

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, October 13, 2016

There was a regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held at the department administrative offices, 605 West Queen Street, Southington, Connecticut, on Thursday, October 13, 2016. A recording of this meeting can be found on tapes #653 & #654.

1.) **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Michael Domian. A quorum was determined by the President.

PRESENT: President Mike Domian, Vice President Thomas Murphy, Secretary/Treasurer Gregory Klimaszewski, Commissioner Erika Pocock, Commissioner Joseph Del Debbio, Superintendent Frederick Rogers, Assistant Superintendent William Casarella, and Office Supervisor and Recording Secretary Maria Nason.

2.) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 BOARD MEETING:**

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Klimaszewski and was passed unanimously by a voice vote.

3.) **COMMUNICATIONS:**

a.) **Communication from the Public:**

Anisa Agolli of 101 Gannet Drive, Southington addressed the Board regarding a concern she had with her July 1, 2016 water bill. The water bill was extremely high and she felt that the meter reading was not accurate. After reviewing the case with management staff, Commissioner Klimaszewski made a motion to calculate the July 1, 2016 bill based on her average usage of the five previous quarters for the same period in five previous years using our current rate structure with penalties being adjusted. Commissioner DelDebbio seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

b.) **Communication from Administration:**

Superintendent Rogers reminded the Board he will be out of the office most of the week of October 17th.

c.) Communication from Board Members:

Commissioner Pocock stated that some constituents had expressed concern that they were unaware of the rate increase public hearing that was scheduled on June 9, 2016. Office Supervisor Maria Nason stated there was an ad published in the newspaper and notification was posted on our website. In the future, we will work together to try to find additional ways to notify the public of these hearings.

4.) NEW BUSINESS:

a.) Proclamation for Albert J. Aldi, Jr.

President Domian thanked Albert Aldi for his 47 years of service to the Department and presented him with a proclamation. The Board congratulated him on his retirement. Mr. Aldi expressed his gratitude to the Board and stated working for the Department has been a pleasure and he has enjoyed working with both the residents of Southington, and the employees of the Department. He recalled the small town feel of Southington 47 years ago and how pleasurable it was to begin his career then.

b.) Chips Family Restaurant, 99 Executive Blvd South, extension of existing 4” domestic stub, reduce down to 2” copper, Execwest LLC, Eaglebrook Engineering, Mizzy Construction

Assistant Superintendent Casarella presented and explained plans for an extension of an existing 4” domestic stub, reduced down to 2” copper to service new commercial construction for Chips Family Restaurant at 99 Executive Blvd South. Commissioner Erika Pocock made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Commissioner Klimaszewski seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously by voice vote.

c.) 785, 795, 801, and 811 Queen Street (restaurant/retail), 8” private water main extension, three 2” domestic services, one 1.5” domestic service, two 6” fire protection lines, Calco Construction, BL Companies

Assistant Superintendent Casarella presented and explained plans for an 8” private water main extension, three 2” domestic services, one 1.5” domestic service, and two 6” fire protection lines to service commercial construction at 785, 795, 801 and 811 Queen Street. Commissioner Thomas Murphy made a motion to accept the proposal as presented based on the Superintendent’s recommendation. Commissioner DelDebbio seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously by voice vote.

d.) **102 West Center Street (restaurant/retail), 8” private water main extension, fifteen 1” services, Cranberry Cove, LLC, Harry E. Cole & Son.**

Assistant Superintendent Casarella presented and explained plans for an 8” private water main extension and fifteen 1” services to serve commercial construction at 102 West Center Street. Commissioner Klimaszewski made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Commissioner Del Debbio seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously by voice vote.

5.) FINANCIAL MATTERS:

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

Office Supervisor Nason reviewed with the Board the policy regarding outstanding jobbing invoices. She spoke with Attorney Sciota who stated that property liens are good for fifteen years and property does not need to be re-liened unless new charges are incurred. A discussion about charging penalties on jobbing invoices was also discussed.

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to accept the listed invoices for payment as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner DelDebbio and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

b.) **Water Service Line Protection Plan:**

No comments at this time.

c.) **Review of Financial Statements:**

Superintendent Rogers informed the Board that we will be responsible for reimbursing some unemployment wages to the Department of Labor for a former employee. He will call and speak with our labor attorney to discuss possible recourse.

Commissioner Murphy requested Office Supervisor Nason contact Farmington Bank to discuss the possibility of them increasing the interest rates on our deposits.

6.) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a.) **Executive Committee:**

No report.

b.) Infrastructure Committee:

Superintendent Rogers stated he received the pricing from Utility Services for the Asset Management Program/long term maintenance agreement for the water tanks. He stated he will review the pricing with the committee and, if agreed, he will present it to the Board.

The easement survey for Mill Street has been completed and is being reviewed by the buyer's attorney. All contracts have been signed and a closing date should be scheduled within the next few weeks.

Attorney Chris Fisher is currently working with Southington Planning and Zoning and the State Citing Counsel regarding the monopole on the Mill Street tank property. AT&T is very interested in utilizing the pole. They will need to budget for the cost of moving the infrastructure, so Superintendent Rogers will continue to communicate our timeframe with them. Superintendent Rogers has met twice with Dave Lavalle from Southington Planning and Zoning. Borings need to be done and placement decided. The top ten feet of the pole will be used for emergency services. The current tank is 65' and the proposed pole will be 120' and collapsible.

Superintendent Rogers stated that Well 7A has been developed and has exceeded specific capacity. There will be a pump rate test this week and construction of the well house should begin shortly.

Superintendent Rogers received a letter from DPH regarding stipulations for lead and copper sampling regarding the Well2A site. He is currently working with Woodard & Curran and DPH on an agreement for drilling the proposed well.

Gil Bligh from New Britain Water is working on modifying their water supply plan. Once the new plan is approved by DPH, the purchase of the NB Well can move forward.

Superintendent Rogers stated there has been a delay with the vault installation for the East Side Pressure Zone. DN Tanks has not received submittals from their subcontractor; however, the project is still on schedule. D'Amato Construction has begun working on the pump station. The tank will need to be filled with 5' of water prior to winter.

Superintendent Rogers stated bid specifications for the Mill Street Tank #1 is currently being put together by ITI.

Commissioner Klimaszewski asked about the progress of the RWA Interconnection. Superintendent Rogers explained that it is moving forward and Tighe and Bond is currently working on the design. Commissioner Klimaszewski asked when it might be completed and Superintendent Rogers stated his goal is to have it completed by the end of this fiscal year. The design of the interconnection was modified so that it can accommodate feeding water both ways.

c.) **Policy and Procedures Committee:**

Nothing to report.

7.) **OLD BUSINESS:**

a.) **Land for Sale – Mill Street**

Reference 6b.

b.) **Communications Monopole – Mill Street Tank Site:**

Reference 6b.

c.) **Well 9 – Operational Issues:**

Assistant Superintendent Casarella stated there has been steady progress and Department employees have done much of the work at the site. Both Superintendent Rogers and Assistant Superintendent Casarella complimented the staff and stated they are doing an excellent job. The pads have been poured and the inside pad removed. He will be coordinating with the electrician to put the motor in. Commissioner Klimaszewski asked when the generator will be operational. Assistant Superintendent Casarella stated the generator is scheduled to be delivered the 1st week of November, however, installation will require Well 9 to be shut down for approximately one week. Due to the continued lack of rain, it would serve us better to shut the well later into the fall.

d.) **Patton Brook Well**

Reference 6b.

e.) **Water Restriction Ordinance**

Superintendent Rogers will be working on this over the next few months. Commissioner Klimaszewski asked if the recent rain has helped with supply. Superintendent Rogers stated it helped with slightly increasing the flow in Quinnipiac River.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED FOR PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATION

MATTERS: Commissioner Murphy made a motion for adjournment to Executive Session, barring the public and the press but to include Superintendent Rogers and Assistant Superintendent Casarella. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klimaszewski and it passed on a voice vote at 7:38 p.m.

The board reconvened back into regular session at 8:07 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Attest: 

Gregory Klimaszewski, Secretary/Treasurer