

Groton Water Commission

Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners

Tuesday, June 30, 2015

2nd Floor Lunch Room – Town Hall

Minutes

Present are BOWC Chairman James Gmeiner, member John McCaffrey, Water Superintendent Thomas Orcutt and Business Manager April Iannacone. Vice Chair David Crocker was not present at this meeting. Also present was Water Operator George Brackett.

Mr. Gmeiner called the regular BOWC meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

Discussion of Selectmen's Lost Lake Fire Protection Project

Mr. Orcutt gave a brief update on the status of the Lost Lake Fire protection project that was just getting under way. He informed the Commissioners that Town Counsel has the draft license agreement for the Town to recoup some of the construction cost in order to review and suggest any changes. Mr. Orcutt stated that the Town was looking to ask \$5,000 as a connection fee on top of the \$3,750 that the water department collects. Mr. McCaffrey asked how the amount of \$5,000 had been determined. Mr. Orcutt replied that the amount was the same that AL Prime gas station had used in their agreement to recoup their construction costs. Mr. McCaffrey then asked how long the project was intended to take. Mr. Orcutt replied that the project would go all summer and likely through September/October.

Financials/End of Year Updates

Ms. Iannacone informed the Commissioners that they would need to vote to move funds from the expense line item to the wages line item to cover a small shortfall at the end of the year. Upon review of the deficit at this time as well as the remaining payroll for the fiscal year, Ms. Iannacone recommended a transfer of \$3,000 from expenses to wages.

Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to transfer \$3,000.00 from the Water Department's expense line item to the wage line item of the budget. Mr. McCaffrey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Orcutt informed the Commissioners that he was recommending that the department encumber \$43,000 in funds for the Baddacook Lagoon project, paving projects as well as truck repairs that had been started but not completed. Mr. Orcutt stated that he and Ms. Iannacone were confident that there would still be \$100,000 put back to the Water Enterprise Funds after the encumbrance of the \$43,000, replacing the money transferred at the spring town meeting.

Other Business

Update on Previous Meetings Daily Operations Discussions

Mr. Brackett was present informed the Commissioners that the summer help had started and was doing a great job. He stated that Mr. Spaulding would stay right on task with everything given to him, he has been a great asset with the computer system maintenance scanning tie cards, as well as manual labor mowing and painting hydrant flags.

Mr. Brackett informed the Commissioners that the KOH line that he spoke to them on the 9th about a leak had fully failed 2 days later. However, the cost of the line came in significantly cheaper than expected and he and Mr. Knox had replaced the failing line in 1 day.

Mr. Brackett then informed the Commissioners that the leak in the service line at Shaw's had finally been repaired after their discussion at the meeting on the 9th. The hole in the pipe was fairly

significant and they have no idea how long it had been going or how much water was lost, but it was repaired.

Lastly, Mr. Brackett stated that Mr. Knox had spoken to the Stiles Rep about the meter and fixed network demonstration, and that he was all set to attend the Water Commissioners second meeting during the month of July.

Superintendent Updates

Mr. Orcutt informed the Commissioners that the backflow had still not been tested on the Janes property, however there were a lot of legal channels to go through to move the truck and/or turn the water to the fire service off. There were plans for Myette to possibly begin demo in July or August once the court agreement between Myette and Janes was signed and completed. At that time when Myette was to demo his building the water would need to be turned off at the street. Should Janes not let us onto the property for testing at that point there would be access to the stop at the street to shut them down.

Mr. McCaffrey asked Mr. Orcutt where things were at on the Temple project. Mr. Orcutt replied that the Temple was ready to go on the project and that they had hired someone to begin site work. Mr. Gmeiner stated that he had heard that they were trying to change the site plan to rework things for less demo and site clearing. Mr. Orcutt stated that he believed that they would be ready to go with the connection from Monarch path within the next 3 months and that someone from the water department would be on site at all times. The house in Littleton on the access line to the property is vacant and the developer is just waiting on the demo permit.

Update on June 9th NOI Withdrawal Baddacook Pond

Mr. McCaffrey informed Mr. Orcutt of the discussion that had taken place at the Commissions June 9th meeting with regard to the Baddacook Pond weed treatment and what to do. Mr. McCaffrey stated that he believed that if the Water Commissioners have the water rights to the pond, then they should look into things and try to take some level of responsibility over what happens there. Mr. McCaffrey suggested that the he would like to see the water Commissioners take a ride around the lake sometime in August to determine the extent of the problem. Then the Commission could possibly propose their own plan, or at least give recommendations as to what the Commission would be comfortable allowing to be used on the pond for weed treatment. Mr. Gmeiner agreed that he would be willing to take a ride over the pond in August. Mr. Orcutt stated that he would be in touch with resident Bill Strickland to determine some dates and times that they could take a boat tour with him on the pond.

Minutes:

There were no minutes approved at this meeting.

Bills:

The bills presented to the Board were all signed and submitted for payment.

Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Mr. McCaffrey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

April Iannacone
Business Manager
Water and Sewer Departments

James Gmeiner _____ Date _____

David Crocker _____

Date _____

John McCaffrey _____

Date _____