

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

The regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held on Thursday July 14, 2011 at the Department Offices, 605 West Queen Street, Southington, CT. A recording of this meeting can be found on file tape #575.

PRESENT: President Thomas Murphy, Vice President Erik Semmel, Commissioners Robert Berkmoes, Michael Domian, Angelina Santa Maria, Cheryl Lounsbury, Superintendent Thomas West, Assistant Superintendent Frederick Rogers, Office Supervisor Ann Marie Anp and stenographer Janice Eisenhauer.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Murphy at 6:05 p.m. A quorum was determined.

2. Approval of Minutes of the June 2, 2011 Meeting.

Commissioner Santa Maria noted a correction on the date of minutes presented for approval. The date of the minutes should be May 5, 2011. Commissioner Domian made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Commissioner Semmel seconded his motion. It passed on a voice vote.

3. Communications

a.)Communications from the Public.

None

b.)Communications from Administration

Assistant Superintendent Rogers addressed the water department's power purchasing agreement. He asked that this issue be added to today's agenda for action by the board. There was a discussion about power delivery costs. Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to add this item to the agenda at 7f. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Semmel and passed on a voice vote.

Superintendent West spoke about a fall golf tournament sponsored by CWWA for the benefit of *Water for People*, an international effort to fund the installation of water systems and septic systems, providing clean water supply for villages in third world countries. There was a discussion. Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to table a decision for one month. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Domian. It passed on a voice vote. Private donations to, and participation in, this humanitarian cause, was encouraged. The website is CTAWWA.org.

c.)Communications from Board Members

Commissioner Domian asked about the date of the August meeting and what arrangements are in place for board members' vacations. The board excuses commissioners but maintains its scheduled meetings.

Commissioner Semmel reported on the Economic Development meeting where he spoke with Lou Perillo about some of the difficulties businesses encounter coming into Southington. He suggested that at some point the board could review the old, and perhaps not so business-friendly regulations, to see if

they remain relevant, in an effort to be as open to new business as possible. He asked Mr. Perillo if he could send supply written suggestions of rules that might be modified. The board thought that this was a great idea. Superintendent West will contact Mr. Perillo directly for his input.

Commissioner Santa Maria asked if the service line protection plan premiums would be taxed in the newly-passed tax plan. Ms. Anop answered that it was taxed and will continue to be.

4. Financial Matters

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

Superintendent West spoke about the financial reports presented and reviewed the figures for the fiscal year end. Following a short discussion and a few questions, Commissioner Santa Maria made a motion to approve the invoices for payment and outstanding jobbing bills as presented. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Lounsbury. It passed, without remark, on a voice vote.

5. Committee Reports

a.) Executive Committee

None

b.) Infrastructure Committee

None

c.) Technology Committee

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

a.) Update on DEP "Stream Flow" Regulations.

The DEP, environment groups and the water industry continue to work together to propose livable regulations. A new draft of regulations is awaited and expected in early fall. Senator Markley is working closely with this. It may work out so that the Southington Water Department may be in a position to support the refined stream flow regulations.

b.) Water Service Line Protection Plan.

Superintendent West reports that this plan continues to grow. There have been two repairs for participants. Commissioner Lounsbury asked if commercial participants will be considered. Superintendent West explained that water services for businesses are more complicated and varied than are residential users.

c.) West Street, West Center and Welch Road Water Mains Projects.

Assistant Superintendent Rogers reported on the progress of this job. There are some paving issues being addressed. President Murphy had some questions about hydrants in the area. He pointed out that since the state is planning to repave in the area, it might be wise to put in an additional hydrant on Todd since it will not be an option in the future. There was a discussion. Superintendent West discussed at some length the planned work by the state on route #10 within the next five years. The water infrastructure could be replaced at that time.

d.) Mariondale Storage Tank Replacement Project.

Superintendent West plans to put this out to bid this month. The project has been combined into one bid. The contract documents are ready.

e.) 2011-12 Budget.

Superintendent West presents the final budget figures for the new fiscal year following adoption. The Greeley Ave project has been withdrawn due to unforeseen problems. He explained this to the board as some length. Commissioner Lounsbury had several questions and wondered if Greeley Ave would be considered in the future. President Murphy suggested that an alternate design be considered, perhaps an easement. Rogers suggested the possibility of overland service. West discussed an alternate project in light of the town's paving projections. A paving in the Spring Lake/East Street area is planned. He explained in some detail a plan proposal to complete a main in the Pepperidge Dr. area which would increase the water quality and flow there. Rogers pointed out the area on the map for the board. The town and the water department will collaborate on this project.

Superintendent West clarified for the board changes that are planned within the vehicle fleet and replacement of truck #5. Commissioner Santa Maria had some questions about disposition of discarded vehicles.

f.) New Britain Well Lease.

West reports on the well lease with New Britain now due. New Britain has offered it for one more year. Monthly cost is \$8910.36. Commissioner Lounsbury made a motion to extend the lease one year. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Berkmoes and passed on a voice vote.

g.) QBS Process for Water Capitol Plan.

Superintendent West explained the bid process presently going on with the Sewer Department on a planning project both departments are pursuing. The goal is to use the same firm, if possible. The QBS selection committee has met and narrowed the choice down to three firms who will be interviewed. West is happy with the selections and he feels that any one of the top firms would be appropriate.

h.) Update on Official Payments for Water Bill Payment.

Office Supervisor, Ann Marie Anop reported on the new credit card payment plan. She explained the program for the board and answered questions. Commissioners were concerned about the time frame for payments and the possibility of shut offs during the interim. President Murphy spoke about the policy of leniency in collections extended by the water board. He notes the extension of time payments for assessments, without interest, for two ratepayers that he can recall. This was discussed.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a.) Proposed Services (2- 1 ¼" Domestic Services) for 5,016 sf Industrial Building Located at 36 Triano Drive by AMJM Realty.

Superintendent Rogers presents the project. It meets water department regulations. A motion was made by Commissioner Santa Maria to accept the service as presented. Commissioner Domian seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

b.) Proposed 1-1/2" for 2,500 sf Industrial Building Located at 54 Triano Drive by Timberlou, LLC.

Rogers presents the site map for this project. It meets department specs and regulations. President Murphy asks about hydrants and they are pointed out for him. Commissioner Lounsbury made a motion to accept this service as presented. Commissioner Semmel seconded the motion. It passed on a voice vote, without remark.

c.) Proposed 6" Fire Service and Domestic Service for the North Center School, 196 North Main Street, by Borghessi Engineering.

Assistant Superintendent Rogers presented the site plan for the project. The fire service line is highlighted for the board's attention. This has been reviewed and approved by Neil Cassarella. It meets water department regulations and specifications. As noted, the Fire Department has approved it. Superintendent West comments that there is a public main that runs from Main St to Mill St. Therefore, he would like it to be recorded that since this is being turned over to a private entity, that the Water Department continues to hold an easement for this water main. The Town Attorney has reassured West that this easement is covered, even though this building will be turned over Borghessi, during that interim, the water main easement remains valid. President Murphy suggests that an attachment to the deed stipulate that the water board maintains an easement on the water main. Superintendent West thought it was a good idea to protect this trunk. Commissioner Berkmoes made the motion to accept the project, with an attachment to the deed describing the easement for the 12" water main on the property as designated by the superintendent. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lounsbury and passed on a voice vote.

d.) Proposed 2" Domestic Service for 199 Lazy Lane for 25,713 st Industrial/Garage Building for SRS National

Assistant Superintendent Rogers presents the project to the board. Neil Cassarella has signed off on this project, but signed the wrong copy. It meets the regulations of the water department. Superintendent West notes that SRS is a trucking company, not the solvent company. Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to accept the service, with the stipulation that the proper signature of Neil Cassarella be secured. Commissioner Semmel seconded his motion and it passed on a voice vote.

e.) Proposed "General Council Services" contract with Shipman and Goodwin, LLC.

Superintendent West announced that he thinks this needs to be discussed in Executive Session. This contract will be for present budget year.

f.) Purchasing Power Agreement – Three year contract.

Commissioner Lounsbury made a motion to empower Assistant Superintendent Rogers to research, negotiate, discuss with the company attorney, and enter into a Purchasing Power Agreement for three years. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Semmel. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Executive Session Anticipated for Personnel and Negotiation Matters.

Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to enter Executive Session, barring the public and press, but including Superintendent West, Assistant Superintendent Rogers and Office Supervisor Ann Marie Anop at 7:31 P.M. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Domian and passed on a voice vote.

The Board discussed 2 Negotiation matters, and 1 Personnel matter.

The Board left Executive Session at 9:40 P.M.

Commissioner Semmel made a motion to add item 7g. "Non-Union Raises" to the agenda. Commissioner Lounsbury seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to approve a 2.5% increase retroactive to 7/1/11 for the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Office Supervisor. Commissioner Domian Seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Attest: _____
Robert M. Berkmoes, Secretary & Treasurer