

# BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

## Thursday, January 9, 2020

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, January 9, 2020. A recording of this meeting can be found at the Department office.

1.) **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm by President Erika Pocock. A quorum was determined by the President.

**PRESENT:** President Erika Pocock, Commissioner Thomas Murphy, Commissioner Rudy Cabata, Commissioner Ron Lamoreux, Superintendent William Casarella, Assistant Superintendent Albert Fiorillo and Office Supervisor and Recording Secretary Maria Nason.

### 2.) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 12, 2020 BOARD MEETING:**

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

### 3.) **COMMUNICATIONS:**

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

None

#### b.) **Communication from Administration:**

Superintendent Casarella informed the Board that Attorney Kania, the Department's town attorney has retired. He expressed his gratitude for Attorney Kania and stated he did a great job for the Department. Attorney Kania will continue to work on a few issues for the Department until completed.

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

President Pocock complimented John Formeister, one of our employees for helping her Condominium Association resolve an emergency water leak over the New Year's holiday. She stated he did a great job and wanted to express her thanks.

### 4.) **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### a.) **UPSEU Request to Start Negotiations.**

Superintendent Casarella presented the Board with a request for information made by the union for purposes of contract negotiations. Once the information is forwarded to the union, a negotiation team from the Board will need to be appointed.

## **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 Cabata and it was passed on a voice vote.

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

Office Supervisor Nason stated there was a net of 5 cancels for the month of December, however, 12 new applications are being processed due to the policy change last month.

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

No comments.

## **6.) COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **a.) Executive Committee:**

No meeting.

### **b.) Infrastructure Committee:**

A meeting has been scheduled for January 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

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

No meeting.

## **7.) OLD BUSINESS:**

### **a.) Well 2A:**

Superintendent Casarella stated the Well 2A project is substantially completed. Minor items remain that are not required to activate the well. Punch list items and final site restoration will conclude in early Spring.

DPH required some additional information on wellhead protection and monitoring before activation. This information was submitted and accepted by DPH.

There's still contingency money left on the loan for this project. Superintendent Casarella will be getting proposals for some restoration work needed on Well 2.

DPH stated they were very pleased with the outcome of the project, including the tracking of all the documentation.

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

Superintendent Casarella stated the substantial completion of the tank was met on January 7, 2020. The tank has been filled with 3 to 4' of water. The 12" main feeding the tank had to be slightly relocated due to some underground utilities. The actual connection to the 16" line will be done when the Tower is completed in the Spring.

Project start up will begin again in March, weather permitting. The contract states start up will begin no later than April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The electric service is still in process. The contractor and SWD are currently getting together information Eversource has requested. Weather permitting, the electric service should be installed before Spring.

The Tower will move forward throughout the winter, weather permitting. The foundation for the Tower will be poured this winter. They will move forward installing the Tower, once delivered.

The Sunnybrook easement deadline is March 1, 2020. The demolition team will need to assess if the deadline for the easement will need to be extended for tank removal.

**c.) Well 9 - Update**

Superintendent Casarella stated Well 9 is back online, but at a reduced rate. Due to the findings of the well losing specific capacity on a gradual basis it is best not to overburden the well. This will preserve the well and decrease the timeframe of redevelopment and maintenance. A new well will need to be built. He is currently getting a proposal for the FY21 budget. In order to request money from DWSRF, a price needs to be attached to the project.

**d.) Commercial Line Protection**

The Board discussed changes to the commercial line protection plan. The Board asked the management team to make recommendations and to present at the next board meeting.

**e.) Tuition Reimbursement**

Superintendent Casarella presented the Board changes requested to the union regarding the memorandum of agreement for tuition reimbursement. This was referred to executive as it is a negotiation matter.

**f.) Future Quality and Treatment Plans**

Superintendent Casarella stated the Department is currently doing quality sampling to get a basis on where the Department stands in reference to lowering actions levels as recommended by DPH. PFAs sample results remain good. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will work with Weston and Sampson to create an action plan and notification letter for the state when needed.

**g.) Update on Customer Refusal to abide to SWD specifications**

Superintendent Casarella stated this is in reference to the customer who installed a private well on his property without properly notifying DPH and the Department. CT DPH is reviewing the issue with their attorney.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED FOR PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATION**

**MATTERS:** Commissioner Lamoreux made a motion for adjournment to Executive Session, barring the public and the press but to include Superintendent Casarella and Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cabata and it passed on a voice vote at 7:22 p.m.

Commissioner Cabata made a motion to reconvene back to Regular Session at 8:21 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and it passed on a voice vote.

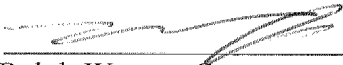
Commissioner Cabata made a motion to change language in item #1 of the MOA regarding tuition reimbursement from a "B" to a "C", and to add the language the union proposed to item #4. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and was passed on a voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

 2-24-20  
Ralph Warner, Secretary and Treasurer