

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2020

There was a regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held by teleconference on Thursday, April 9, 2020. A recording of this meeting can be found at the Department office.

1.) **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by telephone at 6:00 pm by President Erika Pocock. A quorum was determined by the President.

IN ATTENDANCE: President Erika Pocock, Vice President Robert Berkmoes, Secretary/Treasurer Ralph Warner, 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 MARCH 12, 2020 BOARD MEETING:**

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

3.) **COMMUNICATIONS:**

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

Communications were open to the Public via teleconference. No calls from the Public.

b.) **Communication from Administration:**

Superintendent Casarella stated a customer at 1408 Flanders Road inquired about tying into public water at this address. The current assessment charge is \$26,622.24. Due to the small number of houses on this water main, the square foot assessment is unusually high. The customer asked if the Board would consider reducing the amount to make tying into public water system more affordable. Commissioner Warner made a motion to reduce the assessment charge by one-third, charging \$16,703.28. Commissioner Cabata seconded the motion and it was passed by a voice vote.

Superintendent Casarella stated that Connecticut Professional Water Services found 27 leaks in the water system and completed their leak detection in six days. He complimented them for their efficient and timely work. He explained to the Board that the Department has already repaired three main line leaks. Once the remaining main line leaks are repaired, hydrant leaks will follow. After repairs are completed, the contractor will revisit the area to confirm the repair was successful. Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo stated the contractor updated management daily and would meet staff on site when leaks were found.

Superintendent Casarella reviewed a MOA for a union employee. The MOA was agreed upon and President Pocock will sign at a later date.

Superintendent Casarella scheduled a workshop meeting on April 23, 2020. The time is yet to be determined.

c.) Communication from Board Members:

None.

4.) NEW BUSINESS:

a.) Introduction of Bond Resolution Appropriating \$2,500,000 for costs related to the design and construction of a back-up well (Well #10) for Southington Water Department's Well #9.

Superintendent Casarella discussed with the Board the need to approve a bond resolution to secure funding for a new back-up well for Well #9 in the amount of \$2,500,000. The resolution is attached as item #1.

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve a bond resolution appropriating \$2,500,000 for costs related to the design and construction of a back-up well (Well #10) for Southington Water Department's Well #9. Commissioner Berkmoes seconded the motion.

Roll Call:	Commissioner Berkmoes:	Aye
	Commissioner Murphy:	Aye
	Commissioner Warner:	Aye
	Commissioner Cabata:	Aye
	Commissioner Lamoreux:	Aye
	Commissioner Pocock:	Aye

Superintendent Casarella also stated to keep the project moving along, he would like to hire Woodard and Curran for Well Site Investigation and Permitting Approach Development for \$15,860.00. The FY 2020 budget has money in its contingency to cover its cost. Commissioner Warner made a motion to hire Woodard and Curran for \$15,860.00 to do a Well Site Investigation and Permitting Approach Development for a back up well to Well #9. Commissioner Lamoreux seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

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 Lamoreux and it was passed on a voice vote.

b.) Water Service Line Protection Plan:

Office Supervisor Nason stated there was a net of 12 additions to residential line protection for March 2020 and 2 commercial line protection additions.

c.) Review of Financial Statements:

Superintendent Casarella stated the CD that is due to mature on 4/20/20 will be redeposited back into a money market with People's United Bank.

6.) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a.) Executive Committee:

No meeting.

b.) Infrastructure Committee:

No meeting.

c.) Policy and Procedures Committee:

No meeting.

7.) OLD BUSINESS:

a.) Coronavirus

Superintendent Casarella complimented Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo on his conveyance of information to the CT DPH regarding the Department's recent action plan regarding the coronavirus. Beginning Monday, April 13th, employee temperatures will be screened upon arrival for work along with employees answering questions regarding their health.

The rotation schedule for the employees is working well. Superintendent Casarella complimented staff on their ability to repair leaks under the coronavirus social distancing guidelines.

b.) Well 2A

Superintendent Casarella stated he recently discussed two options with Woodard and Curran regarding upgrades to the existing building at Well 2 and the remediation of the PCBs in the paint. The options included remediation or tearing the down the building. The Superintendent believes remediation is the best choice. He will send the proposals to the Board for review. Commissioner Warner asked about preparing the new building to handle any new future DPH requirements for PFAS. Superintendent Casarella stated since currently there are not recommendations from the State regarding PFAS, all building designs should include space for PFAS. This well will also need a manganese plant.

c.) Mill Street Tank Project

Superintendent Casarella stated Tabacco Brothers was back on-site April 1st to continue with clean up. They have been moving at a good pace. They have been dressing up the lawns that were damaged and are close to finishing the easement off Sunnybrook Hill Rd. Storm drainage is being installed this week along with digging the trench for the electrical.

Cell carrier discussions have been ongoing and the antennas for the Department is scheduled for installation around July 1st.

d.) Well 9 Update

See 4a. Superintendent Casarella also stated a new pump was ordered for the well and the old motor was sent to Travers Electric for refurbishing so it may be used as a back-up motor.

e.) Future Quality and Treatment Plans

Superintendent Casarella stated he will send out letters to those homes that are affected by elevated levels of Manganese on or around April 22. Department staff is currently flushing, Well 7 and 8 are not being used at this time. The plan is to start using Wells 7 and 8 for flushing beginning on May 4th.

f.) Update on Customer Refusal to Abide to SWD Specifications

Superintendent Casarella stated a letter from the Department attorney will be sent May 1st.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED FOR PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATION

MATTERS: There were no matters for executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm

Attest: William Casarella 4/13/2020
William Casarella, Superintendent

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

April 9, 2020

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$2,500,000 FOR COSTS RELATED TO THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A BACK-UP WELL (WELL #10) FOR THE SOUTHLINGTON WATER DEPARTMENT'S WELL #9, AND AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF SOUTHLINGTON TO PAY DEBT SERVICE ON BORROWINGS OF THE TOWN ISSUED TO FINANCE SAID PROJECT

RESOLVED,

(a) That the Water Department of the Town of Southington, Connecticut appropriate TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,500,000) for costs related to the design and construction of a back-up well (Well #10) for the Southington Water Department's Well #9, including related improvements, equipment and other work. The appropriation may be spent for acquisition and installation costs, equipment, materials, administrative, printing and permitting costs, engineering and inspection fees and costs, traffic control, consultant and legal fees, related improvements, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing. The Board of Water Commissioners shall determine the scope and particulars of the project and may reduce or modify the project scope; and the entire appropriation may be expended on the project as so reduced or modified.

(b) That the Water Department hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Water Department reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings of the Town of Southington in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The President and the Superintendent are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Water Department pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on any such bonds, notes, obligations, temporary notes or interim funding obligations if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

(c) That the President and the Superintendent are authorized to apply for and accept federal and state grants to help finance the appropriation for the project. Any grant proceeds may be used to pay project costs or principal and interest on bonds, notes, obligations, temporary notes or interim funding obligations issued to finance the project.

(d) That the President and the Superintendent, are authorized to apply for and accept state grants to finance the appropriation for the project and state loans to finance the project, and to enter into any grant or loan agreement prescribed by the State, and the President and the Superintendent are authorized to take any other actions necessary to obtain such grants or loans

pursuant to Section 22a-479 of the Connecticut General Statutes, Revision of 1958, as amended, or to any other present or future legislation, or to implement such grant or loan agreements.

(e) That the President and the Superintendent are authorized, on behalf of the Water Department and the Board of Water Commissioners, to enter into an agreement with the Town of Southington obligating the Water Department to charge such rates and fees as will be sufficient: (i) for the payment of the expenses of the project, and (ii) for the payment of all debt service, as the same becomes due and payable, on bonds, notes, obligations, temporary notes and interim funding obligations issued to finance the project.

(f) That the President and the Superintendent and other proper officers and officials of the Water Department are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to construct and complete the project and to satisfy the Water Department's obligations to the Town of Southington in connection with any bonds, notes, obligations, temporary notes and interim funding obligations issued to finance the project.
