

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

There was a special meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held at the department administrative offices, 605 West Queen Street, Southington, Connecticut, on Wednesday July 11, 2018. A recording of this meeting can be found on tapes # 685 & #686.

1.) CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by President Thomas Murphy. A quorum was determined by the President.

PRESENT: President Thomas Murphy, Vice-President Erika Pocock, Secretary/Treasurer Robert Berkmoes, Commissioner Michael Domian, Commissioner Ralph Warner, Superintendent William Casarella, Office Supervisor and Recording Secretary Maria Nason.

2.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 14, 2018 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING:

Commissioner Domain made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and was passed by a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 14, 2018 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and was passed by a voice vote.

Commissioner Berkmoes requested to move Old Business, Item A – Art for a Cause to be heard prior to Communications. The Board agreed without objection.

7.) OLD BUSINESS – Item A – Art for a Cause

Superintendent Casarella asked Kim Reis and Claire Bean from Kelley Elementary to address the Board regarding their plans for the pollinating garden on Department property across from Well 1A. The Board reiterated that no penetration of the surface can take place. Both Ms. Reis and Ms. Bean agreed. Superintendent Casarella also stated the Department will have an inspector on site during construction. He also referred them to Rob Phillips, at the Southington Planning and Zoning Department to discuss any concerns the Town may have regarding the project. Commissioner Berkmoes asked for a rendering of the site to include changes to reflect no penetration as well as elevations, measurements and type of plantings. The rendering will need to be submitted and approved by Superintendent Casarella before the project will be allowed to move forward. Ms. Reis and Ms. Bean agreed to submit the rendering.

3.) COMMUNICATIONS:

a.) Communication from the Public

None.

b.) Communication from Administration

Superintendent Casarella expressed his condolences to Commissioner Berkmoes for the loss of his mother. Commissioner Berkmoes also sent a thank you for the flowers the Board sent.

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board that employee Ryan Sickles had resigned his position. This leaves another open Distribution position.

Superintendent Casarella stated he would like to review jobbing rates and management wages at the next meeting.

Commissioner Berkmoes suggested reviewing these issues during the next Infrastructure meeting.

Superintendent Casarella presented the Board with a copy of the Department's water bill which reflected the changes voted on by the Board.

c.) Communication from Board Members

Commissioner Warner would like to discuss the charge for covering multi-family homes under the residential line protection program. The Board will address this when reviewing jobbing rates.

4.) NEW BUSINESS:

a.) Request for Sampling at Well 2

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board that the Department was contacted by Platform Environmental, who represents Citgo Gasoline / Food Bag, requesting they be allowed to sample Well 2 due to a Significant Environmental Hazard (SEH) that happened in Oct 2017. The Department was never notified by DEEP of the incident. Samples revealed no contamination found. Al Fiorillo, the Department's Engineering Technician, along with Don Iannicelli from Woodard and Curran, have reached out to DEEP to ask what the details of the event were and to inform them there are six active wells in Southington and the Department needs to be notified immediately of spills. DEEP has yet to contact the Department.

b.) Light Metals Leak

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board there was sulfuric acid leak at Light Metals Coloring on July 2, 2018. He was contacted by Shane Lockwood from the Health Department that morning and responded to the scene. He met with Facility Support Services (FSS), Light Metals environmental firm. DEEP was also on site to evaluate the spill. It was determined at the time that the spill didn't pose any adverse conditions to the wet lands or the Quinnipiac River. Superintendent Casarella requested all sample results and a follow up report from FSS and DEEP.

c.) Tilcon Quarry

Referred to Executive Session

d.) Succession Planning

Superintendent Casarella stated that two new employees have been hired. Start dates are July 9th and July 16th. Ray Thayer has been promoted to Maintainer II – Pipeline Inspector. He also wanted to let the Board know that staff is doing a good job and Joe Beharry, recently promoted to Distribution Foreman, is doing an excellent job.

e.) 37/43 Hunters Lane, 44 unit (55 and older) multi-family complex (Village Meadows), forty-four 1” taps off 8” water main extension. Developer: Wonx Road Partnership, Contractor: R.L. Rogers & Son, Engineer: Harry E. Cole & Son.

Superintendent Casarella presented plans to the Board for a 44 unit, 55 and older multi-family complex located at 37/43 Hunters Lane in Plantsville. He explained the plan does not follow Department specifications regarding water main size and placement of curb stops. Commissioner Warner questioned if the units would be heated with gas, and if so, where the water services would be in relation to the gas line. The plan was tabled and Superintendent Casarella will address these concerns with the Engineering Technician who will reach out to the contractor.

5.) FINANCIAL MATTERS:

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

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

b.) Water Service Line Protection Plan

In response to Commissioner Warner’s suggestion that the Department market the residential service line protection plan to those residents with wrought iron services, Superintendent Casarella reviewed with the Board a letter that addresses this issue. Currently to date, the Department has identified about 300 customers with wrought iron services. Additional applications are still being reviewed. Letters and brochures will be sent out to these customers shortly.

c.) Review of Financial Statements

After reviewing the financial statements, President Murphy brought to the Board’s attention that billings were down \$500,000 when compared to the last fiscal year. This was due to the wet Spring/Summer season of 2017.

6.) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a.) Executive Committee

No meeting.

b.) Infrastructure Committee

There was no meeting, however, Superintendent Casarella informed the Board the bids for the Rourke Ave and Hill Street water main replacement will be going out in about two weeks. The bid had to be changed to address that special duty police will be invoiced to SWD directly. Three reputable contractors will be asked to bid this project.

The Department repaired a service leak on Lacey Road that contained a lead gooseneck.

c.) Policy and Procedures Committee

No meeting.

7.) OLD BUSINESS:

a.) Art for a Cause

Taken out of order, reference above.

b.) Website

Tabled.

c.) Mill Street Tank Project

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board that contracts regarding the temporary easement have been signed. The Special Permit Use (SPU) and Site Plan Review (SPR) have been sent to the Town for review. Tighe and Bond and Superintendent Casarella will address comments before the Planning and Zoning Commission on July 17th. Letters to 133 residences were mailed inviting them to the public hearing. A rendering of the project will be available at the meeting.

d.) DWSRF Projects

Well 2A – Bid documents were made available on June 28th. There are currently 11 planholders, including 5 general contractors. There is a pre-bid site visit scheduled for July 17th at 10 a.m. Woodard and Curran will be present to review and answer questions concerning the bid documents. Funding for the generator at Well 2 may be subsidized up to 45% of \$95,000 through DWSRF. This would need to be an add alternate since it is not part of the contract.

Mill Street Tank – In process

Treatment Plant Upgrades – Postponed, however, will need to be addressed next year due to age related issues.

Reservoir 3 Design Study – Currently postponed.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) – Revisit at a later date.

e.) **General Permit of Treatment Wastewater Discharge**

Woodard and Curran completed the general permit and it has been sent to DEEP.

f.) **Dam Inspections/Emergency Action Plan for Reservoir 1**

Wright-Pierce is working on Dam Inspections for Reservoir 3, Crescent Lake, and EAP for Reservoir 1. They will be finished by the end of this summer.

g.) **On Call Consulting Services**

Superintendent Casarella discussed with the Board the need to allocate funds for on call consulting services. This will allow him to address any immediate needs the Department may have. Commissioner Domian made a motion to hire Woodard and Curran for on call consulting services not to exceed \$10,000. Commissioner Pocock seconded the motion and it was passed on a voice vote.

h.) **Other**

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED FOR PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATION MATTERS:


Commissioner Domian made a motion for adjournment to Executive Session, barring the public and the press but to include Superintendent Casarella and Don Iannicelli from Woodard and Curran. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pocock and it passed on a voice vote at 7:42 p.m.

Commissioner Domian made a motion to reconvene back into regular session. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion and it was passed on a voice vote at 9:22 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Attest: 
Robert Berkmoes, Secretary/Treasurer