

Groton Water Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Of the  
Board of Water Commissioners  
Tuesday, December 18th, 2018  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lunch Room

**Minutes**

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

Mr. McCaffrey called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.

Water Conservation Program – Well Levels & Pumping Levels

Mr. Orcutt said the well levels are about the same as the previous week. Mr. McCaffrey asked if Whitney Well I was off and Mr. Orcutt said no because of a new issue he wanted to discuss.

Mr. Orcutt explained that two years ago we had an issue with elevated magnesium levels so the DEP asked us to do quarterly sampling. Our October sample showed elevated levels again. The technicians will continue to collect samples at Whitney Well I and II and we can hope that the magnesium level will return to an acceptable level. However, Mr. Orcutt pointed out that this could be a reoccurring issue that will force us to install some sort of treatment at some point. For now, the information needs to be made public through out next consumer confidence report which will be issued in the Spring of 2019. Mr. McCaffrey asked if this would be a special notice to the public and Mr. Orcutt said it only needs to be in the next consumer confidence report. Mr. Fishbone asked what level we need to be under and Mr. Orcutt said 30 parts per million. Mr. Gmeiner is hoping this doesn't increase discolored water and hopes well cleaning will help. Mr. McCaffrey hopes that the rising water levels will help the problem.

Baddacook Pond Update

Mr. McCaffrey will be meeting with Mr. Luening tomorrow. Mr. Fishbone asked if they will need to put the work out to bid again for year three and Mr. McCaffrey said they do. The board discussed whose name is on the applications and they want to ensure that Mr. McCaffrey's name is on it or added.

Budget – FY Budget 2020 continuation

There is nothing new to report.

Re-affirm CY2019 Water Rates Vote Taken on 12/11/18

Mr. Orcutt asked the board if they are still in favor of keeping rates the same and everyone is in favor.

Other Business

Mr. Orcutt presented an updated map for the Jenkins/Gratuity Rd project. Mr. McCaffrey asked if it has been moving along and Mr. Orcutt said it is but they still have a long way to go. They are proposing septic systems. Mr. Gmeiner said they will need to connect to town water because it is available and the Board of Health would require it.

Mr. Orcutt and Ms. Crory left the meeting at 8:05pm

**\*\*SEE SUPPLEMENTAL MINUTES\*\***

Mr. Orcutt and Ms. Crory returned to the meeting at 8:15pm.

Mr. McCaffrey made a motion to approve the minutes of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018, as amended, Mr. Fishbone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Invoices for Expense Warrant 14 were signed.

Next Meetings: January 15<sup>th</sup>

Per Mr. McCaffrey, he made a motion to adjourn at 8:32pm, Mr. Gmeiner seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Crory  
Business Manager

## Supplemental Minutes

Minutes for December 18, 2018

Mr. Orcutt and Ms. Crory left the meeting.

Remaining: Mr. McCaffrey, Mr. Fishbone, Mr. Gmeiner

Minutes of December 11, 2018 were approved. A letter to Mr. Orcutt informing him of the Commission's vote was reviewed and approved. A copy is attached.

Mr. Orcutt and Ms. Crory returned. Mr. Orcutt reviewed the letter and asked that it be changed such that it states the compensation for the On Call weekend duty will be on and one-half times the one call rate for a senior Tech II with the reason being Mr. Orcutt is not eligible for overtime and thus stating that he receive "the same compensation" might be viewed as paying him overtime. Mr. Orcutt also suggested that it be made clear in the commission's motion that the re-grading be applicable to the position of Water Superintendent, but that the license stipend and the on call pay personal to the current Water Superintendent. A motion was made by Mr. Fishbone, seconded by Mr. Gmeiner, that the motion made 12/11/18 be amended to read as follows:

That the Commission adopt the new Job Description for the Water Superintendent and ask that the Water Superintendent position be re-graded to Grade 15 with a resulting salary increase of 3% above that of the current Grade 14 salary; that the Water Superintendent be eligible to receive a yearly stipend of \$1,500.00 for possessing either a Grade 3 Water Distribution License or Grade 3 Water Treatment License, and upon obtaining either a Grade 4 Water Distribution License or Grade 4 Water Treatment License, the yearly stipend be increased to \$2,500.00; and that the Water Superintendent be eligible to fill a once a month weekend "On Call" shift to be compensated for such shift at one and one-half (1 1/2) of the on-call rate paid to a Senior Water Technician II. Currently the on-call rate is \$400.00, so the compensation would be \$600.00. ( $\$400 \times 1.5 = \$600.00$ ). Further that the new job description and the re-grading shall be applied to the position of Water Superintendent and would be applicable to all future holders of that position. The License Stipends and the on-call compensation are applicable to the current Water Superintendent. The changes are to be applied to the warrant that starts January 5, 2019.

The motion passed unanimously. It was then moved by Mr. Fishbone and seconded by Mr. Gmeiner that the letter of December 18, 2018 be revised to incorporate the changes contained in the above motion. This motion passed unanimously. A copy of the letter is attached hereto and dated December 19, 2018.

Ms. Crory then resumed taking minutes.