with working out the kinks with contracted plowing vendors, hours worked, and rest periods. In the past we have not been charged for the disposal of recycling but with the DEP and Waste Management there will be a charge of \$150 per ton; needing roughly \$500,000 to cover costs. The City of Westfield produces over 3000 tons of recycling each year. Director Billips mentioned that there was a hope to have a decision by the end of the month. The City is still looking into privatizing the transfer station and have been researching surrounding towns and cities to see what their approach is on handling the surprising cost. The trash trucks are currently being built from the trash truck plan. Several stormwater projects are in cue. Undesignated money is available. Budget time is approaching and fiscally conservative for the Mayor. Staffing is close to 100%. Director Billips is hoping to start an open discussion about changing the city ordinance for sewer. Currently, the resident is responsible for the lateral to the property. The City of Westfield is only responsible for the City Main in the street.

6. **City Engineer Mark Cressotti:** The preconstruction for Columbia Greenway was complete and work will continue throughout the winter but has had a little delay from MA DOT and should be on way moving forward. The equipment and traffic signals will be delivered and work will continue in April 2020. There is a meeting being held on Thursday January 9, 2020 for the District 2 water main details about the bridge construction. A public hearing is trying to be scheduled for a levy. Chapter 90 has been funded another \$20 million statewide which equates to roughly \$120,000 for the City. Chapter 90 has been level funded for about the past 20 years.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM.


Secretary