

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, October 12, 2017

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 12, 2017. A recording of this meeting can be found on tape # 669.

1.) CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 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 Joseph Del Debbio, Commissioner Erika Pocock, Superintendent Frederick Rogers, Assistant Superintendent William Casarella, Office Supervisor and Recording Secretary Maria Nason.

2.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 14, 2017 BOARD MEETING:

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to accept the minutes with modifications suggested by the Superintendent. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Klimaszewski and was passed by a voice vote.

3.) COMMUNICATIONS:

a.) Communication from the Public:

Mr. Laskey from 347 Pattonwood Drive asked the Board if the customers in the Pattonwood area would be responsible for a special assessment when they transition from Valley Water to Southington Water. Superintendent Rogers stated they will not be charged any differently than other Southington residents. Mr. Laskey asked if the Department has any transite main in the ground. Superintendent Rogers stated there is approximately 10% transite main in use. Mr. Laskey was concerned about asbestos. Superintendent Rogers stated the Department is phasing out the transite, however, those mains are cement lined and do not pose a threat. The main concern about transite is airborne asbestos, not asbestos in the water line. Mr. Laskey also inquired if the new system will be looped. Superintendent Rogers stated when our construction is completed, the line will be looped from Shuttle Meadow, however, for now water will be fed to the Pattonwood area from Flanders Street and the Mill Street and East Side tanks. Mr. Laskey questioned the pressure vault that was installed. Assistant Superintendent Casarella stated without the vault, some homes would have reached over 100 psi. The vault will keep the pressure at approximately 75 to 80 psi. Mr. Laskey asked about meter changes and when this will begin. Superintendent Rogers stated we are hoping to transition the water main in

November, once that is completed, meter changes will begin and we will contact him as soon as possible to schedule his meter change.

b.) Communication from Administration:

Commissioner Pocock stated she had received several calls about the Water Quality Report and that people were concerned that the Department was testing at the high range of all levels of reporting. Superintendent Rogers explained how to read the report and pointed out the Department has tested well below maximum contaminant levels in all categories.

c.) Communication from Board Members:

None

4.) NEW BUSINESS:

a.) Tighe & Bond Proposal for Additional Engineering Services for ESPZ

Superintendent Rogers presented a \$15,000 proposal for additional engineering fees for startup assistance and additional construction administration services for the East Side Pressure Zone project. Commissioner Murphy asked if the Department had used the contingency that was set up for the project. Superintendent Rogers stated that the engineering fees were based on a lump sum approval and with all the extra modeling, public meetings, extra paperwork for the DWSRF loan, and the addition of the Flanders Road main, the lump sum has been exhausted. Commissioner Klimaszewski asked if the \$15,000.00 will capture all the extra hours needed to get us to the end of the job. Superintendent Rogers stated it will finish the job as well as the closing of the DWSRF loan. Commissioner Klimaszewski asked if the Board could get a breakdown from Tighe and Bond of how many more hours they are expecting. Superintendent Rogers stated he will contact John McClellan for the breakdown.

b.) Administrative Staff Performance review (Non-Union)

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to give the Office Supervisor, Assistant Superintendent, and the Superintendent a 2.5% salary increase. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Del Debbio and it passed on a voice vote. The Board was collectively very happy with how the Department is being run.

5.) FINANCIAL MATTERS:

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

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

b.) Water Service Line Protection Plan:

No discussion.

c.) Review of Financial Statements:

A report comparing budget to actual sales and expenses for the 2016-2017 fiscal year was provided to the Board. Superintendent Rogers reviewed the final numbers with the Commissioners.

6.) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a.) Executive Committee:

No report.

b.) Infrastructure Committee:

Superintendent Rogers stated the Regional Water Interconnect is wrapping up. Communications and SCADA is the last piece of the project to be completed.

Superintendent Rogers stated the East Side Tank is on-line. Assistant Superintendent Casarella is working on the pump station which will need a program change for operational purposes.

Superintendent Rogers informed the Board that Well 7A is online.

Superintendent Rogers stated that Assistant Superintendent Casarella and staff finished a major review of the Well 2A design documents. Woodard and Curran will be making the required changes and the bid for Well 2A should be out in the next month or two. The timing of the construction was discussed with the Board once again. The Department needs to be mindful of next year's demand during the summer season. Superintendent Rogers stated drilling can take place in July, however, Well 2 may need to be redeveloped prior to the drilling of the new Well 2A. Well 2 is currently pumping 380 gallons per minute, down from 500 gallons per minute. Commissioner Domian asked if it is reconditioned and not used, will it continue to run at the reconditioned level. Superintendent Rogers stated the gains made by the redevelopment should not be lost if the well is not run. He stated the

redevelopment will cost approximately \$20,000.00. Commissioner Klimaszewski asked if the well will get back to 500 gallons per minute after the redevelopment. Superintendent Rogers does not believe so due to the formation changes caused by manganese. Superintendent Rogers explained that formation changes do not respond to redevelopment over time.

Superintendent Rogers stated the official closeout paperwork for the Reservoir #1 dredging has been received and submitted to DEEP.

The Board discussed the current work on Flanders Road by D'Amato Construction. Due to the need to repave the road every day, the project is moving a bit slower than the Board would have liked, but this is unavoidable due to traffic control, the location of the installation, and the paving requirements set forth by the Town of Southington.

Superintendent Rogers also stated maintenance at the treatment plant is continuing.

Commissioner Murphy asked if work has begun on Reservoir #3. Superintendent Rogers replied work has not yet begun. He stated it may be beneficial to look at Reservoir #2 as well as Reservoir #3. The dredging could take several years, but it would improve the water supply. Commissioner Murphy stated as long as the Board is considering both Reservoir #2 and #3, would it be feasible to look into increasing the size of the dam height. Superintendent Rogers stated this could take years because the Department would have to go through a rigorous permitting process through DPH and the Army Corps of Engineers, etc. Commissioner Murphy felt that this is an important project that the Board should begin. Superintendent Rogers stated when the Department is ready to bid reservoir #3 intake structure work he can ask the engineer about increasing the height of the spillways. Assistant Superintendent Casarella suggested the Board and management weigh their options, since the treatment plant is only used three months of the year. Commissioner Murphy also asked if we could utilize the land beyond Reservoir #3 to make a Reservoir #4. Superintendent Rogers stated he had looked into this option, however, there is no watershed and there is not an additional safe yield. Commissioner Murphy asked if the Department could purchase land. Superintendent Rogers stated there is nothing for sale and the Department would need 100 acres.

c.) Policy and Procedures Committee:

Nothing to report.

7.) OLD BUSINESS:

a.) Communications Tower – Mill Street Tank Site:

This is currently on hold.

b.) **Mill Street Tank Painting:**

Tank inspections are scheduled to take place in the next two weeks.

c.) **Water Rates**

On hold until January 2018.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED FOR PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATION

MATTERS: Commissioner Klimaszewski 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 Murphy and it passed on a voice vote at 7:03 p.m.

Commissioner Klimaszewski made a motion to reconvene back to Regular Session at 7:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and it passed on a voice vote.

Commissioner Klimaszewski made a motion to add Administration staff performance reviews to the agenda under new business (4.b.) The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and it passed on a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Pocock made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Attest:



Michael Domian, President