

Wayland Department of Public Works

August 16, 2010

7:30 PM

WAYLAND TOWN BUILDING

Approved 11/29/2010

Present: Knapp, Brown, Mishara, Wegerbauer Ouellette, Gorham.

7:30 Knapp opened the meeting..

Knapp made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/11/2010 & 10/13/2009 as amended.

2nd Mishara

Unanimous in favor

Ouellette told the Board how important it is to approve the minute as soon as possible. A discussion ensued about minutes.

Public Comment

Bill Murphy, 85 Oxbow Road regarding water bills. Murphy claimed that the small residential consumer pays more than the large consumer. Murphy said that the way the billing rate structure is set up now the bills are not equitable for the smaller consumer.

Tony Moore, 4 Deer Run said that with the current rate structure there is no incentive to conserve water.

Bill Murphy – Conservation of water is very important. Murphy emphasized the importance of conserving water. Murphy continued to say that there should be a uniform rate for everyone. Ouellette explained how the rate tiers work. Murphy said that the Capital Improvement fee skews the water bill. Murphy said that he compared rates and bills with 1125 through 9,000 cubic feet and was surprised at how different they were..

Nancy Hammerton, 39 Rolling Lane – What is the timetable for cleaning out the pit at Rolling Lane? Ouellette explained the process and said they should get in there by the end of September to clean it out.

Water Issues

11 Springhill

Ouellette explained that Barbara Holtz of 11 Springhill could not be present, but she did send a letter to the board with her request. Ouellette passed out a copy of the letter to the Board. The Board read the letter. A discussion ensued about the request from Barbara Holtz and her financial situation. Knapp said that it is important for this Board to set a policy regarding a threshold for rate reduction, perhaps 41C criteria plus 10%?

Knapp made a motion to reduce the water bill at 11 Springhill to \$25.00, the water Capital Improvement fee to \$40.00 and the landfill sticker fee to \$50.00.

2nd Mishara

Unanimous in favor

Knapp briefly explained to the audience discussions the Board has had in the past regarding hardships.

Knapp expressed his concern about the private information from Holtz remaining private due to the new open meeting law.

12 Holiday

Owner David Goldstein was present. Goldstein told the board that he had been away and his neighbor noticed water in the garage. The neighbor shut the water off and called a plumber. The plumber found the problem and fixed the water leak. Discussion ensued about the water leak. Goldstein told the board he received a large water bill but admitted that the water reading was probably correct. Goldstein said that since the plumber fixed the pipe, the water usage has gone back to normal. Goldstein is asking for some relief from the \$1,200.00 water bill. Goldstein said that he would be happy to donate an additional \$100.00 to help with causes like Barbara Holtz.

Brown made a motion to abate the water bill to 5200 cubic feet, accept the \$100.00 donation and to remove any interest charge.

2nd Knapp

Unanimous in favor

52 Draper

Mrs. Samp is present. Samp explained that they had a very high water bill last year for which they have been unable to find the reason. Samp said she called the water department and was told to wait until the same period the next year. Ouellette told the board that the Samp's are at their old usage. A discussion ensued about the water usage and possible causes of the high bill. Ouellette said that even a toilet leak over a six month period could account for the large bill. Ouellette told the board that the meter has been changed to a new magnetic meter. Ouellette explained that the new magnetic meters can last forever.

Brown made a motion to abate the bill to 6400 cubic feet and waive any interest.

2nd Knapp

Unanimous in favor

Wellhead Protection Committee

Present: Sherre Greenbaum, Linda Segal, Jenifer Riley, Tom Sciacca and Kurt Tramposh

Greenbaum introduced herself and the Wellhead Protection Committee members to the DPW board. Greenbaum described the history of the committee to the DPW board. She explained that the committee was formed three years ago to help the town protect its water resources. Greenbaum explained that the committee's main duty is to prepare the Wellhead protection plan. Greenbaum continued to say that a group (Rural Watershed association) is helping them for free (saving \$25,000.00). Greenbaum explained that the group chooses three towns per year, and Wayland was one of the towns chosen this year. The main project will be the capture zone analysis. Sciacca explained the capture zone to the board and its importance. Sciacca told the board about phase one, the paper study, that showed that the Happy Hollow wells have the most issues. Segal told the board about the committee's role to make suggestions / recommendations to the board and to educate the public on water quality, catch basins, watering etc. Wegerbauer asked what happens after their term expires in November. Segal said that it falls to the DPW board. Wegerbauer asked if the members would all like to continue. Segal said they would. Sciacca spoke in length about the capture zone, Old Connecticut Path and the High School. Sciacca explained that Wayland has a wonderful water resource and up to 15 years ago the water did not need to be treated. Sciacca continued to say that iron and magnesium are natural problems, but has been exacerbated by high use. Sciacca continued to say that the water is a great resource that has been ignored

because it was never a problem. Sciacca said that the decision to build the High School on top of the wells was a bad one.

Knapp made a motion to accept the free services offered by Mass Rural Watershed Association offered in a letter dated 6/21/2010.

2nd Brown

Unanimous in favor

Knapp told the Wellhead Committee that the board will read the Wellhead literature to better familiarize itself with the Committee and their role. A discussion ensued about the history of the Wellhead Committee, their current role and the advantages to having a Wellhead Committee. Segal told the board that they work closely with Don Millette, water Superintendent, and will report to the board every couple of months.

131 – 133 Main Street Physical Alteration Permit Application

Steve Garvin, Samiotes and William Roberts, owner were present

Garvin showed the plan to the board. A discussion ensued about the entrance/exit on Main Street. Garvin showed a plan of the proposed rumble strip (rather than the raised island.) The rumble strip is 3 ½' x 9'. A discussion ensued about a no left turn sign. A discussion ensued about the width of the entrance/ exit.

Knapp made a motion to amend the physical alteration permit approved on 2/29/2008 to allow for eliminating the raised island to install a rumble strip as defined in SKC – AB1 dated 8/16/2010.

2nd Mishara

Unanimous in favor

Municipal Water Rates – Mark Abrahams

Mark Abrahams was present.

Ouellette introduced Abrahams to the board. Ouellette told the board that per the boards request for professional guidance, Abrahams will be helping set water rates. Knapp told Abrahams about the earlier conversation regarding current rates and the capital improvement fee. Ouellette said that he likes the current rates and understands why the old Water Board set the rates like they did. A discussion ensued about the tier rates. A discussion ensued about the water ban and the copper and lead testing. Abrahams asked the board to consider dropping the \$50.00 minimum charge, and replace it with a service charge. Abrahams continued to say that the \$50.00 minimum for up to 1500 cubic feet is not an incentive for low water users to conserve. They may as well use up to the 1500 cubic feet. A discussion ensued about the current rate structure. Ouellette told the board that the water system throughout town needs to be upgraded. A discussion ensued about where money should come from to update the service. Brown asked Abrahams if the \$118.00 capital improvement fee for the treatment plant is right or wrong. Abrahams explained that in other communities the capital improvement fee is put into the fee structure or residents are charged a betterment. Abrahams explained to the board how he will look at the water data to make his recommendations to the board. Ouellette said that if the Capital Improvement fee was on the taxes people could claim it. The surcharge would be based on property value not on water use. A discussion ensued about the capital improvement fee. Wegerbauer stressed that they must keep the fee fair. Abrahams said that he will share data with the board, get their input and submit his recommendation before the budget process for fy2012.

Knapp made a motion to support the cost of \$10,000 for water rate effort. Wegerbauer amended it to a water rate study by Mark Abrahams

2nd Mishara

Unanimous in favor

Landfill Joint Operations with Sudbury

Ouellette told the board that the joint operation with Sudbury will begin on September 14th. Ouellette said that we will start a campaign to inform the residents. Ouellette handed a letter to the board which will be distributed around town to let people know how the joint operation will work. The Board reviewed the letter and made some changes.

Capital Planning for fy2012

Ouellette went over his capital recommendations with the board. A discussion ensued about the list of Ouellette's recommendations. Ouellette told the board that D. Roach & sons was the low bidder for the landfill capping project.

Knapp made a motion to approve the bid from D. Roach & Sons for \$753,880.50 for the Landfill Capping Contract.

2nd Mishara

Unanimous in favor

Engineering Contract

Ouellette told the board that he, Abdella, Moynihan and Kadlik went over the bids and narrowed the candidates down to four. Ouellette said that they will probably bring on two firms, one exclusively for water and the other for highway/ fields etc.

Deer Run – Street & Sidewalk opening permit for NSTAR

Ouellette told the board that NSTAR needs to cut into the street on Deer Run to make needed repairs to their lines. Deer Run was newly paved to years ago. Normally, the town requires a newly paved road to be at least 5 years old before allowing any cuts. NSTAR will need to cut into the road not just the shoulder. Ouellette recommended the board require flow able fill. Ouellette told the Board that it is very important to the town the repairs are made since it affects the water tanks & police emergency system.

Knapp made a motion to permit road cuts as long as flow able fill is used.

2nd Brown

Unanimous in favor

The Board of Public works agreed to cancel the August 30, 2010 meeting since at least two of the members will not be able to attend.

Ouellette asked the board to vote to end the current mandatory ban beginning September 1, 2010.

Brown made a motion to end the mandatory water ban beginning September 1, 2010 and go back to the voluntary odd/even use.

2nd Wegerbauer

Unanimous in favor

Meeting adjourned at 10:15

Next meeting will be on September 13, 2010.