

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

The regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held on Thursday, April 1, 2010 at the department offices, 605 West Queen Street, Southington, CT. A recording of this meeting can be found on file tape #558.

PRESENT: President Thomas Murphy, Vice President Erik Semmel, Commissioners Angelina Santa Maria and Cheryl Lounsbury, Superintendent Thomas West, Assistant Superintendent Frederick Rogers and Janice Eisenhauer, stenographer. A quorum is determined.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Thomas Murphy at 6:08PM.

**2. Approval of Minutes of the March 4, 2010 meeting.**

Commissioner Santa Maria asked that the minutes reflect that she left the meeting upon adjournment from the regular meeting to Executive Session. Vice Chairman Semmel made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Commissioner Santa Maria seconded his motion. It passed on a voice vote.

**3. Communications**

a.) Communications from the Public  
None

b.) Communications from Administration  
Superintendent West spoke about the eminent retirement of an employee who has worked for the Water Department for more than 25 years. West asked the Board to sanction a gift certificate to a local restaurant in appreciation of his service. The Board was in complete agreement with this. Superintendent West will take care of it.

c.) Communications from Board Members  
None

**4. Financial Matters**

a.) Review of Water Billings & Outstanding Jobbing Bills & Approval of Invoices

Following review of the presented invoices for payment. Commissioner Santa Maria had a question about the American Express bill. It included the recent trip to Washington, D.C. President Murphy asked if a list of individual charges could be presented with bulk billing in the future. The Board agreed. Santa Maria also asked about the winter plowing bill and wondered if it goes out to bid. Her questions answered, Commissioner Santa Maria made a motion to approve the payments as scheduled, the

outstanding job billing and the water billing. Commissioner Lounsbury seconded the motion. It passed on a voice vote.

## 5. Committee Reports

a.) Executive Committee

Superintendent West reported. The upcoming budget was discussed. Planning for the next several years considering level of revenue needed to accomplish what is necessary. There is a water tank and several miles of water main to be replaced. Revenue projections for the next five years were discussed.

b.) Infrastructure Committee

There was no meeting.

c.) Technology Committee

There was no meeting.

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

a.) Update on Federal Grants, State Grants and SRF Loans

Superintendent West reported on the trip to Washington D.C. They met with staff of Representative Larson, Senators Lieberman and Dodd. They also stopped by Representative DeLauro's office and Chris Murphy's office relative to the interconnection project. West did receive notice that Congressman Larson did include the interconnection project in one of his priority earmarks under the EPA STAG program. He is hoping that Senator Dodd will "carry the ball" on the Army Corp. money and Senator Lieberman will "carry the ball" on the energy money. He felt he had a positive response from the staff.

b.) Update on DEP "Stream Flow" Regulations

Hearings continue on this. CWWA has had several meetings with regulation review members and the chair. A proposal to allow the Health Department to have a voice in this debate died in committee. There was a bill attempting to create an overall water allocation plan for the state. The DEP has not reported back to the people who submitted comments on the proposal of regulations. Their deadline is looming, (it is mid-April) and they must respond or request an extension. There were more than 400 people who submitted comments. If the regulations go before the regulations review committee without change, they will probably be sent back to the DEP.

c.) East Street Water Main

To be addressed in Executive Session.

d.) Pharmaceuticals Collection Day 2010

The program is set for Saturday May 1. The flyers and publicity is set. Several volunteers are scheduled to work that day. The committee has met recently.

e.) Safety Valve Program

To be addressed in Executive Session.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

a.) Proposed 6 lot Subdivision by Oakland Developers located off of Spring Lake Road, "Evergreen Estates."

Assistant Superintendent Rogers presented the plan. He discussed a rear lot on the property. As proposed, the service lines meet all of the department's regulations. There was some discussion. Commissioner Santa Maria made a motion to approve the 6-lot subdivision as presented. This was seconded by Commissioner Lounsbury and passed on a voice vote.

b.) Re-subdivision of Lot 3 by the S. Carpenter Construction Company located at 154 and 176 Town Line Road.

Assistant Superintendent Rogers presented the project. It has been before the Board before with a different plot plan. The contractor is requesting a change in water service since there is a subdivision of one of the properties shown on the map, through an easement granted by another property. He pointed out the land in question on the map. There were several questions from the Board. President Murphy had questions about the hydrants near the property. There are some Valley Water hydrants nearby. The project meets the Southington Water specifications. Commissioner Santa Maria asked for clarification of the plans regarding access to the rear property. Robert O'Leary of Oakland Developers answered questions from the floor. The Fire Department has signed off on this. After a lengthy discussion about fire protection, Vice Chairman Semmel made a motion to accept the project as presented. Commissioner Lounsbury seconded his motion and it passed on a voice vote.

c.) Welch Road Stream Crossing.

Superintendent West reported. The contractor has not proposed a final quote. A special shoring design for the job requires specific figures and he is waiting on that.

d.) Triano Drive Water Main Extension located at 149 Lazy Lane, by Carpenter Construction.

Assistant Superintendent Rogers presented the plan. Jim Braim of Harry Cole & Co. representing the contractor was present. The request is to extend the Triano Drive water main extension on Lazy Lane so that the road can be paved. It meets the Department regulations. Also requested is a water service line for which the appropriate information about the proposed building has not been provided. The water service is apparently for an existing house presently using a well but the plan seems to superimpose a proposed building for which there is no information. Braim explained the situation to the Board. After some discussion, Commissioner Santa Maria made a motion to allow

the continuance of the Triano Drive extension water main on Lazy Lane to station 150 without service to the existing home. Vice Chairman Semmel seconded the motion. It passed on a voice vote.

e.) Update on Water Service for Old Southington Drive In Property for Parks and Recreation Department.

Superintendent West reports. The design is not set for the pavilion and it may become necessary to use a large water main to accommodate a sprinkler system there. Commissioner Lounsbury asked for an estimated cost of this project. West projected a figure of \$30,000-\$40,000 vs one third or half of that amount if it does not require a 6" or 8" main.

**8. Executive Session Anticipated for Personnel and Negotiation**

Commissioner Semmel made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session, barring the public and the press, to include Superintendent West and Assistant Superintendent Frederick Rogers. Commissioner Lounsbury seconded the motion and it passed unanimously

The Board entered executive session at 7:10 PM

The Board Left Executive Session at 9:07 PM.

Commissioner Lounsbury made a motion to add item 7f, Service Line Protection Plan to the agenda. Commissioner Semmel seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Semmel made a motion to add item 7g, Vehicle Purchases to the agenda. Commissioner Santa Maria seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Semmel made a motion to offer an optional service line protection plan to the customers of the Southington Water Department for \$14.00 per quarter. The plan would be billed through the quarterly water bills. Commissioner Lounsbury seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lounsbury made a motion to allow the Superintendent to move money out of the Distribution Laptops line item to the Replace Utility Truck line item (\$3,000.00). Commissioner Santa Maria seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lounsbury made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Semmel seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 PM.

Attest:

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Robert M. Berkmoes, Secretary & Treasurer