

MEETING OF THE SPRAGUE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Date: August 15, 2012
Time: 4:00 PM
Place: Sprague Town Hall
Present: Ward Eccles, Dennison Allen, Walter Treat, Tom Hannon, Richard Douville, Todd Hastings, David Trainor, Christine Kurtz from Wright Pierce, Catherine Osten
Absent: None

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Richard Douville.

Minutes and Disbursements:

Dennison Allen made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 18, 2012 meeting and the disbursements for July in the amount of \$16,694.17. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and the motion passed with all members voting in favor.

Status Report from Todd Hastings:

Todd informed the board members that a tree had fallen at the reservoir and damaged the chain link fence. Pictures were distributed and reviewed. Discussion followed. Todd told the board that he got an estimate to get the tree removed and the fence fixed for \$9,200.00. The board asked that he get more estimates for this job and report back. A discussion followed on other trees at that site that could possibly pose a hazard and should be removed. The board said that we do not have money in this year's budget for removal of these trees but we should put it on the list for next year's budget.

Last Friday Todd received a call that a house off of School Hill Rd owned by the Academy of the Holy Family has been getting several clogs recently. Todd called in Service Plus and they jetted out the line. It was unclear exactly where the line was clogged so the Authority will pay this bill. The cost was \$750.00.

Todd explained to the board members that he had problems reprogramming the phone dialers for the alarms at the stations when he updated the phone numbers. He placed a call to a company in California and sent the phone out to them and they returned it and it is now working. The bill for this was \$213.00. Cathy Osten told the board that she would like to have the Authority switch to Comcast from the current provider AT & T and feels that it would save money. She is waiting to hear from them if they can accommodate the type of alarms that we currently have. Discussion followed.

Wright Pierce:

Christine Kurtz informed that board that the I and I invitation to bid was placed in Tuesday's Hartford Courant. The pre-bid meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2012 at 11:00 a.m., and the bid opening is scheduled for September 17, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Discussion followed.

Christine said that she needed to have the insurance levels checked for the projects.

Cathy said that she should check with the town Attorney and if he cannot provide her with what she needs we will call CIRMA.

The Hanover Pump Station contract is on John Braccio's desk for review and approval.

A discussion followed on the bids received for Pump Station #1 project. Christine explained the procedures that they go through when reviewing the bid packages. Cathy Osten told the board of a discussion that she had with the town attorney concerning the bids on this project. Christine passed out a copy of the letter of recommendation from Wright Pierce to the board members recommending Associated Construction, who was the second lowest bidder. Much discussion followed. Cathy Osten is concerned that the Water & Sewer Authority will not have the money to complete this project. She said that the town does not have the funds to provide assistance in paying for this project. Discussion followed on bonding out more money to complete the project with the Water & Sewer Authority paying back this bond from their funds. A town meeting will need to be held to get approval for this.

Dick Douville made a motion to have the First Selectman go to the town to appropriate additional bond funds at a town meeting for the purpose of funding Pump Station #1 project with the intent that the bond will be paid by Water & Sewer Authority and any dollars over the total of the grant funds and town funds will be paid from the Water & Sewer Authority funds. This motion was seconded by Walter Treat. Discussion followed. A vote was called and the motion passed by all members voting in favor.

Discussion ensued on the intent to award the contract for Pump Station #1.

Dennison Allen made a motion to accept the recommendation from Wright Pierce to award the contract for the Pump Station #1 project to Associated Construction pending approval from the appropriate agencies providing the funding. This recommendation will be forwarded to the First Selectman's office. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and the motion passed by all members voting in favor.

First Selectman's report:

The First Selectman indicated that she had nothing to add at this point as we had discussed everything that she was concerned with.

Review past due accounts:

Kathleen gave the board a report on all the past due accounts both in the Baltic-Hanover system and the Versailles sewer. The board members reviewed the report and discussion followed. It was noted that it is very difficult to collect monies owed in these hard economic times and that we continually work to collect these funds.

Review bills for payment:

The following bills were presented to the board members: James Benjamin & Company for \$24,300.00 And Depot Pump for \$1,721.07. Discussion followed. Kathleen explained that a portion of the James Benjamin bill will be paid by the town for the removal of a hydrant at their request. This bill will be paid from the town appropriated funds with any deficit paid from the Water & Sewer Authority funds.

Any other business to come before said meeting:

Dennison Allen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Walter Treat. All members voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.