

Groton Water Commission

Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners

Tuesday, July 10, 2012

2nd Floor Lunch Room – Town Hall

Minutes

Present are BOWC Chair James Gmeiner, Vice-Chair Jessica Cajigas, Member Gary Hoglund, Water Superintendent, Tom Orcutt, and Business Manager, Sandy Pellecchia. Members of the Greenway Committee were also present: Carol Coutrier and Adam Burnett.

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

Greenway Committee – Fitch’s Bridge (Interconnection w/W.G.W.S.D.)

Carol Coutrier and Adam Burnett of The Greenway Committee attended the Groton Water Commission meeting to explain the four options that they were exploring for the deteriorating Fitch’s Bridge. The Greenway Committee is seeking monetary support from any town department that may be able to help them. They hope to remove the existing bridge and install a new bridge using local funds.

Where the Groton Water Department comes in is the bridge (once repaired) could offer an emergency backup to the Nashua River. The Greenway Committee asked the Groton Water Commissioners (and hoped to ask the West Groton Water District) if they would / could chip in any monies for the design costs of the deteriorating Fitch’s Bridge, given the value of the emergency backup to the rate payers.

Water Superintendent, Tom Orcutt (Orcutt) explained that the Groton Water Department did not have any customers in the area of Fitch’s Bridge. Also, that any emergency backup to the Nashua River would be for interconnection and not to supply the Town of Groton with water. In fact, the water would only flow from the Town of Groton to West Groton and not vice-versa. Therefore; (unfortunately), there is no return for the taxpayer/ratepayer who are in the Groton Water district to encourage the Groton Water Department to chip in any monies for the design costs of the deteriorating Fitch’s Bridge.

The Greenway Committee thanked the Groton Water Commissioners for their time.

New Center Fire Station

There was discussion about services given to the Groton Water Department from the Town. There was also discussion about services given to the Town from the Groton Water Department. There was a discussion of the legal parameters of the Groton Water Department possibly waiving fees to the Town for the proposed new center fire station. Orcutt informed the Commissioners that if they were to vote not to waive the fees for the new center fire station then Town Manager, Mark Haddad, would bring the issue to a town vote at the annual town meeting. The question would then be can a town meeting vote overturn the Water Commissioner by-laws?

Vice-Chair Jessica Cajigas (Cajigas) made a motion to not waive the fees for the proposed new fire station. Member Gary Hoglund (Hoglund) seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Energy and Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant

Orcutt spoke about an upcoming teleconference as well as an upcoming site visit. He offered to e-mail the Commissioners the date and time of the site visit so that they may attend if they wanted to.

Orcutt spoke of the energy consumption information that was already submitted for the grant and that which was still required to send in. He thinks that the evaluation period for the grant may take about 30 – 60 days.

Hoglund asked if Orcutt could get the results of the Baddacook Well as they pertain to the Energy and Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant prior to starting the Baddacook Well pump project. Orcutt said that he would.

Minutes

Cajigas made a motion to approve the minutes of their regular meeting of February 28, 2012 as drafted. Hoglund seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Hoglund made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35. Cajigas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Pellecchia
Business Manager

James Gmeiner _____ Date _____

Gary Hoglund _____ Date _____

Jessica Cajigas _____ Date _____