

Groton Water Commission

Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

2nd Floor Lunch Room – Town Hall

DRAFT Minutes

Present are BOWC Chair James Gmeiner, Vice Chair Gary Hogle, Member Martin Schaefer, Water Superintendent Tom Orcutt, and Business Manager April Iannacone.

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

Surrenden Farms Conservation Restriction, Ann Gagnon

Mr. Orcutt gave the Commissioners a brief recap of the process that began with the Town's purchase of the Surrenden Farm property where 10 Acres were set aside for the Water Department. The Site required a conservation restriction and land management plan which would coincide with what the Conservation Commission was doing with their land management and forestry activities. Mr. Gmeiner asked Ms. Gagnon to clarify his understanding that the water resource management plan was only necessary if there are plans to develop and use the site for drinking water supply purposes. Ms. Gagnon replied that he was correct that the conservation restriction was written in a way that the water management plan was only necessary once plans were created to move forward on using the land. Mr. Orcutt stated that Town Counsel had already reviewed and approved the document and he requested that the Commissioners vote to accept and sign the document so that Ms. Gagnon could take it to complete the process. Mr. Orcutt also informed the Commissioners that Ms. Iannacone had everything necessary with her to notarize the documents once signed.

Mr. Hogle made a motion to approve and sign the conservation restriction document as drafted and presented and accept exhibits A & B. Mr. Schaefer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Baddacook Pond Well Pump

Mr. Orcutt informed the Commissioners of the results of the bid quotes for the Baddacook Well pump for ordering the actual new pump. At this time he was recommending that the Commissioners vote to accept the bid for the lowest bidder Maher Services for \$23,100. Mr. Schaefer asked what the original amount the Commissioners had expected to spend on the purchase. Mr. Orcutt stated that initially they had been expecting to pay \$20,000 but he did not feel that this number was too far off from what they were expecting to try to change the process or re-bid. He informed Mr. Schaefer that the funds for the purchase had been approved at last spring's Town Meeting and had been encumbered to this year's budget for the expense. Mr. Gmeiner asked how long it would take to have the pump in hand and what process was in place for the install of the pump. Mr. Orcutt replied that he would immediately submit the information for the purchase the next day which would take 6-8 weeks to receive. He then stated that the bid process was already taking place for the installation and that those bids were due at the end of the week.

Mr. Hogle made a motion to accept the lowest bid for the Baddacook Well pump purchase as submitted by Maher Services and to sign and execute the contract. Mr. Schaefer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Orcutt led a brief discussion of the topics on his Superintendent's Report. Please see attached copy of this report for the items discussed. Mr. Orcutt also gave the commissioners a draft copy of the Annual Town Report for their review before submitting it to the Town Managers office for publishing.

Respectfully Submitted,

April Iannacone
Business Manager

James Gmeiner _____ Date _____

Gary Hogle _____ Date _____

Martin Schaefer _____ Date _____

Superintendent's Report

January 18, 2012

1. Unkety Brook Well Site: DEP-CERO has permitted the site. Zone II maps attached for discussion and comments to the Planning Board for the spring 2013 Town Meeting warrant article.
2. Forestry Management: Waiting for a meeting with the State Forester and wildlife specialists regarding endangered species at Baddacook. Hazardous tree removal around the building/well will not be an issue for removal by the State Forester.
3. Water Facilities: We received two bids for the new pit-less adapter well pump for Baddacook. Maher Services was the low bid received for \$23,100.00. The second low bidder was D.L. Maher for \$26,972.00,
The installation contract is due January 24th 2013. The conduit has been installed. Whitney Pond Well #2 continues to have "background" bacteria levels detected in the sampling. The most recent "plate" count on the 2nd day of sampling was 39 (not a big deal but it shows the presence of something growing albeit very minor). There have been no fecal bacteria detected in any of the sampling. Staff re-chlorinated the source for a third time. Chlorine sat in the well over the three day weekend. Sampling to re-occur on 1/22 and 1/23. Skyfields Drive Booster Pump Station is running, but is not cycling or jockeying back and forth between the two pumps. Bill Anderson called to look into the programming.
4. Water Consumption: Water consumption through December and for the 2012 calendar year is **average** at 164 million gallons for the year (see the attached spread sheet). This average consumption will not allow us to put additional funds to the WEF on a year basis.
5. Annual Statistics: Compiling documents for the Town's Annual Report and for the State's Annual Statistical Report. I am also jumping ahead with the preparing the Annual Consumer Confidence Report with Summer Conservation being the major theme. A draft has been already sent to DEP-CERO for review and approval.
6. Fiscal Year 2014: Budget was submitted to the Town Manager on time, reviewed by him and his Finance Team and approved as submitted. No issues from the BOS or Fin Com are anticipated at this time.
7. Billing Software: Northern Data Systems (NDS) is working with April. It is anticipated that the system will be ready to go live March 1st. April has scheduled training with them on a weekly basis.
8. Miscellaneous: Attended a Conservation Commission meeting that dealt with storm water issues given by Savos Danos. Also attended a meeting with the PB consultant, CEI Engineers, regarding the application of 319 Storm Water Grant for Lost Lake. The Lost Lake Sewer Committee met to discuss septic issues in and around the lake.