CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2012

Present: Ald. Salvucci (Chairman), Lennon, Albright, Gentile, Crossley, Danberg, Laredo, and Lappin
Also present: Ald. Fuller and Kalis
City staff present: Lou Taverna (City Engineer), James Danila (Transportation Engineer), David Turocy (Commissioner of Public Works), and Fred Russell (Director of Utilities; Department of Public Works)

#405-11 NATIONAL GRID requesting a grant of location to install and maintain 102' ± of 4" gas main in UPLAND AVENUE from the existing 4" gas main at 193 Upland Avenue southerly to 210 Upland Avenue. (Ward 8) [11-10-11 @ 2:00 PM]
ACTION: APPROVED 5-0 (Danberg, Gentile, Lennon not voting)

NOTE: National Grid Permit Representative Dennis Regan presented the request for a grant of location to extend a 4" gas main 120' in Upland Avenue to provide gas service to a new home at 210 Upland Avenue. National Grid notified the residents of Upland Avenue to determine if any other resident wished to install gas service. No other resident was interested; therefore, the gas main will not extend beyond 210 Upland Avenue.

The Department of Public Works reviewed the petition for the grant of location and recommended approval. National Grid will do the installation, as soon as the Department of Public Works issues a street opening permit.

The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the petition. Ald. Lappin moved approval of the item, which carried unanimously.

#149-11(3) SOVEREIGN BANK requesting the necessary approvals for the off-site road improvements at the intersection of Washington and Crafts Streets outlined in Special Permit Board Order #149-11, Condition 6A. 11/07-11 @ 2:16 PM]
ACTION: APPROVED 6-0 (Gentile, Lennon not voting)

NOTE: Stephen Buchbinder and Franklin Schwarzer of Schlesinger and Buchbinder presented the attached plans for the proposed traffic improvements at Washington and Crafts Street. The traffic improvements are a condition of Special Permit Board Order #149-11(2) for the Sovereign Bank to be located at 624 Washington Street. The condition requires that the petitioner complete all improvements that are approved by the City at the intersection of Washington and Crafts Street. The improvements include removal of a traffic island, reconstruction of three access ramps, new traffic signals, mast arm, video detection equipment,

and relocation of the crosswalk and stop line on Crafts Street. In addition, the northeast corner of the intersection will be extended to slow cars making a right turn on red onto Crafts Street. The estimated cost of the proposed improvements is $250,000. The work will take place over the spring and summer of this year.

The improvements will provide better vehicular circulation through the intersection and improved pedestrian safety. The Department of Public Works Engineering Division and Traffic Division have reviewed the improvements and recommend approval. The removal of the traffic island is the only portion of the improvements that requires Board of Aldermen approval.

The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the improvements. Members of the Committee question why there are no improvements to the northwest corner of the intersection, which is where the Whole Foods Market is located. City Engineer Lou Taverna explained that due to the slope of the corner and access issues it was not possible to alter that corner of the intersection. With that, Ald. Albright moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#352-11 ALD. JOHNSON & SCHNIPPER requesting a discussion with the Utilities Department regarding the City of Newton's current water billing practices. [10/14/11 @ 2:31 PM]

ACTION: HELD 8-0

NOTE: The item was previously discussed in December 2011 and held for information on the water meter testing. Utilities Director Fred Russell provided the attached handouts on the results of the meter testing and the American Water Works Association's (AWWA) test requirements for water meters. The City tested a sampling of twenty-nine meters; three or four meters from each of the eight wards and four stock meters. As expected, all of the meters fell within the AWWA parameters for accuracy. At the previous meeting, it was stated that if there were any deficiencies found in the tested meters, the City would continue to test the meters. Based on these tests, there are no issues; therefore, it is not necessary to test any other meters.

The Commissioner of Public Works continues to meet with any property owner, who requests a meeting to discuss and review their water bills. The Commissioner reviews the water use history and in most cases is able to explain the increase in the water bill. If it is determined that the bill was underestimated, the property owner owes the City the difference between the estimate and actual usage for the timeframe that was estimated. The City offers a "spread-over" option, which takes the average amount of water used over the time of the estimated billing quarters and apportions it equally to each quarter. The property owners are then billed at the appropriate rates and tiers for those quarters. The second option offers the property owner the ability to pay the bill over twelve monthly installments with no interest. The department has begun reviewing water bills in advance of distribution in an effort to contact property owners that are going to receive an unusually high water bill to begin conversation regarding the bill.

The Committee requested that the Commissioner of Public Works provide additional information on the percentage of people who received estimates over a number of billing cycles and the percentage of people calling the City regarding high water bills. The Committee would also like the Public Works Department to investigate the possibility of informing all property

owners of all available payment options regarding their water bills. Ald. Lappin moved hold in order to receive the requested information.

#172-11 ALD. CROSSLEY, FULLER AND SCHNIPPER requesting discussion with the Utilities Division of the Public Works Department regarding the identification of storm water inflow connections to the sewer system, so as to begin the process of systematically eliminating such illegal connections, including notifications to property owners, educational materials, requirements for corrective actions and technical and financial assistance that may be available from the City in order to facilitate removal of inflow connections. [05/26/11 @3:33 PM]

ACTION: HELD 8-0

NOTE: The item was held in September 7, 2011 for additional information on the program. Utilities Director Fred Russell provided the Committee with the attached summary of the Private Inflow Removal Program. The City has inspected 20,500 properties for illegal sewer connections during the water meter replacement project. During the inspections, the City found 832 properties with illegal sewer connections.

The Utilities Division has sent out 69 letters to property owners with illegal sewer connections. Fifty-four property owners have responded to the notification. Director of Utilities Fred Russell has had contact with the 54 property owners to educate them on their options to deal with the illegal connections. Eighteen of those property owners are no longer in violation, as they have eliminated their illegal connection.

Mr. Russell stated that Department of Environmental Protection assumes each illegal connection generates 7,500 gallons per year, which is based on peak flows during wet weather season. The total estimated flow into the sewer systems is estimated to be 5,830,560 gallons per day. The illegal connections contribute to the City's inflow and infiltration and the City pays a significant amount of money to the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority for inflow and infiltrations. The City and taxpayers will save money when illegal connections are removed from the sewer system. There are provisions within the ordinances that allow a per day fine of $300 until the illegal connection is removed. The City has not reached the point where fines are to be levied. However, if the property owners do not address the illegal connection, they will eventually be fined every day until the connection is removed. Committee members suggested that the Department of Public Works provide citizens with information about the cost of illegal connections to the City and taxpayers to encourage people to disconnect.

The Board Aldermen will also receive a presentation on the public water, sewer, and stormwater system capital needs and some information on the private portion of the systems within the next few months. Ald. Crossley informed the Committee that the City is still looking at the possibility of Home Rule Legislation to require a point of sale inspection for illegal connections. With that, Ald. Lappin moved hold for a future update on the program after all the water meters are installed.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#17-12 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of one hundred fifty thousand dollars ($150,000) from the Stormwater Reserve Account for the Webster Street Drain Replacement Project. [01/09/12 @ 5:21 PM]

ACTION: APPROVED 8-0

NOTE: Utilities Director Fred Russell and City Engineer Lou Taverna presented the request to fund the replacement of a portion of the 1930s storm water drain, which runs between Webster and Crescent Streets in a City easement. A plan showing the location of the drain portion is attached. The Utilities Division of the Department of Public Works investigated that portion of the drain and discovered that it is crushed in numerous places. The damaged portions of the drain may be the cause of the flooding of 262 Webster Street and the owner of that property is pursuing legal action against the City. The first reported incident of flooding at 262 Webster Street was in March of 2010. Since that time, the Utilities Division has provided by-pass pumping in the area during rain events to avoid flooding.

The Utilities Division has met with a representative of the Richard White Sons, Inc., which owns the property adjacent to the easement to discuss access to that portion of the drainpipe and possible relocation of the pipe. The owners of the property are not inclined to allow the City to relocate the pipe onto their property due to a possible decrease in property value if an easement bisects the site. However, they are willing to grant the City (or its contractor) access to the easement through their site.

The Department of Public Works Division of Engineering has designed and estimated the cost of the replacement project. The drain will be replaced with a 15" ductile iron drainpipe and manholes will be added along that portion of the drainpipe. The land above the drain contains pieces of ledge, a number of large boulders, and large trees, which need to be removed. The Utilities Division does not have the necessary equipment to remove the boulders and some of the trees from the easement. Therefore, a bid package is being completed and the project will be bid out.

Ald. Lappin moved approval of the item, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#18-12 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to borrow up to thirteen million six hundred two thousand dollars ($13,602,000) in interest free loans from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) for the purpose of funding water main improvements as outlined in the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan. [[01/09/12 @5:21 PM]

ACTION: APPROVED 8-0

NOTE: The City Engineer Lou Taverna presented the request for authorization to borrow $1,360,200 per year for each of the next 10 years in interest free loans offered by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA). The loan funds are included in the Fiscal Year 2013 through 2017 Capital Improvement Plan. The City has participated in similar MWRA

loan programs for the past several years and the current program is ending in the spring of 2012. The funds are to be used to improve the City's water quality through cleaning, relining, and replacement of City's water pipes. In addition, the rehabilitation of the water pipes provides better fire flow, which results in better water pressure in the fire hoses during fires.

The attached five-year chart provides a list of the water mains, estimates, and timing for the projects to be addressed as part of the MWRA loan. City Engineer Lou Taverna explained that it is difficult to project beyond five years, as the water main work is coordinated with street rehabilitation or reconstruction projects. Mr. Taverna added that the City tries to spread out the water main projects across the City each year. There are approximately 165 miles of 319 miles of pipe that remain unlined. The attached map provides information on the lined and unlined water mains. It was suggested that the next chart provide the ward with the street names where projects are taking place. Committee members asked that the Department of Public Works provide what the impact of the loan program was to the average citizen's water bill for the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Taverna agreed to provide that information at the Finance Committee meeting on January 23, 2012.

The City has also taken advantage of a sewer inflow/infiltration grant/loan program offered by MWRA. The City used all the available funds and the program is not expected to be offered again until Fiscal Year 2014. The City is currently investigating the best way to address all of its utility infrastructure needs. It is expected that there will be a presentation by the Administration to the Board of Aldermen in February or March of 2012 on the utility infrastructure capital improvement program. With that, a motion to approve the item was approved by a vote of eight in favor and none opposed.

#74-00(2) CLERK OF THE BOARD requesting the Board of Aldermen re-vote Docket Item #74-00 requesting an amendment to the Revised Ordinances by insertion of a new section 23-52 requiring preliminary submission of grant of location petitions to the Public Works Commissioner. The item was approved by the Board of Aldermen on February 22, 2000 but was not included in the 2007 Ordinance recodification necessitating a re-vote.

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0 (Danberg not voting)

NOTE: Due to an oversight, Docket Item #74-00 related to submission of grants of locations was never incorporated into the 2007 City of Newton Ordinance during recodification. The ordinance was approved by the Board of Aldermen on February 22, 2000. Therefore, it is necessary for the Board of Aldermen to re-vote the ordinance for inclusion in the 2012 ordinance recodification. Ald. Crossley moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#385-07 ALD. SCHNIPPER AND GENTILE updating the Public Facilities Committee on the progress of the Newton North High School Project. [11/21/07 @ 10:23 AM]

ACTION: HELD 8-0

NOTE: It appears that the Newton North High School Project will be approximately $5 million under budget once complete. The project is essentially complete but there are few open

items, such as the baseball and softball fields, some drainage work, and additional work on Hull Street. This work is estimated to cost approximately $465,000 and there is additional contingency set aside for unforeseen costs.

There will be a review of the finances in June in preparation for the report to the State in August of this year. There will be information on how much the asbestos and other hazardous material abatement added to the cost of the project. Ald. Gentile believes that the rough figure is $16 million dollars. Once further financial information is available, Ald. Gentile will update the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Salvucci, Chairman

Schlesinger and Buchbinder, LLP
Attorneys at Law

Sovereign Bank – 624 Washington Street

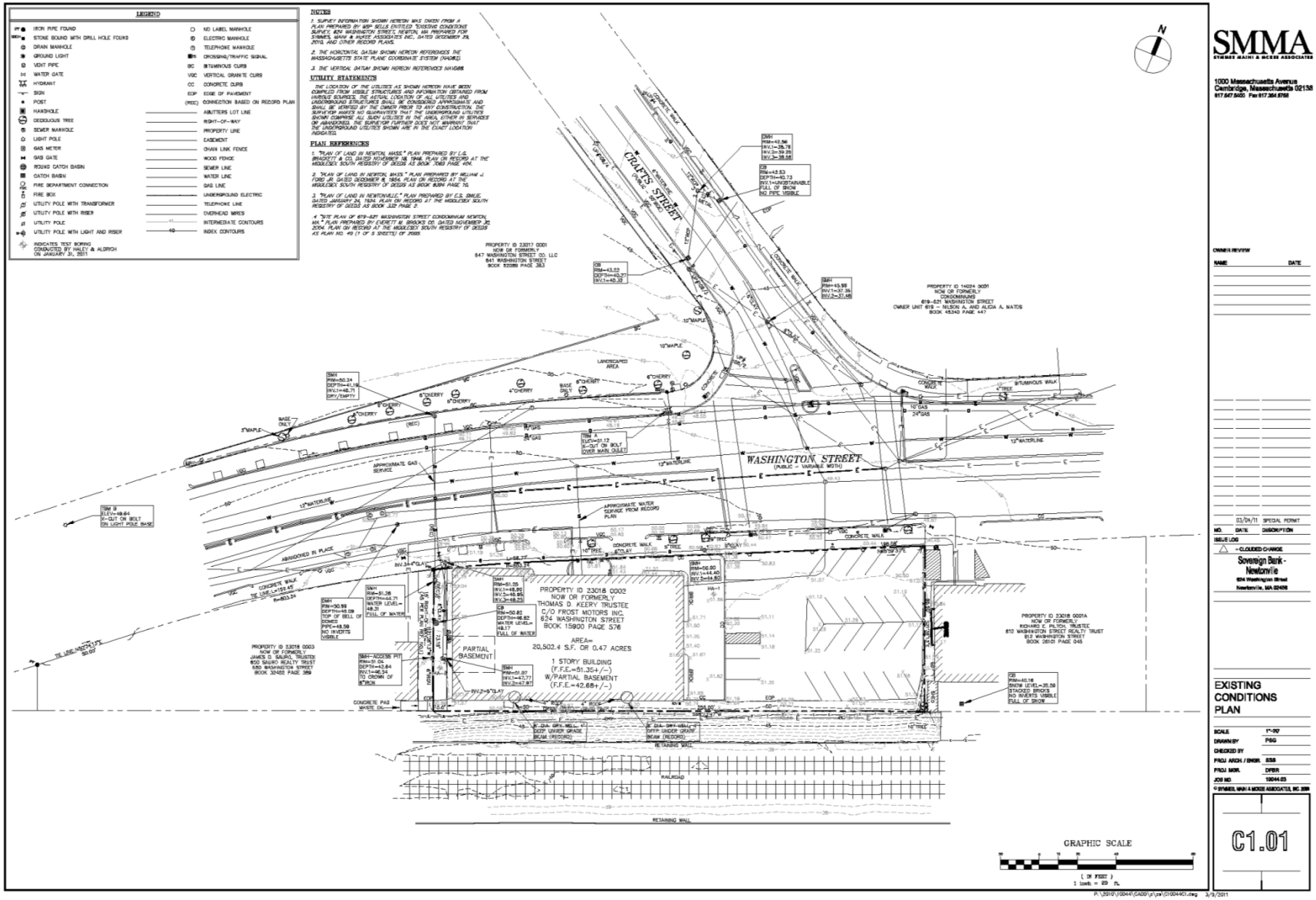
Public Facilities Committee of Newton Board of Aldermen

#149-11(3)

Conceptual Site Plan

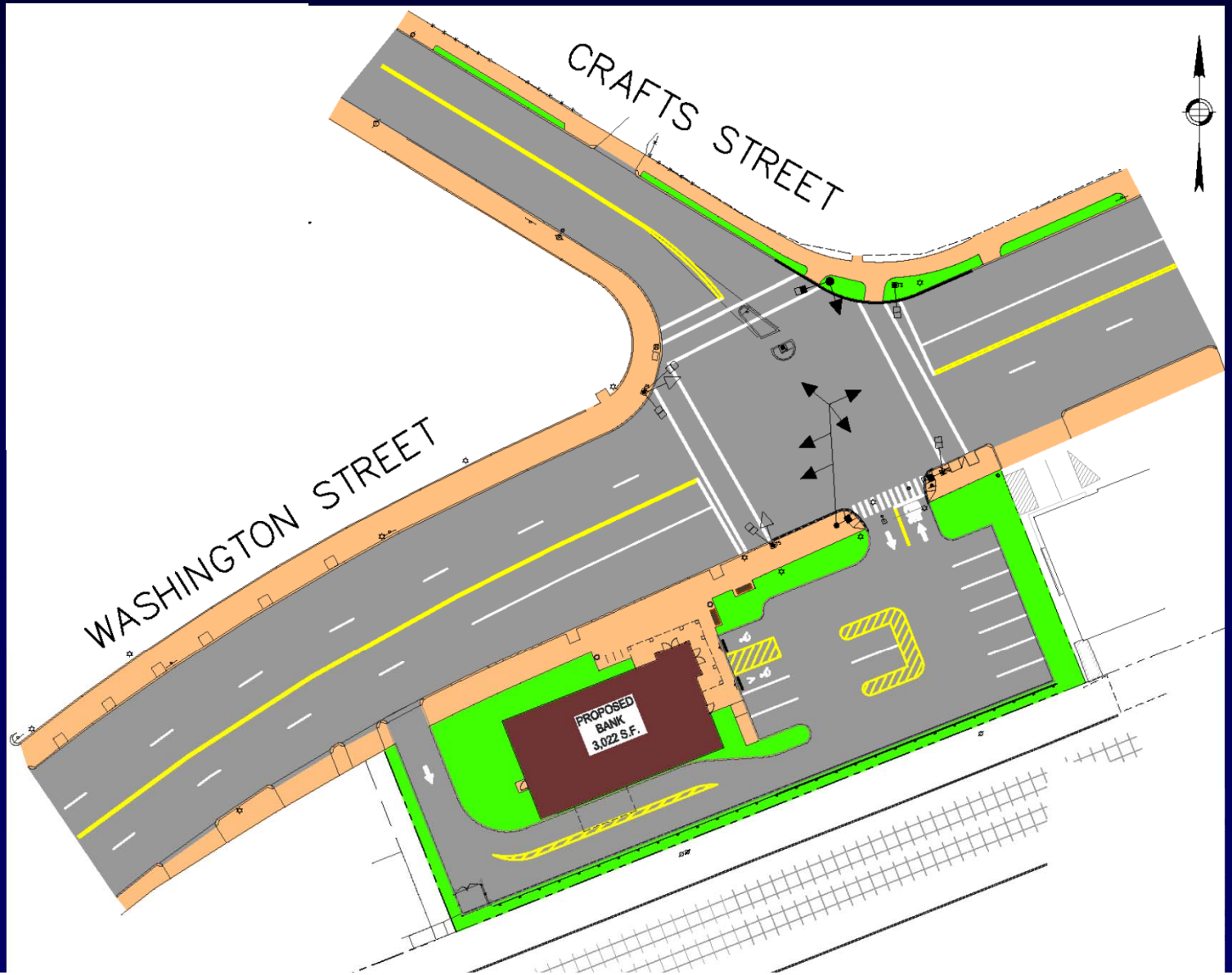
#149-11(3)

Existing Conditions Plan



#149-11(3)

Traffic Improvements Plan



#149-11(3)

City Review

- "The Engineering Division believes the modifications proposed to the traffic signal and road layout will have a significant, positive impact to traffic operations and vehicle and pedestrian safety at the intersection of Washington Street at Crafts Street."
  - Jim Danila, Assistant Traffic Engineer
- "The removal of the channelization island and curb modification will improve vehicular movements at the intersection, and has been reviewed by the Traffic Engineer"
  - John Daghlian, Associate City Engineer

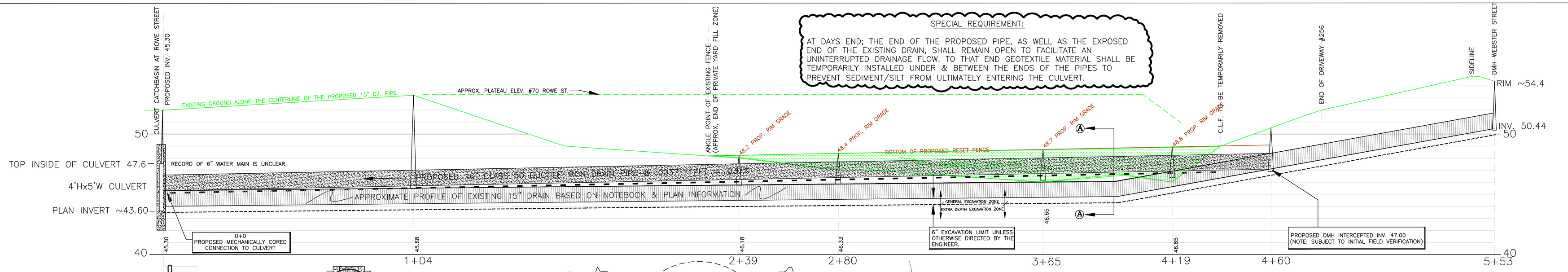
		Accuracy		
Address	Meter size	Low Flow	Intermediate Flow	High Flow
110 Waban Ave.	1"	98%	101.5%	99.3%
10 Myrtle Ave.	1"	100%	100.5%	99.5%
28 Karen Rd.	1"	98%	100.5%	100.5%
33 Fountain St.	3/4"	99%	100.3%	99.8%
1817 Comm. Ave.	5/8"	101%	99.8%	99.8%
26 Melbourne Ave.	5/8"	101%	99.0%	99.6%
13 Dalby St.	5/8"	100%	101.3%	99.3%
58 Prescott St.	5/8"	96%	98.5%	99.4%
49 Nickerson Rd.	5/8"	100%	100.8%	99.5%
23 Stafford Road	5/8"	96%	101.3%	99.5%
113 Linwood Ave.	5/8"	99%	100.0%	99.7%
19 Francis St.	5/8"	99%	101.0%	99.6%
1489 Comm. Ave.	5/8"	96%	100.5%	99.6%
29 Ricker Road	5/8"	100%	99.8%	99.5%
170 Collins Rd.	5/8"	100%	100.0%	99.4%
124 Kirkstall Rd.	5/8"	97%	99.8%	99.1%
32 Paul Street	5/8"	98%	101.5%	99.8%
35 Wykeham Rd.	1"	99%	99.8%	99.5%
79 Algonquin Rd.	1"	100%	101.0%	100.5%
Charles River CC	1"	100%	100.0%	100.5%
Charles River CC	1"	98%	101.3%	100.5%
326 Highland St.	1 1/2"	99%	100.3%	99.8%
35 Rockland St.	1"	98%	100.5%	99.6%
33 Kingberry Rd.	5/8"	100%	100.3%	99.7%
133 Fuller Street	1"	98%	100.0%	99.7%
Stock	5/8"	100%	100.5%	99.5%
Stock	5/8"	100%	100.5%	99.7%
Stock	5/8"	99%	100.3%	99.4%
Stock	5/8"	99%	100.8%	99.7%

Table 5-3 Test Requirements for New, Rebuilt, and Repaired Cold-Water Meters*

Size *in.*	Maximum Rate (All Meters) Flow Rate *gpm*	Test Quantity *gal*	Test Quantity *ft³*	Accuracy Limits *percent*	Intermediate Rate (All Meters) Flow Rate *gpm*	Test Quantity *gal*	Test Quantity *ft³*	Accuracy Limits *percent*	Minimum Rate (New and Rebuilt) Flow Rate *gpm*	Test Quantity *gal*	Test Quantity *ft³*	Accuracy Limits *percent*	Minimum (Repaired) Accuracy Limits *percent* (min.)
Displacement Meters (AWWA C700)													
⅝	15	100	10	98.5–101.5	2	10	1	98.5–101.5	¼	10	1	95–101	90
⅝ × ¾	15	100	10	98.5–101.5	2	10	1	98.5–101.5	¼	10	1	95–101	90
¾	25	100	10	98.5–101.5	3	10	1	98.5–101.5	½	10	1	95–101	90
1	40	100	10	98.5–101.5	4	10	1	98.5–101.5	¾	10	1	95–101	90
1½	50	100	10	98.5–101.5	8	100	10	98.5–101.5	1½	100	10	95–101	90
2	100	100	10	98.5–101.5	15	100	10	98.5–101.5	2	100	10	95–101	90
3	150	500	50	98.5–101.5	20	100	10	98.5–101.5	4	100	10	95–101	90
4	200	500	50	98.5–101.5	40	100	10	98.5–101.5	7	100	10	95–101	90
6	500	1000	100	98.5–101.5	60	100	10	98.5–101.5	12	100	10	95–101	90

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

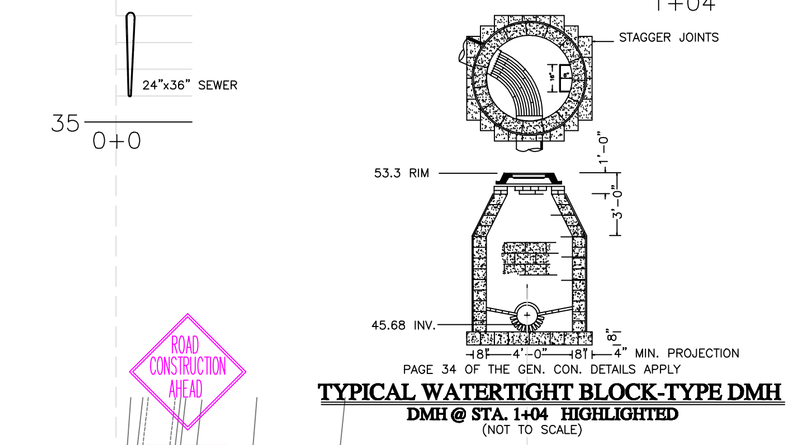
AT DAYS END; THE END OF THE PROPOSED PIPE, AS WELL AS THE EXPOSED END OF THE EXISTING DRAIN, SHALL REMAIN OPEN TO FACILITATE AN UNINTERRUPTED DRAINAGE FLOW. TO THAT END GEOTEXTILE MATERIAL SHALL BE TEMPORARILY INSTALLED UNDER & BETWEEN THE ENDS OF THE PIPES TO PREVENT SEDIMENT/SILT FROM ULTIMATELY ENTERING THE CULVERT.



PROFILE

HORIZONTAL: 0 10 20 30 40

VERTICAL: 0 4 8

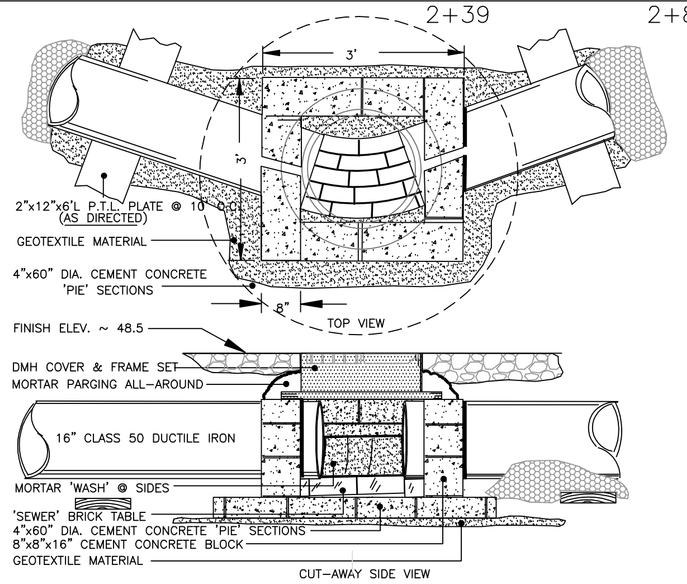


PAGE 34 OF THE GEN. CON. DETAILS APPLY

TYPICAL WATERTIGHT BLOCK-TYPE DMH

DMH @ STA. 1+04 HIGHLIGHTED

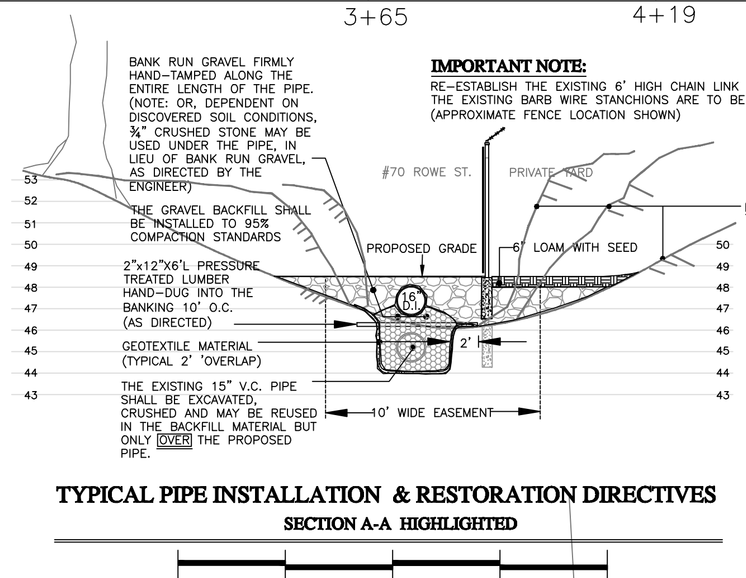
(NOT TO SCALE)



TYPICAL WATERTIGHT 'TROUGH BOX'

TRANSITION @ STA. 2+80 HIGHLIGHTED

(NOT TO SCALE)



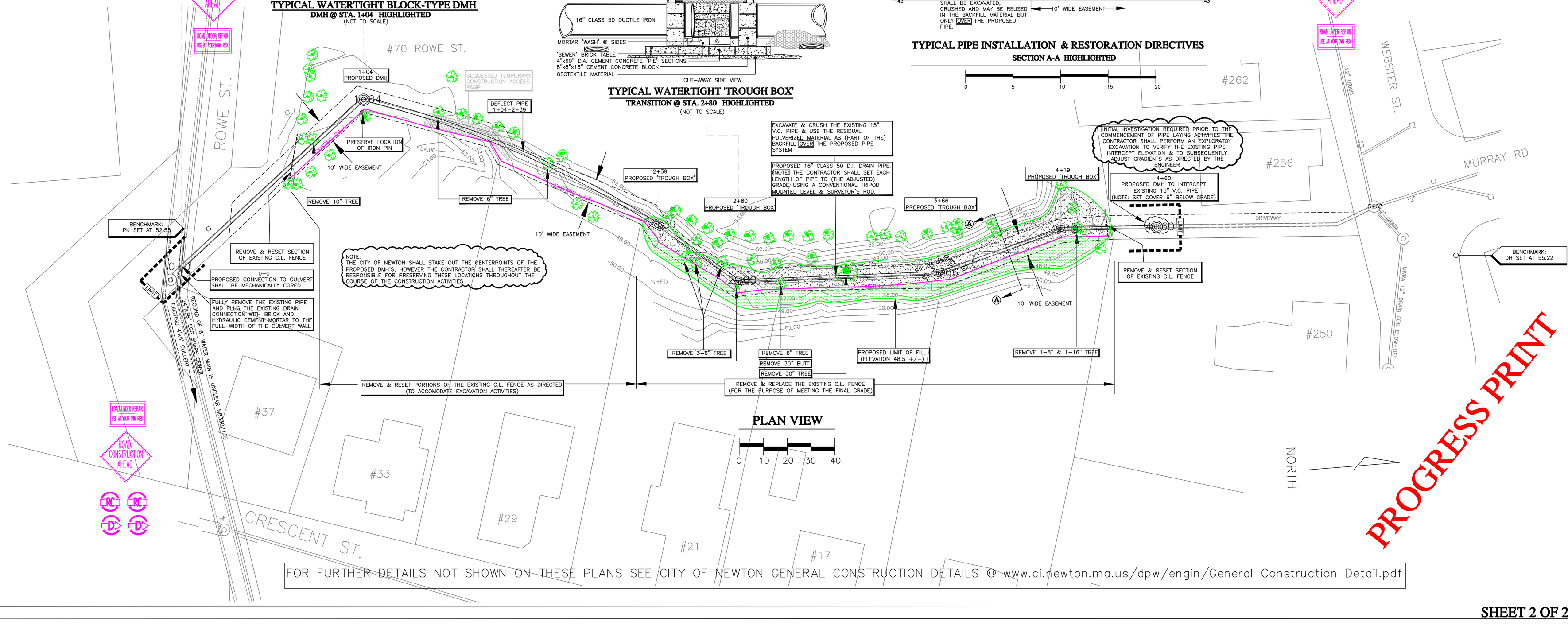
IMPORTANT NOTE:

RE-ESTABLISH THE EXISTING 6' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE IN ITS ORIGINAL LOCATION BUT TO THE NEW GRADES. THE EXISTING BARB WIRE STANCHIONS ARE TO BE REMOVED AND REUSED BY THE CONTRACTOR. (APPROXIMATE FENCE LOCATION SHOWN)

TYPICAL PIPE INSTALLATION & RESTORATION DIRECTIVES

SECTION A-A HIGHLIGHTED

0 5 10 15 20



PLAN VIEW

0 10 20 30 40

PROGRESS PRINT

FOR FURTHER DETAILS NOT SHOWN ON THESE PLANS SEE CITY OF NEWTON GENERAL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS @ www.ci.newton.ma.us/dpw/engin/General Construction Detail.pdf

2012 Roads Program with Unlined Water Mains

City of Newton, Massachusetts