

**Community Preservation Committee  
March 24, 2021  
Remote Meeting**

**PRESENT:**

Chairman Peter McFarland, Selectmen-appointed representative  
Vice Chairman Patricia Griffin Starr, Housing Authority representative  
Julie Barbour-Issa, Selectmen-appointed representative  
Toni Eosco, Historical Commission representative  
Joseph Greeley, Selectmen-appointed representative  
John Hall, Selectmen-appointed representative  
Matt Lane, Board of Selectmen representative, acting as Parks Commission  
Joseph Sheehan, Planning Board representative  
Catherine Walsh, Conservation Commission representative

Joe Collins, Town Budget and Management Analyst

**ABSENT:**

None.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:38pm by Chairman McFarland.

**Public Hearing**

*Fire Bell Removal*

John Grove, the project's applicant, was present. The Co-applicant, Mike Chisholm, a Norwood Firefighter and the Department's unofficial historian, was unable to attend.

The revised application has been reviewed by the Committee. The project entails preparing the fire bell for removal, retaining the services of a rigging company to remove the bell and place onto a flatbed, and then storing the bell at the Department of Public Works until a location for the bell has been determined.

The fire bell has been hanging in the carillon tower since its installation in 1928. It was never part of the carillon bells and nobody has been able to explain why it was placed there, where it remains inaccessible and unseen. The bell is approximately 28-inches at its widest point.

The removal of the fire bell will have no effect on the carillon bells' tone or sound.

A future project will entail the proper display of the fire bell. While it is possible it would be placed on the front lawn of the Town's Public Safety building, that has not been determined. Additionally, it is possible that the Firefighter's Foundation would fund the project on its own. Mr. Grove stressed that nothing had yet been determined. John Hall suggested that an agreement on the final location be secured and included in the presentation at the Annual Town Meeting. The bell is Town property and the Board of Selectmen will need to be part of the conversation on determining the final location of the bell.

The request is for \$20,375 for the work. This is inclusive of a \$15k estimate from Sunderlin Foundry, crane work (the higher of the two estimates was \$7,790), and a police detail. Additionally, input from the Airport Commission may be required related to permitting for the crane. Information on this has been

requested, but not yet received. Mr. Grove indicated that he believed the 25% contingency would be sufficient for potential permitting fees.

Cathy Carney, Director of Administrative Services in the Town's Purchasing Department, has the quote which will need to be included in the final documentation. Mr. Grove has not yet had an opportunity to review the quote. Chariman McFarland will request the document from Ms. Carney and forward to Mr. Grove so that he may modify and submit the application.

The Committee discussed the requested funds. A final determination will not be known until the quote is reviewed. There is time to make this determination, however. The article needs to be included in the Warrant for Town Meeting; the dollar amount can be changed prior to being voted upon at Town Meeting.

**MOTION** made by Joe Sheehan to increase amount [of the Fire Bell Removal project] to \$25,000. Seconded by Patricia Starr.

It was determined that this vote should not be taken until the public hearing is closed.

**MOTION** made by Joe Sheehan to close the public hearing.

This motion did not receive a second. Chairman McFarland responded that there is an additional project to be discussed prior to closing the public hearing. Mr. Sheehan had thought that there were separate hearings for each project.

#### *University Ave. Trail Design*

Joe Greeley reported on the project. Both he, as Chairman of the Trails Committee; and Holly Jones, Conservation Agent, are the project's proponents. The project has unanimous approval of both the Trails Committee and the Conservation Commission. The Board of Selectmen has reviewed the project proposal. The land involved is all overseen by the Conservation Commission. It is in the vicinity of the Skating Club and the Hilco-owned office complex.

The requested funds total \$49,500 which is for a feasibility report and initial design of the trail, including contingency monies. This estimate is based upon the estimate received for the Saint Street lot project as it is comparable in scope. The project being discussed is the first phase. A subsequent application would be sought for phase two, to construct the trail.

Mr. Greeley presented a GIS map of the area showing the land parcels. The land is contiguous with other town-owned land. A commitment for future access through an easement has been secured. This would, theoretically, allow for connection for a longer trail of approximately 5-6 miles. This, however, is outside of the scope of the request being discussed. Pending the results of the review and initial design, there will be a roughly one-mile loop trail that starts and ends on University Ave.

John Hall asked about the level of use expected. Mr. Greeley responded that it is difficult to answer. However, Trails Committee events have had 30-60 people in attendance, so there is interest.

Julie Barbour-Issa asked about parking. Mr. Greeley responded that there is currently only a small area for approximately five vehicles located near the small curb cut where the hot dog trailer is typically positioned. A gas line easement is on the property and a determination needs to be made as to whether vehicles can be parked on top of this easement. For hiking events that have been held, a verbal acceptance

and commitment from Hilco and the Skating Club has been secured to allow parking on their property. However, they do not wish to be the sole location for trail parking.

Joe Greeley reminded the Committee that a Mass. Trails Grant application for the project has been submitted. A response likely won't be received until May or June. Should the grant be awarded for the project, the Town would spend the necessary money and then be reimbursed. State funding will be used first; local money would be used second.

John Hall suggested that an entry sign be installed which details information on the trail and parking.

**MOTION** made by Joseph Sheehan to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Patricia Griffin Starr.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: Yes  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: Yes  
Julie Barbour-Issa: Yes  
Toni Eosco: Yes  
Joseph Greeley: Yes  
John Hall: Yes  
Matt Lane: Yes  
Joseph Sheehan: Yes  
Catherine Walsh: Yes

**Result: 9-0-0 (Approved)**

**MOTION** made by Joseph Sheehan to amend the amount for the Fire Bell Removal to \$25,000. Motion seconded by Patricia Griffin Starr.

Mr. Hall asked if the motion should be clarified. The motion was revised: **MOTION** to amend the amount for the Fire Bell Removal to \$25,000, pending notification from Cathy Carney as to the amounts of proposals in-hand. Mr. Sheehan and Ms. Griffin Starr agreed to this revision.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: Yes  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: Yes  
Julie Barbour-Issa: Yes  
Toni Eosco: Yes  
Joseph Greeley: Yes  
John Hall: Yes  
Matt Lane: Yes  
Joseph Sheehan: Yes  
Catherine Walsh: Yes

**Result: 9-0-0 (Approved)**

The Committee discussed, and agreed, that it will be important to have an answer as to the final location of the Fire Bell in time for the Annual Town Meeting.

Joseph Greeley informed the Committee that there are sufficient funds for the project. More detail on the budget will be presented at the next meeting.

**MOTION** made by John Hall to recommend the Fire Bell Removal application to Town Meeting. Motion seconded by Patricia Griffin Starr.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: **Yes**  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: **Yes**  
Julie Barbour-Issa: **Yes**  
Toni Eosco: **Yes**  
Joseph Greeley: **Yes**  
John Hall: **Yes**  
Matt Lane: **Yes**  
Joseph Sheehan: **Yes**  
Catherine Walsh: **Yes**

**Result: 9-0-0 (Approved)**

**MOTION** made by Julie Barbour-Issa that \$49,500 for the University Ave Trail Design project to be recommended to Town Meeting. Motion seconded by Matt Lane.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: **Yes**  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: **Yes**  
Julie Barbour-Issa: **Yes**  
Toni Eosco: **Yes**  
Joseph Greeley: **Abstain**  
John Hall: **Yes**  
Matt Lane: **Yes**  
Joseph Sheehan: **Yes**  
Catherine Walsh: **Yes**

**Result: 8-0-1 (Approved)**

### **CPA Business and Updates**

The next meeting of the Community Preservation Committee will be held on April 14 at 5:30pm via GoToMeeting.

### **Adjournment**

**MOTION** made by John Hall to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Matt Lane.

*Vote:* Peter McFarland, Chairman: **Approve**  
Patricia Griffin Starr, Vice Chairman: **Approve**  
Julie Barbour-Issa: **Approve**  
Toni Eosco: **Approve**  
Joseph Greeley: **Approve**  
John Hall: **Approve**  
Matt Lane: **Approve**

Joseph Sheehan: **Approve**  
Catherine Walsh: **Approve**

**Result: 9-0-0 (Approved)**

The meeting adjourned at 6:46pm.

Articles/Exhibits Used at Meeting

- GIS map of University Ave trail area

*Minutes respectfully submitted to the Committee by John Cianciarulo.*