

Present:

Lee M. Azinheira, Chairman
Mark S. Nunes, Clerk

Manuel Branco, Vice Chairman
David T. Hickox, Director

Carlos Cardoso, WPC Plant Manager Steven Sullivan, Superintendent Water & Sewer Division
Paul Pacheco, Superintendent Services & Infrastructure

The Chairman called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Mr. Nunes and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the warrants for the bills payable for the period ending April 27, 2011. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Nunes and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the payrolls for weeks ending: April 8, 15, and 22, 2011. So voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Nunes and duly seconded by Mr. Branco to approve and accept the Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2011. So voted.

NEW BUSINESS

Recommendation for Division of Services & Infrastructure Phase I Bid Awards

Mr. Hickox referenced the memorandum from the Superintendent of Services and Infrastructure dated April 25, 2011, when noting that he concurred with the bid award recommendations including the recommendation to reject all bids for bulk rock salt and to use the state contract for the purchase of the same. For the record, Mr. Hickox noted that the low bidder for gasoline, Noonan Brothers, failed to submit the “ultimate vendor certificate” at the time of the bid opening and the Department exercised its right to waive the formality and allowed it to be forwarded. It was also noted that Noonan Brothers has forwarded the ultimate vendor certificate and it is on file.

Based on the recommendation of staff, a motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Nunes to accept the following bids for the Division of Services & Infrastructure/Phase I:

#1 Tires

Roland’s Tire Service, Inc., 11 Howland Road, Fairhaven, MA 02719

#2 Gasoline

Noonan Brothers, 415 West Street, West Bridgewater, MA 02379

Diesel Fuel

Dennis K. Burke, Inc., 284 Eastern Avenue, Chelsea, MA 02150

#3 Traffic Marking Paint – white & yellow delivered

Enis Paint, Inc., 1855 Plymouth Road, NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

White & Yellow Paint – picked up

Sherwin Williams, 643 State Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747

#4 Traffic Signs

Perma-Line Corp., of N.E., P.O. Box 4515, Brockton, MA 02403

#5 Bulk Rock Salt

Reject all bids and use state contract

#6 Tree Work

G. Bourne Knowles & Co., Inc., 267 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven, MA 02719

#7 Catch Basin Cleaning

R.J. Gabriel Construction Co., Inc., 785 Bedford Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324

#8 Catch Basins, Manholes, Batter Blocks, Bricks

Hi-Way Concrete Products Co., Inc., 2746 Cranberry Highway, Wareham, MA 02571

#8a Catch Basin, Manhole Precast – Complete

J & R Pre-Cast, Inc., 16R County Street, Berkley, MA 02779

#9 Manhole Ring & Cover, Catch Basin Frame & Grate

E. Jordan Iron Works, 14 East Union Street, Brockton, MA 02303

#10 Reinforced Concrete Pipe

Scituate Concrete Pipe Corp., One Buckeye Lane, Box 870, Scituate, MA 02066

#11 PVC Storm Drain Pipe-DR-18, DR-21, SDR-35, & SCHD 40 & 80 Rib Pipe .

J. Hoadley & Sons, 672 Union Street, Rockland, MA 02370

#12 Traffic Light Repair

Southcoast Electric Co., Inc., dba Fortin Electrical Contractors, 3057 Acushnet Avenue, Unit F, New Bedford, MA 02745

#13 White Thermo Epoxy Traffic Control Markings

Markings Inc., 30 Riverside Drive, Pembroke, MA 02359

Street Line Painting

Hi-Way Safety Systems, Inc., 285 Circuit Street, Hanover, MA 02339

#14 Equipment Rental

Medeiros & Sons Construction, Inc., 620 Chase Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747

So voted.

Discussion regarding job title, Office Manager/Confidential Secretary

Mr. Hickox reminded the Board members that the item was brought up at their meeting with the Finance Committee and was later brought up again by the Chairman of the Personnel Board. The Board reviewed the job offer to Ms. Michelle DeFranco for the then vacant Administrative Assistant position. The job offer noted a change in job title and two job descriptions, proposed to be combined. Seeing that the Town did not take any action to combine the job descriptions or formally change the title from Administrative Assistant to Office Manager/Confidential Secretary, the Board members agreed to affirm the original job title, Administrative Assistant.

A motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Nunes to affirm the job title, Administrative Assistant and send a letter to the Executive Administrator notifying him of such. So voted.

Water & Sewer Revenue Update

The Board members discussed the articles, “The Case Against Volume-Based Water Rates” and “Let’s Price Water Sensibly” that appeared in Volume 12/Number 4, and Volume 13/Number 1, of the Environmental & Water Resource Institute of the American Society of civil Engineers – EWRI Currents. The Board agreed that moving in the direction of a base revenue option would be prudent rather than relying to weather and its effect on water consumption. Mr. Hickox said he would run the water rate model and provide the Board with different rate scenarios. Mr. Branco commented on how reasonable Dartmouth’s rate structure is in comparison to like communities. Mr. Nunes agreed but stressed that the Department should continue in reviewing cost saving options and measures. A brief discussion regarding meter reading ensued.

In reference to the water rate revenue worksheet, Mr. Azinheira asked if the three-year average could reflect actual sales. Mr. Hickox replied in the affirmative. Mr. Nunes asked if the current hydrant flushing operation could be conducted during normal working hours to incur less overtime. Mr. Sullivan replied that they had tried regular hours in the past and received a high number of complaints from residents. Having a small crew at non-peak hours flushing the hydrants has less of an impact and has resulted in fewer complaints and allows for crews to flush the system with more force.

Mr. Azinheira recommended that the rates be indexed this year and have the Board continue to review the merits of having a base revenue calculation that is less dependable on the weather.

PAYT revenue update

The Director reviewed the revenue reports dated as of March 31, 2011.

Request to install gas service -352 Slocum Road

Mr. Hickox reviewed the request to obstruct Slocum Road to install a new gas service. He noted that the original permit request was denied due to existing seven-year moratorium for road cuts on fully reconstructed roadways. Mr. Branco commented that the moratorium on road cuts is based on state aid. Mr. Hickox informed the Board that the City of New Bedford recently passed an ordinance that requires utility companies to overlay roadway disturbances curb-to-curb. The Board members agreed that the moratorium should be upheld for Slocum Road seeing that the request was not for an emergency repair.

A motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Azinheira to deny the request of Jeanne Boisvert of 352 Slocum Road to obstruct Slocum Road to install a new gas service based on the seven-year moratorium on road disturbances on fully reconstructed roadways and the non-emergency nature of the request. The motion carried with a vote of two in favor and one abstained (Mr. Nunes).

Public Notice – National Drinking Water Week – Open House

Mr. Hickox announced the open house date and time and welcomed the Board members to attend. Mr. Sullivan took the opportunity to inform the Board that two treatment plants have been converted to the 25% solution mixture.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman asked those present if they wished to discuss any other business that morning.

Mr. Hickox reported that the Padanaram Bridge motors were rebuilt last week and the bridge is back in operation. On a related item, Mr. Hickox announced that the Department is currently seeking an alternate bridge tender for the boating season.

Mr. Branco commented that he would like to discuss, at a future meeting, a policy relative to abutter notifications for roadway projects to allow an opportunity to upgrade, install utilities, or address any other issues before the project is completed.

Having no further business to discuss that morning, at approximately 8:25 a.m. a motion was made by Mr. Branco and duly seconded by Mr. Nunes to adjourn the meeting. So voted.

Respectfully submitted:
Michelle L. DeFranco, Administrative Assistant

Approved: 05/12/11