

MEETING OF THE SPRAGUE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Date: August 21, 2013
Time: 4:00 PM
Place: Sprague Town Hall
Present: Tom Hannon, Manny Meneses, Christine Kurtz and Justin Motta from
Wright Pierce,, Todd Hastings, Catherine Osten, First Selectman,
Dennison Allen
Absent: Todd LaPointe

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Dennison Allen, Chairman.

Minutes and Disbursements:

Tom Hannon made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 17, 2013 and the disbursements for July in the amount of \$23,551.57. This motion was seconded by Manny Meneses. A vote was called and the motion passed by all members voting in favor.

Wright Pierce:

Christine updated the board members on the various projects that they are currently working on.

Pump Station #1 has been online since last Tuesday and we have had no substantial problems. CL & P has been notified to disconnect the power to the old pump house to enable Associated Construction to demolish the building. Justin told the board that he has gone through a preliminary punch list with the contractor and substantial completion should be soon. Discussion followed on problems with the lift system at Station #1.

The DOT project of the bridge on RT 97 update: The gas line has been located and they are in the process of planning to move it.

Pump Station #2 in Hanover's design is ninety percent complete and we have received approval from Planning and Zoning and will be going to Inland Wetlands for their input next week. Christine explained briefly the SCADA system design and a discussion followed.

Christine said that Cathy Osten had contacted her regarding the Clean Water Fund call

for projects for Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2015. Christine thought to put the Force Main in Hanover and upgrade to the treatment plant in for consideration. Discussion followed. After much discussion Dennison told Christine that the board agrees with her recommendation that we apply to get on the CWF Priority List with these projects in mind.

First Selectman's Report:

Cathy Osten spoke to the board members regarding the financials on Pump Station #1 project. A sheet detailing the initial price, where we are and what possibly could be leftover from the bonding amount was passed out and discussed. Additional items that we would like to be done at Pump Station #1 that were not included in the project price such as paving of the driveway, demo of the bar screen and a fence were discussed. Cathy wanted to get the board's perspective on using the remaining funds to take care of these and several other capitol items on the sewer side.

Cathy had made a sheet detailing numbers of Grants to be written. Kathleen handed each board member a copy and discussion followed. Cathy indicated that grants are being sought to cover the EOP, WQ and SY tests and that these need to be completed before she can complete replacement of the dam at the reservoir.

Dennison asked for motion. Manny Meneses made a motion to use the remaining funds from the bonding on the Pump station #1 rehabilitation for the following projects : Driveway, demolition costs, fence and chain at Pump Station #1: several items at Pump Stations #3 and #4 totaling approximately \$15,300. and several items at the Sewer Plant with the exception of the parking lot and Wright Pierce to check and let us know how many pipes we can fix in the Hanover sewer system area for the cost estimated to fix the parking lot. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and the motion passed by all members voting in favor.

Cathy Osten told the board that she has received a request from resident Jack Malone to join the Water & Sewer Board. Discussion followed. It was decided that Kathleen will send Mr, Malone a letter inviting him to our next meeting so that the board members can meet him and discuss his interest in becoming a board member.

Status Report from Todd Hastings:

Todd informed the board that he received results from the state exams held last month and he did not pass the test and David Trainor indicated that he did not pass his test either. There will be another test in January where they can re-take the exam. Todd also indicated that David will be eligible to take the water exam in January as well.

Todd informed the board that he has started a chart with all the flows from last September and he is going to update with flows from this year in September to see if the upgrades done on the sewer system has had an impact. He will update the board at the next

meeting.

Atlantic States has been working on a vulnerability assessment for us and they have completed it but we have not yet received the report. This was done free of charge and saved the Town approximately ten thousand dollars. Atlantic States is also going to GPS our hydrants, water valves, dry hydrants and shut offs at no cost. This will help us in future endeavors.

Discuss and possible act on Inter-municipal agreement:

A lengthy discussion followed on the meetings held and the draft of the inter-municipal agreement with Norwich Public Utilities. No decisions were made at this time.

Discuss and possible act on using overages from Pump Station #1 on needed repairs/projects for Sprague Water & Sewer:

This item was discussed during the First Selectmen's report. See above.

Review bills for payment:

A list of all bills paid since the last meeting was handed out and reviewed. No one had any questions. A discussion of the Xylem bill for rental of a pump due to excessive rain was held. Since the coverage was at the end of June into July she was wondering if she should pay half out of last years budget and half out of this years budget. The board agreed that it should be split.

Review past due accounts:

A report was handed out to all board members. The amount of accounts past due is \$42,533.18 of that amount \$6,136.67 is with our Attorney, \$6,828.87 of that amount currently has payment plans in place, \$3,137.76 of that amount the water has been shut off and \$2,721.05 of that amount is pending foreclosure if not paid by end of month. Versailles past due accounts total is \$2,265.31. Discussion followed. Kathleen indicated that she has payments in the amount of \$1,627.05 to be posted.

Kathleen told the board that she had received a call from Public Health Director, Patrick McCormick regarding the old Hilltop restaurant property. It has come to her attention during this conversation that all the units at this property have been occupied which is in direct violation of our agreement with the owner Dana Collier. Mr. Collier had asked for an exception to the charges at the property since only two (2) units were being occupied. We granted this exception and informed him of the consequences if these units were to become occupied and we are not notified. Kathleen would like to impose the fine of \$1,000.00 per our regulations. The board approved this action.

Any other business to come before said meeting:

Tom Hannon asked Todd if he is going to attend any management classes and a discussion followed. Kathleen told Tom that she has suggested a class that is in November and Todd is looking at attending this class.

We have been notified by the State that we must increase the monitoring requirements for radionuclides for wells 4 & 5. Discussion followed.

Tom Hannon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Manny Meneses. The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.