

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Thursday, August 8, 2019

There was a meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held at the department administrative offices, 605 West Queen Street, Southington, Connecticut, on Thursday, August 8, 2019. A recording of this meeting can be found at the Department office.

1.) **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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 Rudy Cabata, Commissioner Ralph Warner, Superintendent William Casarella, Assistant Superintendent Albert Fiorillo, Office Supervisor and Recording Secretary Maria Nason.

2.) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 12, 2019 PUBLIC HEARING**

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 with Commissioner Pocock abstaining.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 12, 2019 SPECIAL 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 with Commissioner Pocock abstaining.

3.) **COMMUNICATIONS:**

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

None.

b.) **Communication from Administration:**

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board that water production from Well 9 has decreased. SB Church evaluated the cause and it has been determined the pump and propellers need to be replaced and the well needs redevelopment. Production has been reduced to a level which allows the well to continue pumping without promoting further complications.

Superintendent Casarella discussed with the Board additional ways to meet demand.

Commissioner Cabata made a motion to approve the redevelopment of Well 9 at a cost of \$26,637.00 and to purchase a new pump at a cost of \$36,960.00, stipulating the new pump will be factory tested unless the need to replace the current pump is immediate, then the Department will purchase a second pump and will keep the factory tested pump in inventory as a back-up. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion and it was passed on a voice vote.

Superintendent Casarella stated he received a phone call from Mr. Pete Salomone, complimenting Jason Paradis and Robert Cipriano for their exceptional work at his home. He stated they were both hardworking and professional. Superintendent Casarella shared the compliment with both employees and will document their personnel files.

c.) **Communication from Board Members:**

Commissioner Cabata stated he received a call from a resident on Summit Street regarding the need to repair a hydrant trench in that area. Superintendent Casarella stated he will discuss with the Distribution Foreman and address the concern.

4.) **NEW BUSINESS:**

a.) **The Kings Ridge Drive Development at 792 South End Road. Approximately 900' of 8" private main. The proposed development is for 15 units of age-restricted housing with 1" domestic services. Owner/Developer: Lovely Development, Inc. Engineer: Kratzert, Jones and Associates.**

Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to accept the Kings Ridge Drive Development at 792 South End Road for approximately 900' of 8" private water main for the proposed development of 15 units of age-restricted housing with 1" domestic services as presented. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion and it was passed on a voice vote.

b.) **DPH Circular Letters**

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board that the State of CT DPH has been issuing several circular letters over the last few months. A very big issue facing the State and water utilities is PFAS in the water. Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo spoke about meetings that he and the Superintendent attended regarding the task force Governor Lamont is developing. He will update the Board as more information is received from the State regarding testing for and understanding how PFAS are affecting the environment. Woodard and Curran completed and has furnished the State DPH with a mandatory report regarding where PFAS may be identified and used in Town. Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo will email a copy of the report to the Board.

The State of CT DPH is also requiring the Department to submit a more accurate sampling site plan for lead and copper. Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo is working with the engineering technician and Tighe and Bond to complete the mapping and new sampling site plan which he will submit to DPH by August 31, 2019.

c.) **Administrative Staff Performance Review**

Has been referred to Executive Session for personnel matters.

After reconvening out of Executive Session, Commissioner Berkmoes made a motion to approve payroll increases of 2.5% for the Superintendent and the Office Supervisor. Commissioner Warner seconded the motion and it was passed on a voice vote.

5.) FINANCIAL MATTERS:

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

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

b.) Water Service Line Protection Plan:

The plan netted two customers for July 2019.

c.) Review of Financial Statements:

The budget comparison report for FY 2019 was distributed. It will be updated and re-distributed after the audit is finalized.

6.) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a.) Executive Committee:

No meeting.

b.) Infrastructure Committee:

No meeting.

c.) Policy and Procedures Committee:

No meeting.

7.) OLD BUSINESS:

a.) Well 2A

Superintendent Casarella stated that the plumbing and electrical work is being completed in the new building. A new updated work schedule will be submitted soon. The project is approximately 75% complete.

b.) Mill Street Tank Project:

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board that the wall panels were cast during the last week of June and the first two weeks of July. They were erected the week of July 15th. Shotcreting and construction of the dome formwork is underway. Pouring of the dome is scheduled for next week. Specs for the antenna tower and communications equipment enclosure were issued to Northeast Tower and Allstate Tower. Quotes are expected at the end of next week. Tank color was reviewed and the Board has chosen gray.

Superintendent Casarella met with police regarding a complaint from a neighbor of the Mill St Tank project. The homeowner's concerns were met and the situation was resolved satisfactorily for all involved.

c.) West Main Street Water Main Installation

All the water main and services from the main to curb stop are complete. Laydon Construction will begin paving on Monday, August 12th. JJ Brennan will start the clean-up of the lay down area next week.

d.) Rahlene Drive:

Superintendent Casarella is working with the Town and the contractor to see if the Department can start filling in the embankment west of the cul-de-sac on Rahlene Drive. This will allow us extend the private water main into the cul-de-sac for future possibility of looping the water main to Pratt Street. The Department can use the fill from the West Main Street project.

8.) OTHER:

Superintendent Casarella stated the police are currently patrolling the reservoir for trespassers with positive results.

An updated contract for 161 Birch Drive was presented to President Murphy for signature.

A Memorandum of Agreement for staff taking college courses was presented. The Board discussed the details and asked for further information. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

The Rails to Trails along Aircraft Road is currently in the design phase. Superintendent Casarella stated if the main wasn't installed now, we may want to attach the water main to the bridge for the time being. This will allow the Department to connect the water main to West Queen Street in the future. Superintendent Casarella felt if the Board wanted to consider a two-way feed in this area, that directional drilling under the tracks on West Queen Street would be preferable. After a brief discussion, Superintendent Casarella will speak to a contractor regarding the cost of direct drilling.

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 Cabata and it passed on a voice vote at 8:00 p.m.

Commissioner Cabata made a motion to reconvene back to Regular Session at 8:23 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and it passed on a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Attest: Thomas J. Murphy
Thomas J. Murphy, President
for Robert Berkmoes, Secretary/Treasurer