

WATER-SEWER COMMISSION MEETING  
June 11, 2013

Present: Leo Collette, Val Daigle, Charlie Packard, Dave Berger, Doug Briggs and Mary Calandrella  
Resident: Michael Theriault

CALL TO ORDER

6:00pm

Motion to Approve the June 11<sup>th</sup> Agenda by Val Daigle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Charlie Packard, vote was unanimous.

Motion to accept the May 14, 2013 minutes by Charlie Packard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Val Daigle, vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

Leo discussed the recent email from Randy at Tighe & Bond regarding the remaining items punch list items on water tank. Leo wants a few items correct such as 4 trees removed versus the 2 listed on Randy's email. Leo Collette stated that all 4 security cameras are installed and running. Five Oaks has replaced the telemetry. It was suggested to leave alone the Cushing St site as it looks good but to focus on the re-grade and re-seed of the High St site. It was also discussed in the email and on site for the replaced of the tank level monitors being approximately \$ 29,500 to install. Leo has John from Veolia checking into the possibility to connect to the old telephone system, for a less expensive alternative. Doug Briggs suggested that the commission look into a temperature alarm that hooks into the current alarm system. Leo will discuss these changes with Randy from Tighe & Bond

NEW BUSINESS

Doug addressed the commission with the hopes of bidding out water work on specific roadways through the grants currently offered by the USDA. He says the grants are the same as the Water Tank project. With an estimate of 45% coverage by the grants and the option to payoff the loan I up to 40 years. He believe that the estimated costs offered by Tighe & Bond of approximately 2.8 million dollars with have little to no impact on the current rates with the loan option listed above. He is waiting for the estimate cost to be given from Weston & Sampson as well and he will notify the commission of all aspects of this potential water work.

Doug also mentioned that he discussed with the USDA about the possible grant funding for the new DPW site with an estimated cost of 5 million dollars. The USDA has to look into that possibility and get back to him. Doug also stated that the W/S budget looked good coming to a close for the FY13 and also moving forward.

Mary brought to the attention of the commission the Mr. Zbikowski- 3Westminster St is seeking an abatement from his w/s/ bills from last summer. Mary discusses his past usage going back a few years and looks as though his usage has been constantly high. Mary also stated that a new meter was installed to avoid any future concerns on any bad read. His usage in just the first 3 weeks on the install has been 1,000 thus far. Val suggestion that commission would not be able to vote either way until his next full bill cycle has been completed. It will be revisited at the August meeting. Mary will call Mr. Zbikowski to let him know.

- Resident – Michael Theriault addressed the commission on the fluoride additive to the drinking water in town. Michael passed out to the commissioners a packet on the cons of fluoride. Leo Collette passed out to all commissioners and to Michael Theriault a packet

of the pros on fluoride and that the town is abiding by the EPA standards with regards to fluoride. Michael wanted the support of the commissioners to remove fluoride from the drinking water but do not get the support. He plans to get a petition going to have an article on the next fall town meeting for the removal of the fluoride additive from the town's drinking water

#### COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Leo reported the usage is up for Ashburnham to a somewhat alarming 500,000 gpd. Leo wishes to get the leak detection program started so that we can see where this sharp increase is coming from. Dave Berger asked the Water Dept to look into the Platts/Westminster area for possible leakage and Val asked for Lawrence /Main area to be checked as well. Charlie Packard asked about the signage and rules and reg for the reservoir boating. Leo has not worked on that yet. Val suggested we place it on next month's agenda. Leo stated to the commission that the AWJWA was presented with an award for Outstanding Performance and Achievement for 2012 which is great recognition for everyone efforts.

#### NEXT MEETING

July 16, 2013 @ 6:00pm

#### ADJOURN

Motion by: Charlie Packard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Val Daigle, vote was unanimous. 7:12pm

Respectfully Submitted by: *Mary Calandrella*