

Groton Water Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Of the  
Board of Water Commissioners  
Tuesday, May 22nd, 2018  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lunch Room

**Minutes**

Present are Vice Chairman Greg Fishbone, Member James Gmeiner, Superintendent Thomas Orcutt, and Business Manager Lauren Crory.

Mr. Fishbone called the meeting to order at 7:34pm.

Whitney Pond Well Construction

Mr. Orcutt said that the Scada system has been calibrated and Whitney I is operating on its own. All of the alarms still need to be tested before DEP is invited to inspect. Mr. Gmeiner asked who is in charge of substantial completion and Mr. Orcutt said the engineer is. Mr. Orcutt said he will not release full payment until we are sure that all alarms are working correctly.

Mass DEP Gap II Grant

Mr. Orcutt sent the DEP the scope of work the grant will be used for. Mr. Fishbone asked how we will use the funds and Mr. Orcutt said that we will pay up front and then submit for reimbursement. Mr. Fishbone asked for the total amount of the project and Mr. Orcutt said it will be \$341,800 plus engineering costs which are estimated at \$20,000. Mr. Gmeiner asked to clarify how we funded this and Mr. Orcutt said we were approved for up to \$400,000 and believes we can use it all even if we expand to other improvements.

Water Levels

Mr. Orcutt said the water levels are holding steady but there was a slight drop in Whitney II. Mr. Orcutt also explained that there was a problem at Whitney II during a recent storm. The alarms went off and Mr. Orcutt and Mr. Brackett had to check the well. Since then, our Scada technician has come in and made sure everything is working properly.

Baddacook Pond

Mr. Orcutt said that Mr. Luening is satisfied with all of the information from S.E.S. and will be using them moving forward. Mr. Gmeiner asked if Mr. Orcutt will show the new company the Badacook Well area that can be used and Mr. Orcutt said he will show them but it may be too tight for them.

Rocky Hill – Storage Tank Site – continued

Mr. Fishbone asked if we are going to invite Origis Energy to a meeting to discuss their request for leasing the Rocky Hill property. Mr. Orcutt said yes but that Mr. Kelly from GELD doesn't think the lease will work out.

Rosa- Boathouse Road License Agreement

Mr. Orcutt told the board that Michael Rosa is trying to build a property on Boathouse Road which will need to be connected to town water. Mr. Rosa has paid the \$4250.00 connection fee to the Water Department but has not paid Ann Cole of 69 Boathouse Rd a \$4000.00 fee that she is owed for extending the water main down Boathouse Rd. Mr. Rosa approached Mr. Haddad and would like the water department to sign off on his building permit prior to paying Mrs. Cole. Mr. Fishbone asked if we expect that he won't pay her if we agree to this and Mr. Orcutt said it is possible that he could wait out the five year license agreement. Mr. Orcutt does not think the water commission should agree. Mr. Gmeiner pointed out that while the water department does control who hooks up to Town water, permission from Mrs. Cole, as the license holder, must be obtained by Mr. Rosa. It is believed she would want to be paid her fee by Mr. Rosa as provided in the license agreement. Mr. Orcutt concluded that he has to have a water source to get the building permit so he will need to pay Mrs. Cole.

Other Business

The resident at 503C Main Street called the office regarding a high water/sewer bill. After further investigation, it was determined that the resident had a toilet leak. The resident is a senior citizen on a fixed income and could not afford the high bill. Mr. Orcutt asked the board if they wanted to do anything to reduce the bill. Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to bill 503C Main Street at the lowest water and sewer tiers, Mr. Fishbone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Crory reviewed the current financials and forecasted the year-end financials. Mr. Gmeiner noted that when we get our Mass DEP grant we will need to transfer it to the Capital Infrastructure fund that is set up for the well project.

Mr. Fishbone made a motion to approve the minutes of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 as amended, Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Invoices for Expense Warrant 24 were signed.

Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to adjourn at 8:23pm, Mr. Fishbone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Crory  
Business Manager