

**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC HEARING WATER
RATES INCREASE
Wednesday, June 12, 2019**

There was a public hearing held by the Board of Water Commissioners for purposes of public comment on the new rate schedule for July 1, 2019. It was held at the Department's administrative office, 605 West Queen Street, Southington, CT. on June 12, 2019. A record of this meeting can be found at the Department office.

1.) CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:45pm by President Thomas Murphy. A quorum was determined by the President.

PRESENT: President Thomas Murphy, Secretary/Treasurer Robert Berkmoes, Commissioner Rudy Cabata, Commissioner Ralph Warner, Superintendent William Casarella, Assistant Superintendent Albert Fiorillo, Office Supervisor and Recording Secretary Maria Nason.

Office Supervisor Nason read aloud the proposed rate increases in comparison with the current rates as requested by President Murphy. Mr. Zygmunt Jurglewicz who resides at 383 West Street, Southington spoke in opposition of the increase stating he believed there should not be a charge for consumption. He explained that being on a fixed income is difficult and no matter how small an increase, it can still be a burden. Superintendent Casarella explained the large expenses and infrastructure cost the Department incurs from treating water to distributing the water. There were no other speakers on the floor.

The public hearing was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, June 12, 2019**

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, June 12, 2019. A recording of this meeting can be found at the Department office.

1.) CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by President Thomas Murphy. A quorum was determined by the President.

PRESENT: President Thomas Murphy, Secretary/Treasurer Robert Berkmoes, Commissioner Rudy Cabata, Commissioner Ralph Warner, Superintendent William Casarella, Assistant Superintendent Albert Fiorillo, Office Supervisor and Recording Secretary Maria Nason.

2.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MAY 9, 2019 BOARD MEETING:

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

3.) COMMUNICATIONS:

a.) Communication from the Public:

None.

b.) Communication from Administration:

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board the he and the Assistant Superintendent had a utility walkthrough for the Rails to Trails which will be continuing down Aircraft Road into Plainville. He is recommending the Department install water main to loop Aircraft Road to West Queen Street which also includes a bridge crossing. He has estimated this project to be approximately \$350,000. After some discussion, the Board decided to review again in the fall after some of the current infrastructure projects are near completion.

Superintendent Casarella explained to the Board there was a sewage back up in a home on Hill Street which was the result of work done when D'Amato Construction replaced the water main last year. The affected house had been vacant and not until someone moved in did the sewage issue become apparent. D'Amato responded immediately and the homeowners were back in their house within 24 hours.

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board an employee who was in an auto accident last month has filed a claim against the Department's automobile policy.

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board that 3 seasonal employees have been hired.

Superintendent Casarella asked the Board to consider tuition reimbursement for Damian Chuchro who has expressed interest in obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. The Board has asked the Superintendent to speak with the Department's labor attorney regarding policy recommendations.

Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo asked the Board for tuition reimbursement to obtain a Water Management Certificate from Gateway College in New Haven. Commissioner Berkmoes stated the Board will follow past practice.

c.) Communication from Board Members:

None.

4.) NEW BUSINESS:

a.) Proposal for Engineering Services for Dam Inspections

Superintendent Casarella presented a proposal from Wright-Pierce, an environmental engineering firm, to complete a dam inspection for Reservoir #1 and update the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for Reservoir #3 and Crescent Lake as requested by DEEP for an amount not to exceed \$7,700.

Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to accept the proposal from Wright-Pierce to conduct a dam inspection of Reservoir #1 and update the EAP for Reservoir #3 and Crescent

Lake for an amount not to exceed \$7,700.00. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

5.) FINANCIAL MATTERS:

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

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

b.) Water Service Line Protection Plan:

The plan netted one customer for May 2019.

c.) Review of Financial Statements:

No comments.

6.) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a.) Executive Committee:

No meeting.

b.) Infrastructure Committee:

No meeting.

c.) Policy and Procedures Committee:

No meeting.

7.) OLD BUSINESS:

a.) Water Rates:

Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to raise the consumption charge and the service/infrastructure charge rate by 5% to begin on July 1, 2019. Commissioner Cabata seconded the motion and it passed unanimously on a voice vote.

b.) Draft Budget:

Superintendent Casarella reviewed the draft budget with the Board and explained some changes made to the Capital Expenditures. He has recommended that Cybersecurity be revisited in the FY 2021 budget. He is currently reaching out to Goosetown Communications to discuss the security of the SCADA system.

Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to approve the FY 2020 budget as presented with the modification that the Aircraft Road to W. Queen Loop capital expenditure be removed and the amount allocated to this project be reallocated into the contingency. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion and it was passed on a voice vote.

c.) Jobbing Rates:

The Board reviewed the current and proposed jobbing rates. The fee calculation spreadsheet was reviewed. A new charge for obtaining readings for final bills was discussed and explained by the Superintendent.

Commissioner Cabata made a motion to accept the proposed jobbing rate increases as presented, to begin on July 1, 2019, and to include the new charge for obtaining readings for final bills. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion and it was passed on a voice vote.

d.) Insurance Bids

The Board was presented with a summary of the insurance bids. Coverage similarities and differences were discussed. Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to accept the insurance bid from HD Segur in the amount of \$ 76,678.00 for Property and Casualty Insurance with the addition of a three year premium for \$15,326 for pollution coverage, and to accept the insurance bid from CIRMA for Workers' Compensation Insurance in the amount of \$138,019.00. Commissioner Cabata seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

e.) Well 2A

There is a herpetologist on site to protect the endangered species in the construction area. The roof work on the existing treatment building is complete. The grading and site work for the proposed generator location is also complete. The generator pad has been poured. The building is scheduled to be delivered next month. Substantial completion is scheduled for September.

f.) Mill St Tank Project

Concrete was poured for the tank inlet piping and clearing and clean-up of the trees has been completed. Pre-Load has submitted several submittals for review. A meeting was held at the Department office with Pre-Load, Tighe & Bond and CT DPH. Tighe & Bond and CT DPH went to the tank site and completed the DWSRF site visit checklist.

g.) West Main Street Water Main Installation

The water main has been installed on South Main and West Main Street to the east side of the Quinnipiac River bridge. The line has been tied into Hillside Avenue. The main passed a pressure test and was chlorinated. The first sample will be taken on Thursday, June 13th.

The installation of water main on the west side of the river continues and is moving west. Work is currently being done in front of Zingarella's Restaurant.

When trying to install a valve on W Main Street, it was determined the prior lining of the water main had changed the I.D. of the pipe. The Department is currently working with Hydra Stop to address the situation and install the correct valve.

JJ Brennan anticipates installing the tee and valve cluster at the intersection of W Main St and Summer St by the end of next week.

Once the valve cluster is installed, the main west of the river will be pressure tested and chlorinated. Once the water main has passed testing, JJ Brennan will schedule, notify and begin tapping the new services on S Main Street.

h.) Cyber Security

See Old Business (b) – Draft Budget.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED FOR PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATION MATTERS:


Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion for adjournment to Executive Session, barring the public and the press but to include Superintendent Casarella and Assistant Superintendent Albert Fiorillo. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and it passed on a voice vote at 7:40 p.m.

Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to reconvene back to Regular Session at 8:02 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and it passed on a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Attest: 
Robert Berkmoes, Secretary/Treasurer