

# MEETING OF THE SPRAGUE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Date: April 18, 2012  
Time: 4:00 PM  
Place: Sprague Town Hall  
Present: Ward Eccles, Walter Treat, Dennison Allen, Todd Hastings, Tom Hannon,  
Catherine Osten, First Selectman, Christine Kurtz, Wright Pierce, David  
Trainor  
Absent: Richard Douville

## **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Ward Eccles, Chairman.

## **Minutes and Disbursements:**

A motion was made by Tom Hannon to accept the minutes of the March 21, 2012 and the disbursements for March as presented in the amount of \$30,933.75. This motion was seconded by Dennison Allen. A vote was called and the motion passed with all members voting in favor.

## **Wright Pierce:**

Christine Kurtz handed out a sheet with the project status update on all projects that Wright Pierce is working on for the board members to review. Christine went over all items on the sheet.

- Pump Station #1, we are waiting for DEEP approvals. Discussion followed. This project should be ready to go out to bid by June and possibly begin construction in August. Estimated time for construction is six (6) months.
- Hanover Station #2, New Duplex Suction Lift Station, new budget cost estimates were reviewed and discussion followed. We will need approvals from P & Z and Inlands, Wetlands. Wright Pierce will be asking for an exemption from FCMA from DEEP. Wright Pierce will be preparing the contract for design work and should have the project go out to bid in Spring of 2013.
- Watermain on Bridge, Christine explained to the board members what she was doing for this project and passed out a letter that we will put on Authority letterhead and send to the principal engineer at the DOT indicating that they will be our consulting engineers.

- Water Supply Plan is fifty percent complete and Wright Pierce needs a signed contract for this project from the First Selectman. Cathy indicated that she will get this and send it out to them.
- I/I- Baltic, Christine brought a map of the area lines for the board members to review and discussion followed. Problem areas were pointed out and the course of action was reviewed. Some area lines will be relined while others will be replaced. We will need to move the water main off the sewer line located on West Main Street by Baltic Convenience Store. Much discussion followed.
- Cathy Osten asked Christine about the Water Quality and Safe Yield Test Study and the rehabilitation of the other dam at the reservoir. Discussion followed.

**Status Report from Todd Hastings:**

Todd informed the board members that the air line break at the sewer plant has been repaired. Jim Benjamin did the work.

Todd had an alarm at Station #4 and they had to pull the pumps and found stringy material in the knives and cutters. They removed it. Todd would like to purchase a winch to enable them to take care of this recurring problem themselves without having to call in a contractor to do the job. Discussion followed. Ward told Todd to purchase what he feels is necessary to do the job.

Todd told the board that we sent in our response to the Sanitary Survey Report findings and have not heard back.

Todd informed the board members that he had a Call Before You Dig call for work to be done over by the old MS Chambers and that they had marked out the lines according to the map. On Good Friday he received a call that the contractor had hit a water main. They went over and repaired the problem. Discussion followed. Ward asked that they investigate this area and find out why this area was not on the map and to make sure that they document its origin on the map to avoid future problems.

**First Selectman's report:**

Cathy Osten addressed the board members and told them that she had spoken to the Auditor regarding the Water & Sewer Audit. He told her that the Water & Sewer has a lot of outstanding delinquent accounts. He said that they should be reviewed at the meetings. Discussion followed. Kathleen will prepare a report for our next meeting and all meeting thereafter.

**Discuss and possibly act on reviewing and updating Water and Sewer Regulations:**

Copies of the regulations were passed out for the board members to review. Discussion followed. Since all members were not present this item was tabled until next meeting.

**Review bills for payment:**

The following bills were reviewed: James Benjamin for \$6,750.00, \$900.00 and \$1,970.00. Piela Electric for \$2,052.39 The board gave their okay to pay.

**Discuss 2012-2013 Budget:**

Kathleen addressed the board members and told them that she was still compiling information for the budget. Discussion followed. Once all information is obtained she will complete the figures and report back. She also informed the board members that she would not be here for the next scheduled meeting since she will be on vacation.

Walter Treat made a motion to move the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting to May 23, 2012. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and all members voted in favor.

**Any other business to come before said meeting:**

Ward Eccles addressed the other members regarding unemployment for discharged employee Michael Lance. Ward thinks that it is foolish to spend money on an attorney to fight the unemployment claim when it is highly likely that we will have to pay anyway. Discussion followed.

Dennison Allen made a motion to allow the unemployment process to work its way through the system and that we will not contest the claim. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. Discussion followed. Dennison Allen amended his motion to add unless the attorney can guarantee that we will win this case and not have to pay unemployment. This amendment was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and all members voted in favor.

Tom Hannon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Dennison Allen. All members voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.