

# MEETING OF THE SPRAGUE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Date: January 18, 2012  
Time: 4:00 PM  
Place: Sprague Town Hall  
Present: Ward Eccles, Richard Douville, Dennison Allen, Todd Hastings, Tom Hannon, Walter Treat, Catherine Osten, First Selectman, Christine Kurtz, Wright Pierce, David Trainor  
Absent: none

## **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 Walter Treat to accept the minutes of the December 21, 2011 and the disbursements for December as presented in the amount of \$22,189.34. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and the motion passed with all members voting in favor.

## **Wright Pierce:**

Christine passed around a final draft of the design of Pump Station #1 and discussion followed.

Christine informed the board members that the cleaning and tving of the sewer lines in Baltic is completed and she should have tapes and more information in the next two Weeks. Once they know what they are working with Wright Pierce will start the design phase. Discussion followed.

## **Status Report from Todd Hastings:**

A quote was passed out to the board members for a surge protector for the main service at the sewer plant. Discussion followed. Due to the problems incurred after Tropical Storm Irene and the resulting damage to the blowers it was decided that we should put this amount into the budget for next year.

Todd informed the board that a gentleman came into the office and said that he had noticed that we have a lot of scrap metal behind the sewer plant in the woods and he was wondering if he could get behind there to clean it up. Discussion followed. Since we do

not know exactly what is behind there the board asked that Todd go with this gentleman to see what is there and he can make the decision as whether we want to clean it up and take the metal to the scrap yard or have him clean and take the scrap.

Todd informed the board members that he had problems at Station #2 in Hanover with the pump. He had to call in a septic truck to standby while they determined what the problem was and fix it. The impella had fallen off the motor. It was repaired and is now working. Todd called and got a price to replace this pump and valve for a price of \$27,949.00. Discussion followed. Due to the impending grant of \$500,000. the board decided that we should wait on this proposal to see what work this grant will cover in rehabbing Station #2. Much discussion followed.

Todd informed the board members that Michael Lance was back to work with no restrictions.

**Discuss and possibly act on proposal from Southeastern CT. Water Authority for contract operations services for water system:**

A proposal from Southeastern CT Water Authority was passed out and reviewed by all board members. Discussion followed.

Dennison Allen made a motion to accept the proposal from Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority to provide contract operations services for the water system as needed. This motion was seconded by Walter Treat. The motion was passed by all members voting in favor.

**First Selectman's report:**

Cathy Osten passed out many charts on the town roads, inventory, vehicles, generators, parks, recreations fields, open space and cemeteries, the Baltic Fire Dept., along with a sheet on the capitol projects for Water and Sewer. Discussion followed.

The board members gave their okay to have Cathy continue to pursue grants for studies and for Pump Station #2.

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

This item was tabled until next meeting.

**Discuss and possibly act on letter received from John Lombardi re: Sprague Active Adult, Riverside Drive:**

Copies of the letter received from John Lombardi were passed out and reviewed. Discussion followed. It was noted that Mr. Lombardi was looking to lower the starting price for the upgrades to the Versailles sewer station. At the time of the old contract the

Authority's engineers came up with an estimate of \$65,000. for the upgrades and Mr. Lombardi's engineers came up with a price of \$45,000. We decided, at that time, to split the difference and settled on \$55,000. for the upgrades. Since that time we have had many repairs that had to be done at this station and the connection cost for Versailles customers went from \$3,500 per unit to \$3,600. We had sent a letter to Mr. Lombardi indicating that the starting rate was \$65,000. and that that amount has increased since the initial contract and if we were to renew the contract we would include a provision that allows for increases in costs which averages five (5) percent per year. We did not increase the connection fee. More discussion followed. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that Kathleen would contact Town Attorney, Richard Cody and get his advice.

**Review bills for payment:**

The following bill was reviewed: Protech Construction Services for \$515.00 for repairs to the gate at the sewer plant. The board gave their okay to pay.

**Possible executive session regarding employee David Trainor:**

Tom Hannon made a motion to go into executive session having David Trainor, Todd Hastings and Kathleen Kocon remain for the session. Walter Treat seconded the motion. All members voted in favor and they went into executive session at 6:10 p.m.

They came out of executive session at 6:30 p.m.

Dennison Allen made a motion to provide benefits to David Trainor changing his status from temporary employee to full time employee. Dick Douville seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion passed by all members voting in favor.

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

Dick Douville informed the board that we needed to elect officers of the board for 2012. He nominated Ward Eccles for Chairman. A call for any other nominations was made. No other nominations made and the nominations were closed. Dick Douville made a motion to elect Ward Eccles Chairman of the Sprague Water & Sewer Authority Board. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and all members voted in favor.

Walter Treat nominated Richard Douville for Secretary- Treasurer. No other nominations were received. Nominations closed. Walter Treat made a motion to elect Richard Douville Secretary-Treasurer. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. All members voted in favor and the motion passed.

Dick Douville made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. All members voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.