

Groton Water Commission

Regular Meeting

Of the

Board of Water Commissioners

Tuesday June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Groton Town Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lunch Room

**Minutes**

Present are BOWC's Vice Chair Greg Fishbone, Member James Gmeiner, Water Superintendent Thomas Orcutt, and Business Manager Lauren Crory.

Mr. Fishbone called the regular BOWC meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**Water Conservation Program**

Mr. Orcutt said that Water Levels were holding steady and were slightly improved over the last few weeks. Mr. Gmeiner asked if we are pumping off hours and Mr. Orcutt replied that we have met the conservation efforts for GELD so far for May and June. Mr. Fishbone asked if we have heard any feedback regarding the new GELD rate plan and Mr. Orcutt said no. Mr. Orcutt told GELD to text him while he is away if they think the peak day is coming.

**Badacook Pond Update**

Mr. Fishbone asked if we have a Badacook update and Mr. Orcutt said we have a notice of award and there has been back and forth with GPAC about funding from the water department. Mr. Orcutt recalled a previous meeting where the board discussed assisting with post harvesting funding after the three year CPC project was completed. Jim Luening thinks that we are giving money for the next three years and post CPC funding for the work in Baddacook. The contribution discussed was between \$5,000-\$10,000. Mr. Gmeiner remembers a discussion for post CPC funding.. Mr. Orcutt said that \$108,000 was authorized by the town meeting and an add alternate to the bid for additional work came in at \$16,000. Mr. Orcutt pointed out that we will not contribute to weed harvesting but if CPC needs extra funding for the hydro raking portion of the work, we can discuss contributing at a later date. Mr. Orcutt also thinks that there may be a laborer that will charge less than \$162 per hour which would allow funds to be shifted within the \$108,000 spending authorization. CPC doesn't care how the money is spent as long as they are within their range and they are informed of any changes. Mr. Orcutt thinks it will be ready in July but a contract needs to be set up with the State regarding the use of the boat launch area. Mr. Fishbone asked if GPAC is responsible for doing this and Mr. Orcutt confirmed they are.

**Whitney Pond Well Construction Update**

Mr. Orcutt said that notice of award was sent out and everyone is on board, we are just waiting for signatures. Mr. Fishbone asked if we have a production schedule and Mr. Orcutt replied that we do not have one yet. Mr. Orcutt said that shop drawings will first go to Mr. Strenck, then Mr. Orcutt, then Wright Pierce. Mr. Fishbone asked if the 4" verses 6" pipe issue from previous meeting and Mr. Orcutt confirmed this issue was addressed in the bid documents.

### **Water Enterprise Fund Transfers**

Mrs. Crory explains that we need to transfer funds to the Wages budget to get us through Fiscal 2017 without going into the negative. Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to transfer \$12,000 from the general expenses budget to the wages budget, Mr. Fishbone seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Year End Financials**

Mr. Gmeiner asked how much we spent on engineering for Whitney Well and Mr. Orcutt confirmed that almost all of the \$50,000 set aside was spent.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Gmeiner asked if we had any update on the dog that got sick from swimming in Lost Lake during weed treatment and Mr. Orcutt said he knows the dog is home now after a four day hospital stay. Mr. Gmeiner didn't think that the notices were placed effectively around the area.

Mr. Fishbone asked for an update on the DEP report and Mr. Orcutt said he will give them copies. Mr. Orcutt gave a copy of the DEP response to the commissioners. My. Fishbone asked if the infrastructure is in ok shape and Mr. Orcutt responded that it is in pretty good shape and we can use the report as guideline for projects. Mr. Orcutt said he sent a response with well cleaning photos and noted that the DEP was good to work with. Mr. Fishbone asked about a four log certification and Mr. Orcutt responded that it is for Chlorine treatment process and measures chlorine content before it gets to your first customer. Mr. Fishbone said it sounds like a quality control and Mr. Orcutt said yes and they recommend we do it so we will follow up on it. Mr. Gmeiner noted that DEP didn't like the private drive and Mr. Orcutt explained that it is a unique circumstance where it has been grandfathered and relocating driveway could cause other issues with regards to development.

Mr. Gmeiner asked how we get billed by Westford and Mr. Orcutt explained that he had worked out a calculation with them. Mr. Fishbone asked why we don't use a meter and Mr. Orcutt said that we would need to install a pit and isn't worth the money since the calculation seems to work well. Mr. Fishbone asked what it would cost to put a meter in and Mr. Orcutt thinks the manhole would cost about \$6000-\$8000 and calibration would be \$500-\$1000 annually. Mr. Fishbone agrees that those costs may not be worth it.

Mr. Gmeiner asked what happened on Station Ave during paving that caused water to be turned off on Station Ave. Mr. Orcutt explained that something was not capped off properly a while ago at GELD and it required a shut-down of the water main

### **Bills:**

Invoices for PW27 were signed.

Mr. Fishbone made a motion to adjourn 8:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Crory

**Business Manager**

John McCaffrey \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

James Gmeiner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Greg Fishbone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_