

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, August 1, 2013

There was a regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held in the department administrative offices, 605 West Queen Street, Southington, Connecticut on Thursday, August 1, 2013. A recording of this meeting can be found on file tape #611.

1. CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by President, Erik Semmel.

PRESENT: President Erik Semmel, Vice President Robert Berkmoes, Secretary/Treasurer Michael Domian, Commissioners Thomas Murphy, Angelina Santa Maria and Gregory Klimaszewski, Superintendent Frederick Rogers, Assistant Superintendent William Casarella, and stenographer, Janice Eisenhauer.

2. Approval of minutes of July 11, 2013 Board meeting. Commissioner Domian made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 11, 2013 meeting. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

3. Communications

a.) Communications from the Public

Art Cyr, 103 Berlin Ave., addressed the board. He spoke about a service line break in his neighborhood recently and his efforts to promote the Water Service Line Protection Plan. He also had some comments about "Call Before You Dig." Superintendent Rogers explained how the "Call Before You Dig" service works.

b.) Communications from Administration

None

c.) Communications from Board Members

None

4. New Business

a.) 2012-2013 Audit

Superintendent Rogers apprised the Board that the audit is currently in progress.

b.) Proposed Water Service multi-tenant building located at 365 Queen Street

Superintendent Rogers presented the site plan and the water service projected. This is on a state road. The plan meets department regulations and specifications. The fire service line and sprinkler system has been approved by Fire Inspector Ballard. Commissioner Domian made a motion to approve this plan as outlined. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Santa Maria and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

c.) Hunting on Watershed Land

Superintendent Rogers presented his plan to allow hunting on some watershed land during the upcoming hunting season; the watershed property is being professionally managed by Ferrucci & Walicki, LLC.

The deer population is proliferating and in need of management. He answered several questions from the Board. Final arrangements are in flux. His proposal allows hunting by Southington Water Department staff, however, he plans to discuss lottery system with DEEP and the Southington Police Department. Commissioner Santa Maria and Commissioner Murphy both addressed specific concerns about the safety of all, including trespassers who may be present. Trespassing is known to be a problem. Rogers will investigate further and discuss at the next Water Board meeting.

5. Financial Matters

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

The Board reviewed the financials presented. Commissioner Santa Maria made a motion to accept the invoices as presented for payment, along with the jobbing bills outstanding. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy. There was some discussion about the sizable bill outstanding for replacement of a hydrant struck by a motor vehicle. The motion passed on a voice vote.

b.) Water Service Line Protection Plan.

The monthly report on the Service Line Protection Plans—Residential and Commercial—will be available for review within the next few days and forwarded to the Commissioners on-line.

c.) Review of Financial Statements

The financial statements are being prepared and should be available in a few days for review. Office staff is focused on the ongoing audit.

6. Committee Reports

a.) Executive Committee

No report.

b.) Infrastructure Committee

Superintendent reported on the Columbus Ave job. He is happy with the work and commended Assistant Superintendent Casarella and staff for a job “well done”. He also discussed the South Center St. project at some length. This will be complicated due to the myriad utilities in the area that must be considered. The water main is very old and Rogers suggests that before this is tackled, an engineer should evaluate it. The staff will move on to Clark St Extension where 900’ of water main will be replaced. There are funding issues to be addressed. A meeting of the Infrastructure committee was called for August 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the Water Department Offices.

c.) Policy and Procedures Committee

The committee presented two policies and procedures for official acceptance by the Board. The SECURITY policy was discussed. The Board had concerns about the transportation and storage of tapes. This document designates that they will be stored at the Town Hall. This policy was approved after some discussion. The motion was made to approve by Commissioner Santa Maria and seconded by Commissioner Murphy. It passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Attention was turned to FAS-20 concerning CASH MANAGEMENT. Investment options, and the state statutes governing those decisions, were discussed, yet again. Commissioner Klimaszewski continues to be concerned about department funds being invested in banking institutions beyond the FDIC limits of guarantee.

Commissioner Santa Maria requests that this much-debated policy be accepted, since it does comply with

present state mandates. This policy, she comments, can be revisited at any time. Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to accept FAS-20. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Domian and passed on a voice vote, without dissent.

A meeting of this committee is rescheduled to be held on August 27 at 8 a.m. (rather than August 21)

7. Old Business

a.) Ferguson Group LLC

Superintendent Rogers reports. There is nothing from Bill Hanka. Senator Murphy's office has notified Superintendent Rogers that it is highly unlikely that Southington will lose its prior authorization for grant.

b.) Fire Connection Charge fee (looped system)

Superintendent Rogers has spoken with several Water Departments in the area about this issue. There are many and varied policies to handle these situations. Rogers recommends addressing this issue when another rate review is undertaken.

8. Executive Session Anticipated for Personnel and Negotiation Matters. A motion was made by Commissioner Santa Maria at 6:50 pm to take a brief recess to address a reporter in the audience, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Domian and passed on a voice vote. Commissioner Santa Maria made a motion at 6:54 P. M. to adjourn to Executive Session, barring the public; but including Superintendent Rogers and Assistant Superintendent William Casarella. Commissioner Domian seconded his motion and it passed on a voice vote.

Adjournment

Commissioner Klimaszewski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Domian seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Attest:



Michael S. Domian, Secretary & Treasurer