



Submitted by MCD  
Date 12/1/15  
Received by K2  
Date 12-1-15

**TOWN OF CHARLTON**  
Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting  
Tuesday – November 10, 2015 at 6:30pm

Present: Chairman – Frederick C. Swensen, Vice-Chairman – Joseph J. Szafarowicz and Clerk – Cynthia B. Cooper. Also present: Town Administrator - Robin L. Craver and Student Selectperson – Bailey Ross. Absent: Members – David M. Singer and John P. McGrath.

*NOTE: Some matters may have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.*

I. Call to Order:

1. Chairman Swensen called the meeting to order at 6:30pm with the pledge to the flag.
2. Chairman Swensen reminded everyone to treat each other courteously and be acknowledged by the Chair before speaking. Those in attendance are requested to turn off cell phones or put them on vibrate so as not to disrupt the proceedings and remove hats, if any.

II. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting – October 27, 2015. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to accept the October 27, 2015 meeting minutes, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries unanimously.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum:

- Chairman Swensen read the announcements.
- Curtis Meskus, Building Commissioner came forward. He provided the board with a progress update on the building. The site is coming together. (pictures attached)
- Kirstie Petri came forward. She said when she spoke with the chairman of the board of health in Sturbridge today, she was told that they invited the Selectmen to attend a meeting on November 30<sup>th</sup> in Sturbridge regarding health concerns about the Southbridge Landfill. She was asked to come tonight to provide hard copies of the invitation to the Board. The Board thanked her.

IV. Appointments/Resignations:

V. Scheduled Appointments:

6:45pm – National Grid – Winter Electricity Prices. Mrs. Craver stated that in speaking with Kevin Shaughnessy, Manager, Community & Customer Management for National Grid, we thought having a representative come to the Boards meeting to explain the Winter Electricity Prices would be beneficial. Mr. Shaughnessy came forward. He provided a handout and explained it. (attached) Mr. Shaughnessy recommended for anyone going with a different supplier, to get something in writing so you know what the terms are and for how long. The Board thanked him for coming forward. Mrs. Craver stated that town meeting allowed us to look into energy aggregation. At one point, we were going to let it sit but she is asking the board to allow her to look into it again. She has found two companies that would like to come in and speak with her. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to authorize the Town Administrator to look into electricity aggregation for the town, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries unanimously.**

VI. New Business:

1. Request to initiate the hiring of three Permanent/Intermittent Police Officers. Mrs. Craver stated that we have received a letter from Chief Pervier asking the Board to vote to allow him to initiate the process for hiring three Permanent/Intermittent Officers for the Charlton Police Department. By hiring three Permanent/Intermittent Officers, he can accomplish two goals. The first would be to establish a pool of Permanent/Intermittent Officers who can be utilized to fill open shifts at straight time on those occasions when full time officers choose not to work which results in forcing full time officers in and paying them to work at the time and one half rate. Second, by having three Permanent/Intermittent Officers as part of the Charlton Police Department, he would be accorded the opportunity for him and his staff to review said officers performance on the job, prior to promoting one of the three to the permanent full time position. What is the Board's wishes? Mrs. Cooper asked how he determined that three is the necessary number, is this similar to per diem or will benefits be necessary. Chief Pervier stated that these are part time positions similar to civil service to help fill in the time needed. He would like to utilize these officers as needed. He doesn't have the money to have a regular part time shift. Mr. Szafarowicz asked if the Chief was to hire one of these officers, can he or does he have to go through the civil service process. Chief Pervier stated that they get asked if there are people on our permanent intermittent roster and if you do, you choose from them. Your allowed to choose from the top 3 candidates for one position, top 5 for two and so on. Chief Pervier was asked about benefits and he said he would not be using them. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to authorize Chief Pervier to initiate the process for hiring three permanent/intermittent officers, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries unanimously.**

VII. Old Business:

1. Casella – Southbridge Landfill expansion – Mrs. Cooper stated that as an abutter to an abutter, she recused herself but stayed in the room to maintain the quorum. Mrs. Craver stated that it has come to our attention that the Sturbridge Board of Selectmen have written to Secretary Matthew Beaton of the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs regarding the proposed expansion of the Casella Landfill in Southbridge. The Sturbridge Board of Selectmen are concerned about the impact of this project on its residents in Sturbridge due to the recent report of detected 1,4 dioxane in a residential well in Charlton presuming to be caused from the Southbridge Landfill. They forwarded a copy of that letter to Senator Ann Gobi who in turn supported them in their request by writing to Secretary Beaton as well. She would ask the Board to review this and see if it would behoove us to do the same on behalf of the Town of Charlton. **The board agreed that this would be a good idea and Mr. Szafarowicz moved it as a motion, seconded by Chairman Swensen, 2 ayes with Mrs. Cooper abstaining.** Mrs. Cooper returned to the table.

VIII Committee Reports:

IX BOS Policy Review:

X. Student Selectperson Report – Bailey Ross reviewed her report. (attached)

X Town Administrator Report: Mrs. Craver reviewed her report. She brought up Rt. 20 and how temporary reconstruction has been started. Chief Pervier stated that there will be signage which will show what the speeds are. Once the construction is done and the guardrail's are up, they will have a better understanding of what the speed should be.

XII Other Business: Chief Pervier wanted to say thank you to the Charlton Highway Department. There was some serious overgrowth at the bottom of the hill at Bay Path. Mr. Foskett and his crew went up and really groomed the hill very well. There is also a concern of pedestrian safety at Charlton Center and Mr. Foskett is looking at acquiring the signs and putting them up. He is also working with Bay Path for an entrance coming up sign to the school so that vehicles will be aware

Mrs. Craver received notification that National Grid will be taking down 20 plus trees in the towns right of ways.

XIII Next Meeting Announcement:

- \* Conflict of Interest Seminar – November 17, 2015 – Selectmen’s Meeting Room  
- 5:00pm for employees / 6:30pm for all boards/committees/commissions
- \* Next Regular Selectmen’s Meeting – November 24, 2015

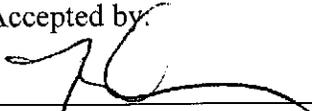
XIV Adjourn: **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to enter into executive session at 7:32pm under M.G.L. c. 30A, Sec. 21, #1 – to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence of an individual or discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual, #3 – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and #6 – to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body, seconded by Mrs. Cooper. Roll call vote: Mr. Szafarowicz – aye, Mrs. Cooper – aye and Chairman Swensen – aye.** Chairman Swensen stated that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body and that the board will reconvene to open session for the purpose of adjourning.

**Motion by Mrs. Cooper to adjourn at 9:45pm, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries.**

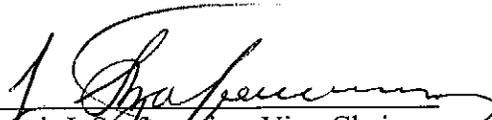
Submitted by:

Mary C. Devlin  
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Frederick C. Swensen, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia B. Cooper, Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph J. Szafarowicz, Vice-Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David M. Singer, Member (absent)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John P. McGrath, Member (absent)

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# National Grid: What You Need to Know Winter Energy Prices and Distribution Rates



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## What are supply prices?

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- Electricity supply prices are set by the market and passed onto customers, without markup, as basic service rates
- Electricity supply prices are set twice a year for residential and small commercial & industrial customers, as required by DPU
- Represents up to two-thirds of an electricity bill

# Winter 2015-2016 Electric Supply

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- Due to continued natural gas pipeline constraints in the region, market supply prices for electricity remain volatile and relatively high this winter.
- Although winter electric prices are down over last winter, customers in Massachusetts remain subject to unpredictable changes in electricity supply prices twice a year. National Grid filed new electric supply prices September 15 and were approved by the MA DPU on September 22.
- This winter's supply price for Massachusetts electric customers is 13 cents per kilowatt hour. This represents a 41.8% increase from summer prices and a 19.3% decrease from last winter's prices.
  - A typical residential customer will see an electric bill that is 21.3% percent higher than current bills for the same amount of electricity used.
  - A typical residential customer will see an electric bill that is 9.1% lower than last winter (when accounting for additional bill adjustments made throughout the year).
  - A typical residential customer's monthly bill will be \$110.18, compared with an average spring bill of \$90.82 or an average November 2014 bill of \$121.20.

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# Typical MA Residential Electric Customer

Summer 2015 (May 2015 – October 2015)

Customers taking  
"basic" or "default"  
service for their supply  
needs

**Supply**  
**9.3¢**  
**51.0%**

**Distribution**  
**4.8¢**  
**26.3%**

**Transmission**  
**2.6¢**  
**14.4%**

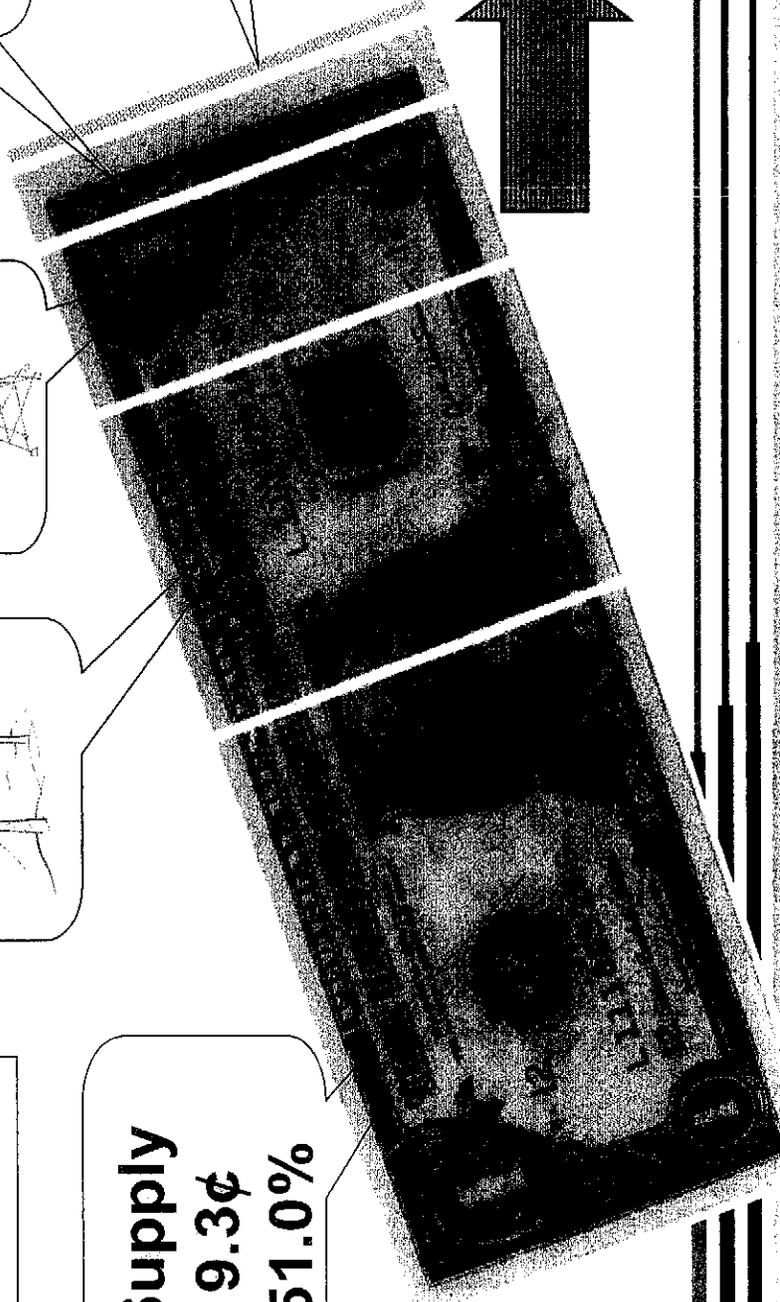
**Renewables,  
Energy  
Efficiency**  
**1.7¢**  
**9.2%**

**Transition**  
**-0.2¢**  
**-0.9%**

**Total:**

**18.2¢ kWh**

Mass Electric Company  
Residential Rate R-1  
(500 kWh)



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# Typical MA Residential Electric Customer

Winter Bill 2015/2016 (beginning November 2015)

Customers taking  
"basic" or "default"  
service for their supply  
needs

**Supply**  
**13.1¢**  
**59.6%**

**Transmission**

**2.6¢**  
**11.8%**

**Distribution**

**4.8¢**  
**21.7%**

**Renewables,  
Energy  
Efficiency**

**1.7¢**  
**7.6%**

**Transition**

**-0.2¢**  
**-0.7%**

**Total:**

**22.0¢ kWh**

Massachusetts Electric Company  
Residential Rate R-1  
(500 kWh)

MA 581E

## Take Control of Energy Costs

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- **Energy Efficiency:** We urge customers to take advantage of energy savings tips and incentives on a wide variety of energy efficient home equipment, from smart power strips and programmable thermostats to high-efficiency furnaces and boilers. Customers should visit [www.ngrid.com/billhelp](http://www.ngrid.com/billhelp) for more information.
- **Billing Options:** Customers should contact National Grid at 800-322-3223 or visit [www.ngrid.com/billhelp](http://www.ngrid.com/billhelp) to learn about bill programs that spread payments out more evenly across the year, as well as discounted rates for eligible customers. National Grid also supports initiatives such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which provide additional help to those in need.
- In addition, National Grid encourages customers to consider all available energy supply options. You may learn more about **alternative suppliers** by visiting [www.ngrid.com/masschoice](http://www.ngrid.com/masschoice). Regardless of your chosen supplier, National Grid will continue to deliver reliable energy, respond to service and emergency needs and provide storm restoration services.



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HERE WITH YOU. HERE FOR YOU.

Thank you!!



**TOWN OF CHARLTON**  
**OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**  
**37 Main Street**  
**Charlton, MA 01507**  
WWW.TOWNOF CHARLTON.NET

Phone: (508) 248-2206  
Fax: (508) 248-2374

TO: Board of Selectmen  
FROM: Robin L. Craver, Town Administrator  
DATE: November 3, 2015  
SUBJECT: Town Administrator's Report – for Selectmen's meeting of 11/10/15

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**Tax Classification Hearing** – It's that time of year when the Board of Assessors are asking the Board of Selectmen to set the tax rate. We have scheduled the hearing for November 24, 2015 at 7:00pm. If the Board of Assessors are not ready at that time, you will be asked to continue the hearing until the next Selectmen's meeting on December 8, 2015.

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)**- I have been asked to sit on a state advisory committee that is evaluating the opportunity to seek authorization from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to oversee and implement the federal Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. The NPDES program includes permit issuance, compliance and enforcement activities for facilities that discharge pollutants into surface waters in MA and is currently administered by the EPA. There was a study done in 2013 and the Commissioner wishes to update the information including elements of a successful program, re-examining the staffing needs and cost estimates. I would be the only Town Administrator on the panel and would bring the concerns of additional costs to municipalities as a valid concern. The first meeting will be held in Boston on November 23, 2015 from 2-4pm. I have attached Commissioner Suuberg's letter and member list for your review.

**Route 20 Reconstruction** – Much time last week was devoted to meeting with state and local representatives to move the timeline up on public safety measures that protects drivers on Rt. 20. As you know there were two accidents in a week on a stretch of Rt 20 that is earmarked to be fixed in 2025. The death of a mother and child has reenergized the need to install safety measures immediately. To that end, I am happy to say that construction began over the weekend to widen the road and install guardrails. (There will also be a meeting on Monday night, which at the time of writing has not happened yet. Will give update on that too.)

**Veteran's Ceremony at the Masonic Home**- I had the honor of addressing a group of veteran's at the Masonic Home Wednesday, Nov 4<sup>th</sup>. Charlton Middle School participated by sending the 5<sup>th</sup> grade chorus accompanied by Ms. Potter. Each year the Legion puts on a ceremony to honor veterans at the home and it's quite a moving experience. Regarding veterans and Charlton, I'd like to also express my thanks to Selectman Cooper for her article in the Charlton Villager. She reminded us of the caring, dedicated and patriotic community that is Charlton and I know I'm proud to serve here.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

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## Department of Environmental Protection

Charles D. Baker  
Governor

Karyn E. Polito  
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton  
Secretary

Martin Suuberg  
Commissioner

November 6, 2015

Robin Craver  
Town Administrator  
37 Main Street  
Charlton, MA 01507

Re: Advisory Committee on NPDES Authorization in Massachusetts

Dear Robin,

I am writing to invite you to be a member of an advisory committee that is important to the future of water quality management in Commonwealth. MassDEP is evaluating the opportunity to seek authorization from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to oversee and implement the federal Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. I am very interested in building on the work done to date on this topic and to fully discuss the benefits, challenges and work needed for pursuing delegation. I believe MassDEP would greatly benefit from your input and advice on this issue.

The NPDES program, which includes permit issuance, compliance and enforcement activities for facilities that discharge pollutants into surface waters in Massachusetts, is currently administered by EPA. Forty-six (46) states across the country have obtained authorization from EPA to administer the NPDES program, and one state is in the process of receiving delegation. Massachusetts is considering pursuing this authority. In the past nine months, a number of organizations have requested MassDEP to request delegation.

As you may recall, in 2013, at the direction of the legislature, MassDEP convened a stakeholder group and prepared a report about the feasibility, cost, advantages, and disadvantages of being authorized to run the federal NPDES program. The 2013 study estimated that annual costs to run the program. The report also discussed options for funding the program. That report is available on our website at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/wastewater/a-thru-n/npdesdel.pdf>.

To make sure that we have the most up-to-date thinking, MassDEP would like to reconvene an advisory committee and work with you and others with expertise and experience in this program.

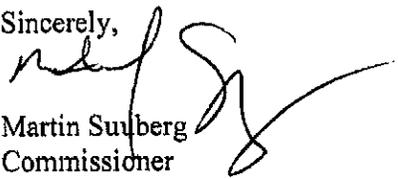
This Information is available in alternate format. Call Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Diversity Director, at 617-292-6751. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370  
MassDEP Website: [www.mass.gov/dep](http://www.mass.gov/dep)

Printed on Recycled Paper

We welcome your input and ideas. Among the areas we are seeking discussion on are the needed elements of a successful program, re-examining the staffing needs and cost estimates including consideration of additional comparisons of our agency to other states that are delegated, and the best method for funding, an important element of any request for delegation. We also plan to spend time discussing needs associated with implementing a robust water quality monitoring and assessment effort, for development of surface water quality standards and watershed studies known as Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), which guide how permitting decisions are made.

I hope we can count on your involvement in this Committee. The first meeting of the Committee will be held from 2:00pm – 4:00pm on November 23, 2015 at the MassDEP Offices on Winter Street in Boston. We expect that the group will meet several times to ensure a full discussion of the issues. Please find attached a list of individuals who have been invited to participate. An agenda for the first meeting will be distributed via email in the next few weeks. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me or Beth Card at 617-292-5748 if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you on this important committee.

Sincerely,

  
Martin Sullivan  
Commissioner

**NPDES Invitee List:**

Tom Philbin  
Mass Municipal Association

Honorable Arthur Vigeant  
Mayor of Marlborough

Tom Walsh  
Upper Blackstone Water Pollution Abatement District

Bob Cox  
Bowditch & Dewey

Bill Taylor  
Pierce Atwood

Robin Craver  
Town Administrator

Honorable Carolyn Dykema  
State Representative

Honorable Minority Leader Bruce Tarr  
State Senator

Tim Wilkerson  
Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development

Tom Tilas  
AECOM

Julia Blatt  
Mass Rivers Alliance

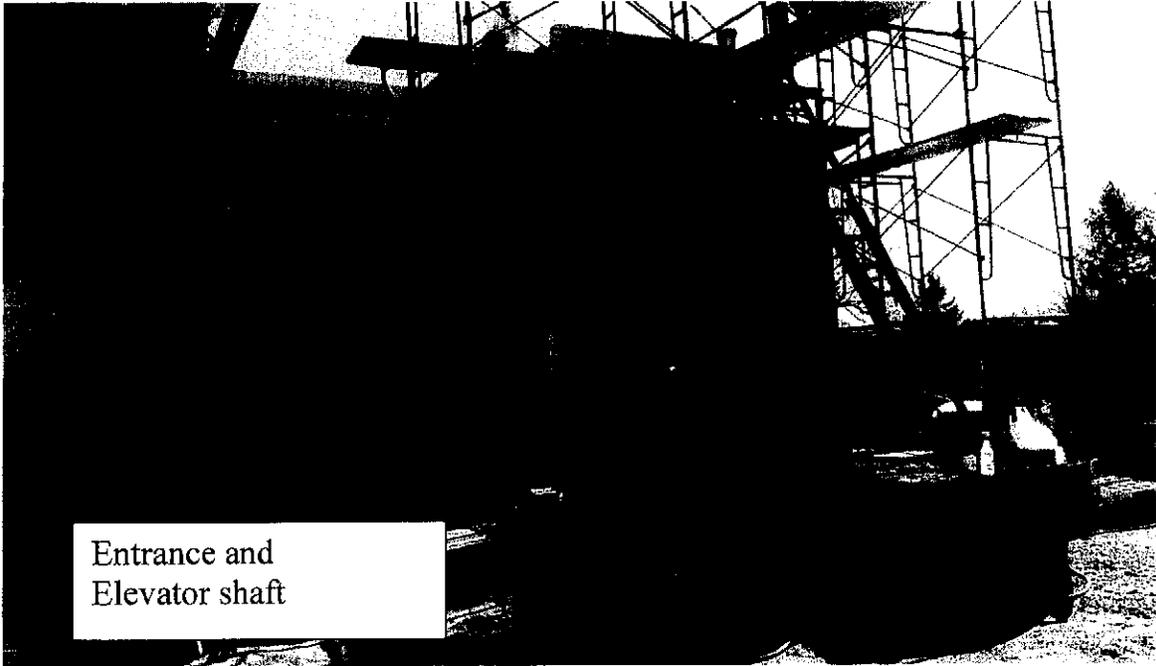
Bob Zimmerman  
Charles River Watershed Association

Mark Smith  
The Nature Conservancy

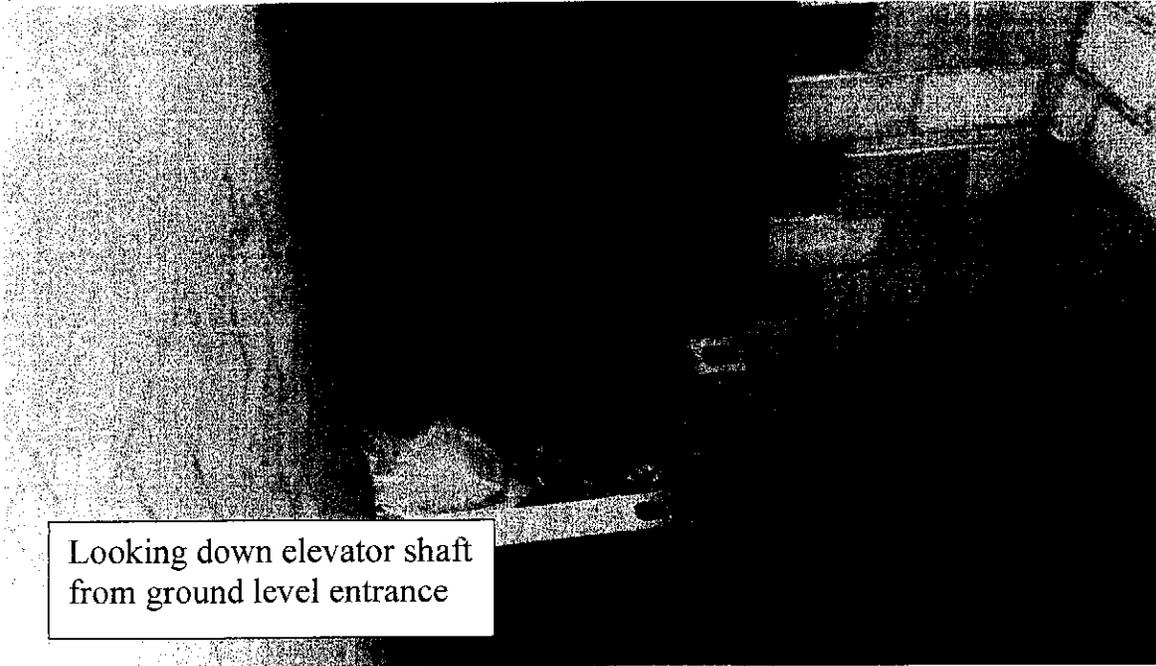
Andy Fisk  
CT River Watershed Council

Jack Clarke  
Mass Audubon

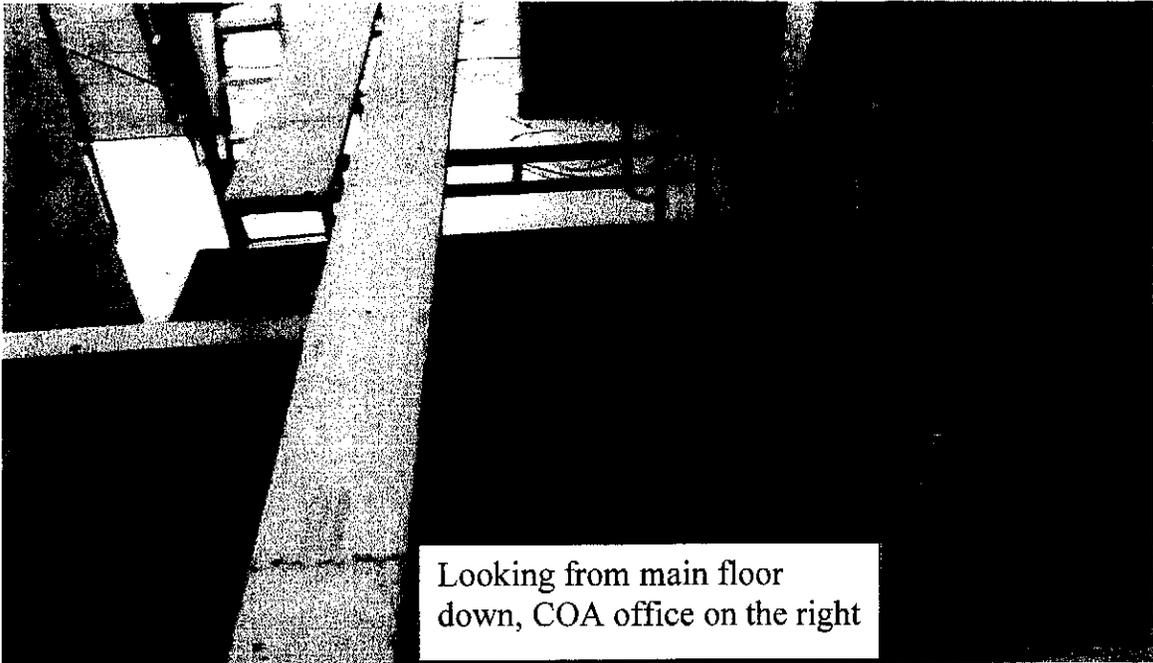
Allison Field-Juma  
Organization for the Assabet River



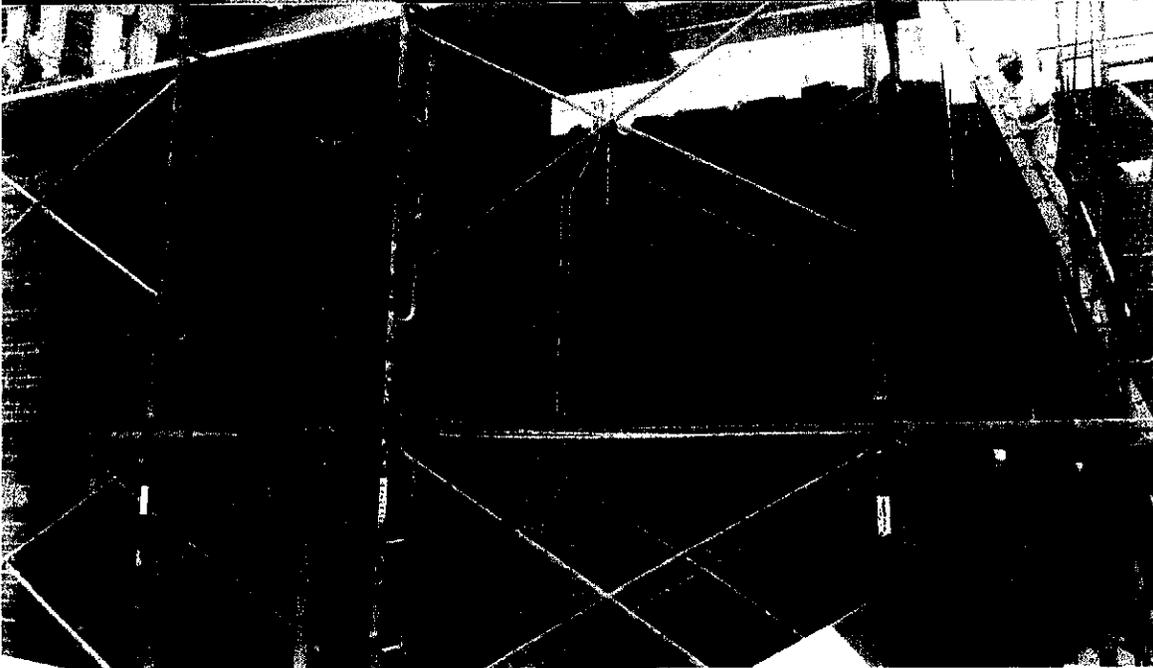
Entrance and  
Elevator shaft



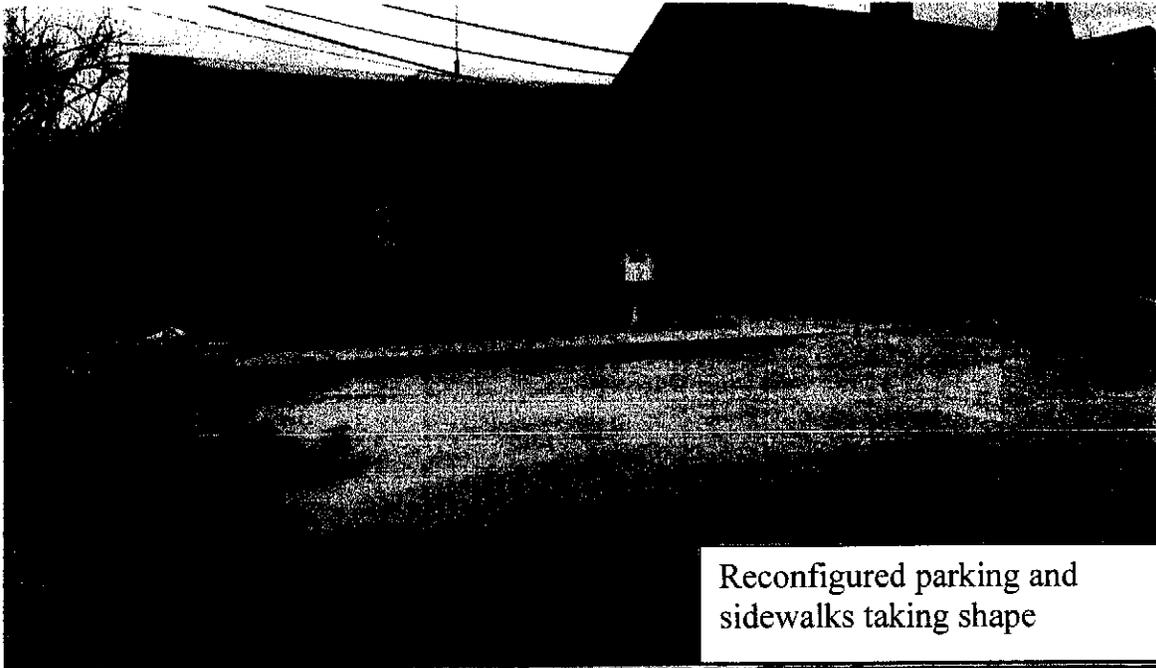
Looking down elevator shaft  
from ground level entrance



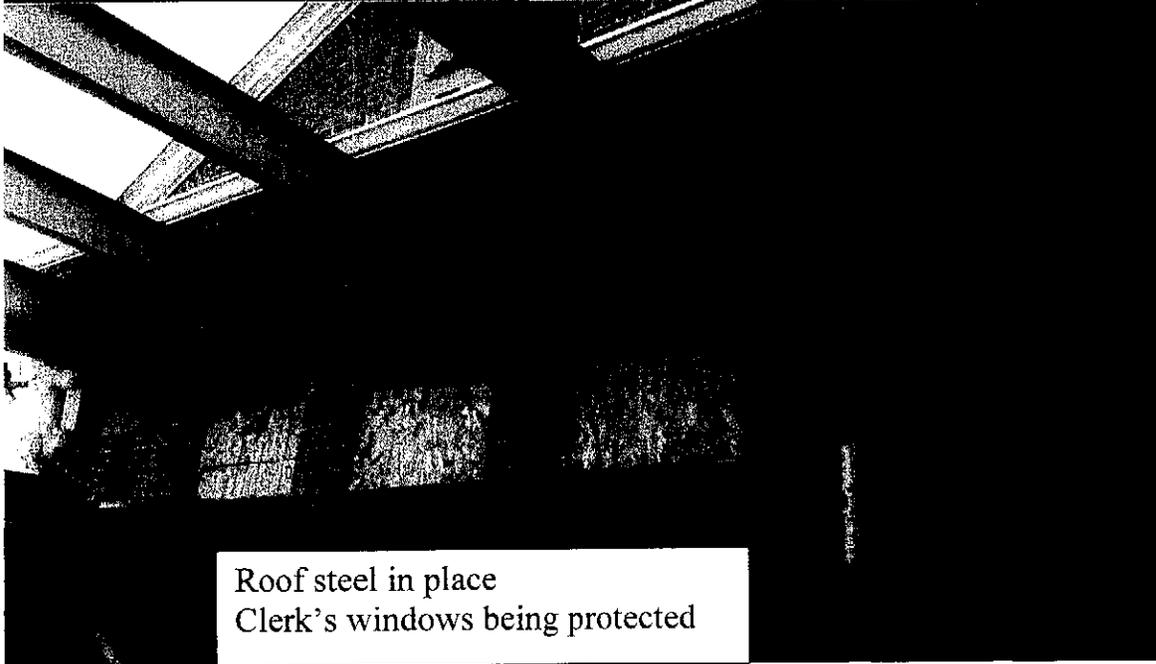
Looking from main floor  
down, COA office on the right



Water proofing being applied, blue  
square is the open meeting display



Reconfigured parking and  
sidewalks taking shape



Roof steel in place  
Clerk's windows being protected



## Town of Sturbridge — Board of Health



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### **Informational Meeting on health concerns about the Southbridge Landfill**

**Place: Sturbridge Town Hall 308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566**

**When: Monday November 30, 2015 at 6:30 P.M.**

**Please join the Sturbridge Board of Health for a public citizen forum regarding the danger the Southbridge Landfill and its proposed expansion pose to the tri-community area.**

Casella has requested permission to expand Southbridge Landfill's disposal area by more than *32 acres* by building new landfill cells on top of full, closed landfill cells and building new landfill cells on undeveloped land. Using the numbers provided by Casella, if allowed this expansion would result in more than *4,461,000 additional tons* of waste being buried in the Towns of Southbridge and Charlton over the next 11 years.

**Town and state officials representing Southbridge, Charlton and Sturbridge, environmental professionals monitoring the site at the Mass DEP and other state agencies and residents are all encouraged to attend. There will be an opportunity for residents to submit oral or written comments.**

Linda Cocalis, chair of the Sturbridge Board of Health will summarize the history of odor and other nuisances, and the range of chemicals found in gas, surface water, groundwater and home well testing. Kirstie Pecci, staff attorney at MASSPIRG, will present a brief overview of Casella's proposal and the procedure required to expand the site.

**This meeting is an opportunity to let decision makers hear that you expect them to protect the public health, the environment and the value of your home. This is your chance to speak up for better waste disposal systems in our state.**

## Agenda: Student Selectperson Bailey Ross

November 10<sup>th</sup> 2015

### Academics:

- NEASC, which is the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, visit was October 25-28, classes were observed and staff and students were interviewed, this all was an attempt to earn an accreditation for the school.
- First term report cards just came out this past Friday and the new quarter started yesterday.
- PSATs took place last month and sophomores and juniors are anxious to receive their grades.

### Sports:

- Football is 4-5, home game on Friday against Doherty which is the second of two consolation games that they were scheduled due to not making playoffs this year, they were also playing teams that were in the top ten in Central MA, so the record doesn't exactly reflect their ability as a team, they practice every day until the Thanksgiving game which will be at home against Tantasqua Regional
- Boys & Girls soccer had a great season, they both made districts
- Golf, Volleyball, Cross Country, Field Hockey all had good seasons and are celebrating with banquets.

### Extracurricular:

- Band received first place at Nationals in New Jersey, and also received the Marine award, which praised them for their respect and discipline.
- This was celebrated by the students who attended homecoming that waited outside on the school's sidewalk to welcome the band back home and to see their huge trophy which exceeds eight feet.
- Show choir is still practicing hard on weekdays and at times spend their whole weekend at the school.
- Student Council has a conference on Friday for leadership and other skills for good leaders.

### Events:

- The Homecoming Dance was this past Saturday, and the Student Council made a profit off of 400 tickets. The theme was Paris under Stars and had a great turnout.

- Mr Shepherd Hill, which is the male talent and pageant show, is next Thursday. It is one of Shepherd Hill's most sought after events and fills the auditorium annually.
- Mr SH kicks off spirit week, and spirit week carries over into the next week.
- The Spirit week days are class color day, school color day, tie dye day, army navy day, and dynamic duo day.
- Pep Rally ends the week the day before Thanksgiving and is a fun event for each grade to celebrate the school and its teams.