

MEETING OF THE SPRAGUE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Date: January 20, 2016
Time: 4:00 PM
Place: Sprague Town Hall
Present: Dennison Allen, Tom Hannon, Jack Malone, Catherine Osten, First
Selectman, William Idarola, Todd Hastings,
Absent: Christine Kurtz, Wright Pierce

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. by Dennison Allen, Chairman.

Minutes and Disbursements:

Jack Malone made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2015 meeting and the disbursements for December in the amount of \$32,780.66. This motion was seconded by Bill Idarola. A vote was called and the motion was passed by all members voting in favor.

Wright Pierce:

Wright Pierce was not present and no report was sent.

Grant Writer Report:

Andy Trudelle addressed the board members and spoke to them about a meeting with the USDA that he had regarding water & sewer projects for possible grant monies. At this meeting he learned that there was no free money but only a thirty-five percent grant and the rest in loan form. He understands that the water & sewer authority cannot take on another loan at this time. Discussion followed. Andy told the board that he will be getting training next week for online submission of grant applications and he thinks that there may be a possibility that this will help us and he will report back once he gets this training. For any application process he will need an estimated cost and evaluation on what the project entails. More discussion.

Dennison Allen made a motion to have Wright Pierce write up an evaluation of the work needed to be done with a cost estimate and environmental review so that we can pursue grants for the project. This motion was seconded by Jack Malone. A vote was called and the motion passed by all in favor.

First Selectman report:

Cathy spoke to the board members and informed them that she had spoken to Christine Kurtz from Wright Pierce and had her update the capitol projects that needed to still be done. She passed out the sheets and discussion followed. She also handed out Capitol Request forms with these projects on them and has passed them on to the Board of Finance. Cathy explained each sheet and the items she has put in for are a new Water Tank, SCADA system for Pump Station #3 & #4 , Camera placement on all assets, Traylor replacement, Van replacement, sewer pump replacement, Mower replacement, Baltic Reservoir East Dam, Filtration system. Discussion followed. Todd and Kathleen will be attending the Board of Finance meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2016.

Cathy addressed the board members regarding the Violation of Maximum Contaminant Level for Uranium in our wells. Kathleen handed out the letter from the state informing us of the violation and the Public Notification, Certification of Completion, the test results from the lab, the amended test results from the lab, a letter from the lab and finally a letter from the State rescinding the violation. Kathleen Kocon, Office Manager explained these sheets and what was done when we received the Violation notice per state requirements. Kathleen explained to the board members that Todd had ordered a re-test of the water after increasing the blending volume and upon getting the results it was discovered by the lab that they had incorrectly input the wrong information into the system when calculating the levels and it gave them incorrect figures for the levels for the July and October testing quarters. We **did not** in fact have a violation. Cathy Osten told the board of the uproar that this has caused with the residents on the water system. She informed the board that Lori Mathieu from the Department of Public Health, drinking water section has scheduled a meeting for February 1, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. to speak to us regarding this. Ms. Mathieu has requested that the First Selectman and Water & Sewer Board members be present for this meeting along with whomever they wish to attend. Kathleen will be posting this as a meeting for the Water & Sewer Authority. Discussion followed. Dennison encouraged the board members to attend if possible.

Discuss and possibly act on bill from James Benjamin for repair at Cumberland Farms:

Discussion followed on whether to pay this bill or hold off until we could see if we could get it covered by grants.

After much discussion Bill Idarola made a motion to pay Mr. Benjamin the \$15, 000.00 for this bill for the water line repair at Cumberland Farms. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A voted was called and the motion passed by all in favor.

Status Report from Todd Hastings:

Todd told the board members that he has been tinkering with the blower that failed at the sewer plant and he is going to try it out to see if it works.

Todd informed the board that he has kept Joe Lussier working instead of laying him off for the winter. He is working just 2 hours a day. Discussion followed.

Review bills paid:

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 December 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 \$51,563.99 of that amount \$3,391.52 is with Attorney Lloyd Langhammer, \$2,103.63 of that amount currently has payment plans in place.

Versailles past due accounts total is \$1,818.82 and accounts with Attorney Langhammer is \$990.75.

Any other business to come before said meeting:

Dennison informed the board that we will be working on the inter-municipal agreement with Lisbon and will report any progress when accomplished.

Tom Hannon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Jack Malone. All in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.