

Water and Sewer Commission
53 Elm Street
Blackstone, MA 01504

Minutes from March 13, 2014
6:30 pm

Water and Sewer members in attendance:

Charles Sawyer	Dan Keefe	Tom Devlin	Bruce Paterson	John Parmentier
X	X	X	X	X

Also present:

Superintendent Sullivan

Recording Secretary: Amy Sutherland

The meeting for the Water and Sewer was opened at 6:30 pm.

Capital Request Items:

The Commission was in receipt of the most recently revised copy of the 2015 capital warrant submittal.

The Commission was made aware that there was a meeting with Chairman Sawyer, member Paterson, Town Accountant and the Town Administrator. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the warrant articles along with the review of the money allocation within the budget.

The Commission was made aware that there were two articles which were placed on the draft warrant article by the town administrator which were in relation to betterment and a filtration facility.

The articles discussed were the following:

ARTICLE 13:

- This article is in relation to filtration.

The Commission communicated that there is no need for this article at the present time. The article was sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

On a motion made by Tom Devlin and seconded by John Parmentier, the Commission voted unanimously to remove Article 13 from the draft warrant.

ARTICLE 32:

The Commission reviewed the article regarding betterment. There was no explanation as to why this is on the warrant. The Commission communicated that this type of article needs to go in front of Capital.

On a motion made by Tom Devlin and seconded by Dan Keefe, the Commission voted unanimously to not support and remove the article for betterment.

ARTICLE 6:

- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money not to exceed \$150,000 for repairs to the Main Sewer pumping station, or take any action in relation thereto.

The commission discussed that the article amount can be reduced to \$80,000.

Weston and Sampson Consultant:

Consultant McClure was present at the meeting to review and discuss the financial numbers relative to the water rate study. There was discussion about putting together a plan for a five year plan for future projects. There continues to be a discrepancy of about \$281,000.00. The commission would like to get a more accurate breakdown from the town accountant. The consultant did reference that there was an adjustment made to the Department of Revenue Certified funds. This needs to be looked into.

FY2015 Budget:

The Chairman was in receipt of a budget dated January 28, 2014 which was approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Harris Pond II:

The Commission did receive an estimate from Weston and Sampson in the amount of \$4900.00. The applicant will provide the funds to pay for the review. All final decisions or recommendations are contingent upon the review from Weston and Sampson.

Meter Replacement Program:

The Department of Public Works continues to work on the meter replacement program. The department will be scheduling weekend appointments. The date is March 15, 2014 from 8:00 – 12:00. There are 13 residents with appointments.

Update from Superintendent:

- A&D Instruments is scheduled to come and complete work on scader next week.
- Signs for the wells are created and will be installed.
- The sign for Well#8 is finished.
- The spring billing is on schedule. The meters will be read the week of March 17th-28th. The next demand fee will be added to bills.
- It is recommended to get a price for a mobile collector which provides innovative collection of drive-by routes. The Commission is in support of getting a quote for this portable drive-by meter data collection device.

Minutes:

January 9, 2014:

On a motion made by Tom Devlin and seconded by John Parmentier, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes from January 9, 2014

February 13, 2014:

On a motion made by Tom Devlin and seconded by John Parmentier, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes from February 13, 2014.

Secretary Payment:

On a motion made by Tom Devlin and seconded by John Parmentier, the Commission voted unanimously to pay the secretary for the \$127.50.

Good & Welfare Members:

- It was suggested that the minutes be sent out electronically prior to the meeting.
- The Commission wanted to have a correspondence folder which could be viewed before the meeting.
- Member Paterson will meet with the town accountant to clarify numbers.

Future Meeting:

- Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 6:30 pm.

On a motion made by Tom Devlin, and seconded by Charlie Sawyer, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland
Recording Secretary

