

MEETING OF THE SPRAGUE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Date: March 21, 2012
Time: 4:00 PM
Place: Sprague Town Hall
Present: Ward Eccles, Richard Douville, Walter Treat, Dennison Allen, Todd Hastings, Tom Hannon, Catherine Osten, First Seletctman, 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 Dennison Allen to accept the minutes of the February 15, 2012 and the disbursements for February as presented in the amount of \$22,231.16. This motion was seconded by Tom Hannon. A vote was called and the motion passed with all members voting in favor.

Wright Pierce:

Christine Kurtz informed the board members that the Sprague Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission approved the application for the rehabilitation of Pump Station #1. the layout is finalized and we are now waiting for approval from DEEP.

Christine told the board members that she and Todd had gone to a meeting in Hartford at the DEEP regarding the bridge project on West Main Street. She explained the impact on the Water & Sewer Authority and that they will be putting together a contract for approval. The bids will be gathered in 2014, with the actual work being done in 2015. Discussion followed.

Christine passed out a draft on two (2) alternatives #4 and #5 on the rehabilitation of the Hanover Pump Station for review. Discussion followed. After much discussion the board members chose to go with Alternative #5 "New Duplex Suction Lift Station". Cathy Osten agreed and feels that this will allow us to do the project in stages and this will be better to get funding.

Christine gave Todd a notice that included the wording that is needed to be put on our next quarterly billing regarding the Sodium levels in our water. Discussion followed.

This notice is necessary due to DPH regulations.

Dick Douville asked Christine if she had a response to the Sanitary Survey Report that we received from the DPH indicating possible violations. Discussion followed Christine said that she has addressed the items with Todd and that Todd will write a response to DPH and have Kathleen type it to send to DPH after it is reviewed by Wright Pierce by the due date of April 5, 2012.

Status Report from Todd Hastings:

Todd informed the board members of the actions he has taken in response to the findings in the Sanitary Survey report from DPH.

Todd told the board that Joe Lussier (seasonal employee) will be starting back on April 2, 2012.

Todd informed the board members that the pump at Hanover Pump Station does not work on automatic and that someone has to go to turn it on every morning and evening. Todd has put safety pre-cautions in place to ensure the safety of our employees when working alone at this station. Piela Electric is working on fixing the problem and it should be rectified soon.

On the evening of March 16th and also the morning of the 17th Todd got an alarm from the Well House. The PH analyzer was not working. He explained to the board members the situation. He called Introl and he came and reported that it appears that the analyzer was fried. Discussion followed. Todd called to inform the State. There are many options we can take and the board would like to investigate and determine what option will work best for the Authority.

Todd told the board that he has engaged Jim Benjamin to help them fix an airline break at the sewer plant. They will taking care of this on Thursday, March 22, 2012.

A discussion was held on usage of personal cell phones for business and the costs attributed to this. After much discussion it was decided to table this and re-visit this after we get more information on options.

First Selectman's report:

Cathy Osten discussed with the board members flood insurance for the pump stations. She is working with Wright Pierce to take care of this item so that we will not have to pay the high costs for flood insurance.

She spoke to the board members about a meeting that she attended concerning the regionalization of water. Discussion followed.

Cathy spoke to the board members of a draft agreement that will need to be made to

memorialize the agreement between the Town and the Water & Sewer Authority regarding payback of the bonding for Pump Station#1, the I and I and Hanover Pump Station #2. This will need to be done at a future meeting once all the information is in on the amount and the wording can be reviewed. This will enter the agreement in the record so that the information is available to future generations.

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

This item was tabled until next meeting.

Review bills for payment:

The following bills was reviewed: James Benjamin for \$8,700.00, Suisman Shaipiro, Wool & Brennan for \$768.5, Smith & Loveless for \$2,836.09, Cirma for \$754.00. The board gave their okay to pay.

Discuss 2012-2013 Budget:

A discussion followed on items to include in capitol for the upcoming budget. There will be no pay increases for this fiscal year. It was decided that we would set aside \$2,000.00 for a new truck or van in the budget on the water and sewer side. The employee portion for health insurance will potentially increase from seven percent to nine percent. Money will be figured into the upcoming budget for tree removal. Todd is to get some estimates and report back.

Possible executive session to discuss David Trainor, Michael Lance and employee issues:

The board did not go into executive session. Michael Lance was not in attendance. A discussion followed on information received from Mr. Lance regarding his work status.

There was no discussion on David Trainor. Ward Eccles, Chairman told the board members that he had already spoken to David and had resolved any issues that he had.

Any other business to come before said meeting:

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 6:10 p.m.