



**Braintree Town Council**  
**Committee on the Department of Public Works**  
One JFK Memorial Drive  
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184

**MEMBERS**

Charles Ryan, Chairman  
Julia Flaherty, Vice Chairwoman  
Lawrence Mackin, member

**September 5, 2023**  
**MINUTES**

A meeting of the Committee on the Department of Public Works was held in Johnson Chambers, Braintree Town Hall, on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 7:00p.m.

There was a moment of silence for all those serving in our armed services, past and present, and the meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Councilor Charles Ryan, Chairman was in the Chair.  
Clerk of the Council, Susan Cimino conducted the roll call.

Present: Charles Ryan, Chairman  
Julia Flaherty, Vice-Chairwoman  
Not Present: Lawrence Mackin, member

Also Present: Margaret Laforest, COS  
Jim Arsenault, DPW Director  
John Thompson, Asst DPW Director/Town Engineer  
Ryan Matheson, Engineering Manager  
Mary Mulroney, National Grid representative

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- April 4, 2023
  - Motion:** by Councilor Flaherty to Approve Minutes of April 4, 2023
  - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
  - Vote:** For (2 – Flaherty, Ryan), Against (0), Absent (1 - Mackin), Abstain (0)
  
- April 25, 2023
  - Motion:** by Councilor Flaherty to Approve Minutes of April 25, 2023
  - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
  - Vote:** For (2 – Flaherty, Ryan), Against (0), Absent (1 - Mackin), Abstain (0)
  
- June 20, 2023
  - Motion:** by Councilor Flaherty to Approve Minutes of June 20, 2023
  - Second:** by Councilor Ryan
  - Vote:** For (2 – Flaherty, Ryan), Against (0), Absent (1 - Mackin), Abstain (0)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **23 054 National Grid Petition: Wynot Road or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Ryan discussed the recommendations by BELD and DPW. He stated National Grid agrees to all requested staff recommendations. This is not subject to moratorium.

Motion was read by Vice-Chairwoman, Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council with Staff Recommendations:

**MOTION: To relay approximately 550 feet of 2-inch bare steel (1927), approximately 20 feet of 2-inch coated steel (1969), and approximately 10 feet of 2-inch plastic (2015) gas main with approximately 580 feet of 2-inch plastic gas main in Wynot Rd, from the existing plastic to the end of main at house #49 with staff recommendations.**

**BELD:** BELD has no conflicts with this location.

**DPW:** The DPW has reviewed the subject petition and the accompanying plans for the gas main replacement on Wynot Rd. The work is being proposed as part of a program to eliminate aging gas infrastructure. Wynot Rd is not subject to the excavation moratorium, having been resurfaced by overlay and microsurfacing in 2015. As such, the DPW recommends that the petition approval, if it is to be so granted, contain the following conditions:

- A temporary patch shall be placed immediately after the work. The street excavation should be saw-cut, backfilled, and compacted in 8-inch lifts, paved to match existing asphalt depth (with a minimum depth of four inches) in two-inch lifts to match the existing street grade.
- After maintaining the temporary patch through one winter, National Grid must return the following spring to perform a permanent trench repair on all disturbed roadway segments. The permanent patch should be an 8-foot-wide mill and overlay, to a pavement depth of 1.5 inches. If the edge of the permanent patch falls within 2-feet of the roadway gutter, the patch should be extended completely to the roadway edge. Tack coat should be applied to milled surfaces and joints prior to paving. Finished joints should be treated with a rubberized asphalt sealer.

We also recommend that the following requirements be added to the permit, if it is to be granted:

- National Grid must arrange a pre-construction meeting with Braintree the DPW to discuss utility corridor assignment. The new gas mains must not encroach on any existing utilities.
- Neither National Grid nor any of its contractors is authorized to close any street or to close a direction of travel to facilitate their work without authorization from the Director of the Department of Public Works or the Highway Superintendent. The Chief of Police can also authorize a closure for a police or fire emergency. Construction zone traffic safety issues are to be addressed by using appropriate traffic control signs and devices and the use of police officers for traffic control to safely guide traffic through the work zone. If a closure is authorized by the DPW, it shall not be implemented until signs and police officers (where needed) are properly in place in conformity with the written plan prepared by the contractor's engineer and approved by the DPW and Police Department.

**Motion:** by Councilor Flaherty to Approve Order 23 054

**Second:** by Councilor Ryan

**Vote:** For (2 – Flaherty, Ryan), Against (0), Absent (1 - Mackin), Abstain (0)

• **23 055 National Grid Petition: Morrison Road or take up any action relative thereto**

Chairman Ryan discussed the recommendations by BELD and DPW. He stated National Grid agrees to all requested staff recommendations. This is not subject to moratorium.

Motion was read by Vice-Chairwoman, Councilor Flaherty for favorable recommendation to the full Council with Staff Recommendations:

**MOTION: To relay approximately 630 feet of 2-inch coated steel (1957) with approximately 630 feet of 2-inch plastic gas main in Morrison Rd., from Adams St. to Drinkwater Ave. Relay approximately 420 feet of 2-inch coated steel (1957) with approximately 420 feet of 2-inch plastic gas main in Drinkwater Ave., from Morrison Rd. to Elm St with staff recommendations:**

**BELD:** BELD has no conflicts with this location.

**DPW:** The DPW has reviewed the subject petition and the accompanying plans for the gas main replacement on Morrison Rd and Drinkwater Ave. The work is being proposed as part of a program to eliminate aging gas infrastructure. Neither Morrison Rd nor Drinkwater Ave are subject to the excavation moratorium, having been resurfaced by reconstruction in 2010 and 2003 respectively. As such, the DPW recommends that the petition approval, if it is to be so granted, contain the following conditions:

- A temporary patch shall be placed immediately after the work. The street excavation should be saw-cut, backfilled, and compacted in 8-inch lifts, paved to match existing

asphalt depth (with a minimum depth of four inches) in two-inch lifts to match the existing street grade.

- After maintaining the temporary patch through one winter, National Grid must return the following spring to perform permanent trench repair on all disturbed roadway segments. The permanent patch should be an 8-foot-wide mill and overlay, to a pavement depth of 1.5 inches. If the edge of the permanent patch falls within 2-feet of the roadway gutter, the patch should be extended completely to the roadway edge. Tack coat should be applied to milled surfaces and joints prior to paving. Finished joints should be treated with a rubberized asphalt sealer.

We also recommend that the following requirements be added to the permit, if it is to be granted:

- National Grid must arrange a pre-construction meeting with Braintree the DPW to discuss utility corridor assignment. The new gas mains must not encroach on any existing utilities.
- Neither National Grid nor any of its contractors is authorized to close any street or to close a direction of travel to facilitate their work without authorization from the Director of the Department of Public Works or the Highway Superintendent. The Chief of Police can also authorize a closure for a police or fire emergency. Construction zone traffic safety issues are to be addressed by using appropriate traffic control signs and devices and the use of police officers for traffic control to safely guide traffic through the work zone. If a closure is authorized by the DPW, it shall not be implemented until signs and police officers (where needed) are properly in place in conformity with the written plan prepared by the contractor's engineer and approved by the DPW and Police Department.

**Motion:** by Councilor Flaherty to Approve Order 23 055

**Second:** by Councilor Ryan

**Vote:** For (2 – Flaherty, Ryan), Against (0), Absent (1 - Mackin), Abstain (0)

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:18p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan M. Cimino  
Clerk of the Council

## Documents provided for Meeting

- 23 054 National Grid Petition: Wynot Road or take up any action relative thereto
- 23 055 National Grid Petition: Morrison Road or take up any action relative thereto

