

MEETING OF THE SPRAGUE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Date: May 20, 2015
Time: 4:00 PM
Place: Sprague Town Hall
Present: Dennison Allen, Tom Hannon, Jack Malone, Todd Hastings, Christine Kurtz from Wright Pierce, Sam Hall and Tim Leaf from E.J. Prescott, Matt Seeker, blueearthlabs

Absent: none

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Dennison Allen, Chairman.

Minutes and Disbursements:

Jack Malone made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 29, 2015 meeting along with the disbursements for April in the amount of \$25,659.40. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and the motion was passed by all members voting in favor.

Presentation by Sam Hall from EJ Prescott on the cleaning of water lines:

Sam Hall from EJ Prescott gave Matt Seeker from blueearthlabs the floor. Matt addressed the board members and explained the product and process of cleaning the water lines to prevent biofilm, organic and inorganic scale buildup in the columns in the raw water wells in addition to the finished water supply supplied to the distribution system. When Matt completed his presentation discussion followed. Christine Kurtz from Wright Pierce asked many questions. The board members asked many questions as well and after all was exhausted they thanked them for coming and told them that they will take what they said, digest it and make a decision and let them know.

Wright Pierce:

Christine spoke to the board members regarding the Norwich IMA agreement and explained that she is still waiting to hear back from Mark Decker on questions and concerns she posed to him after receiving the draft. Discussion.

N.E. I. will be coming down to do the warranty work on the dam but no date has been set. A discussion ensued on what needs to be done.

Todd told Christine that there is still a few things that need to be completed on Pump

Station #2. Discussion.

Christine was asked about the water quality testing and she explained that they just got the results and they are in the process of summarizing it and will forward to us when that is completed.

Discuss and possibly act on updated draft of IMA agreement from Norwich Public Utilities:

Jack Malone asked the board what they need to make a decision on this agreement. Does it need to go to a town meeting, a referendum? Much discussion followed. Kathleen told the board that she had forwarded the draft agreement to the Town Attorney, Rich Cody and she reached out to him to get his thoughts but has not heard back from him. Discussion followed. Discussion on how this will affect our customers in Versailles and if we will be forced to sign this agreement since our current agreement with Norwich Public Utilities has expired.

The board would like to reach out to the Town Attorney once again and see if he can come to the next meeting so we can discuss this item.

First Selectman report:

The First Selectman was not present.

Status Report from Todd Hastings:

Todd spoke to the board and explained what happened at 97 River Street when the homeowner called Todd after he had someone come out to remove a clog from his sewer line. The homeowner told Todd that the company jetting the line said that the problem was the fault of the Town and that the expense should be paid by the WPCA. Todd informed him that he was not notified and that he should be the first call he makes when he has a clog. The homeowner said he would be at our meeting but is not present.

Todd informed the board members of a problem of water loss for the last three to four months. We have had high usage and Todd had noticed a depression in the roadway by 72 Degrees building and called Dave, from Atlantic States to come out and search that area for the leak. The state DOT was called and an application for permit was completed and emailed. The leak was found and repaired. Cost to dig and repair broken pipe was \$7,000.00 and the cost to pave roadway to state standards was \$2,600.00.

Todd told the board that he has received a quote from Kahn Tractor for the skid steer and was waiting on others. Discussion. He will report back when he receives the other quotes.

A discussion on water storage tank inspection and cleaning ensued. Todd had two quotes and they were explained. At this time he feels more comfortable with the quote from Underwater Solutions even though Liquid Engineering has done the job before. The board told Todd to choose the one that best fits the job that needs to be done.

A discussion was held on a request from an employee for a wage increase. Much discussion followed. The board told Todd that this request was not approved and that we would possibly visit it next fiscal year.

Todd spoke to the board regarding the replacement of a sewer line on 1st Ave. due to a street replacement project. Discussion followed. A letter was signed by the chairman and will be delivered to the First Selectman by Todd Hastings conveying the boards intent on this sewer line replacement.

2015-2016 Budget:

A discussion was held on items that will need to be added into the upcoming fiscal years budget. Preliminary budget figures do not call for an increase in our rates but we will not be certain until we get the meter reading in June. Discussion.

Review bills for payment:

A copy of the Check Detail was given to all the board members that detailed all the checks that have been written out since our March meeting. The board members reviewed the list. Any questions were answered.

Review past due accounts:

A report was handed out to all board members. The amount of accounts past due is \$40,662.62 of that amount \$12,506.14 is with Attorney Lloyd Langhammer, \$5,711.19 of that amount currently has payment plans in place. Payments received total \$1,401.40 since this was printed.

Versailles past due accounts total is \$3,611.99 and payment plan is in place for \$352.96 and \$707.45 is with Attorney Lloyd Langhammer pending foreclosure. Discussion followed.

Any other business to come before said meeting:

Christine Kurtz from Wright Pierce asked the board if they wanted her to wait and give it one more try to get money from the Clean Water Fund for the Study to Norwich or just go ahead with. Discussion followed. The board would like her to go ahead with the study and we will find the money for this project.

Jack Malone made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. All in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.