

## **BFD BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**

November 8, 2022, AT THE WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

PRESENT WERE: Board of Water Chairman Bassett, Commissioner Whitmore, and Commissioner Mason. Also present: Acting superintendent Ronald Tivey.

- Meeting called to order at 2:59 P.M.
- Warrants and payrolls signed.

Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes for October 11, 2022, **seconded** by Commissioner Mason. The **motion passed unanimously.**

### **Superintendent Search**

Former Superintendent Thomas Rooney informed the Board that Municipal Resources has scheduled in person interviews with Superintendent candidates beginning at Noon on Tuesday November 15, 2022. Mr. Rooney informed the Board there would be three or four candidates to be interviewed. He explained that there were twelve resumes submitted to MRI, eight candidates received essay questions, and four candidates have been offered an interview with the Board.

### **Capital Projects Update**

Commissioner Bassett asked for an explanation of the roles of the Professional Engineers working on Water Filtration Plant Project. Acting Superintendent Tivey explained the construction plans for the new facility are being developed by Tom Sexton from GZA GeoEnvironmental Company. Mr. Tivey explained that GZA has subcontracted Wright Pierce Engineering company to provide the design for the building and filtration equipment with GZA providing the site planning. He further explained that Professional Engineer Erica Lotz has been reviewing the building plans for the Water Department as the Owners Representative to ensure that the plans are correct. Acting Superintendent Tivey explained that the Bidding and Construction Phase will be the next step of the process of the Water Filtration Plant Project. Mr. Tivey explained that Mr. Sexton and GZA GeoEnvironmental will act as Resident Project Engineer during the Bidding and Construction Phase of the project with Wright pierce being subcontracted to provide an onsite Building Construction Inspector. He explained that Erica Lotz from Stantec Engineering will be contracted to act as Owner Project Manager. An Owners Project Manager is required by Massachusetts State Law on a project of this size. Commissioner Whitmore asked which engineer is in charge. Mr. Tivey explained the Mr. Sexton would be in charge of the construction activities. Ms. Lotz will review the progress of construction schedule to ensure that the project is done in an orderly and cost-effective manner. Commissioner Bassett asked where the project stands now? Acting Superintendent Tivey explained that the plans are 90% complete and that the plans will be reviewed by MassDEP. MassDEP comments and requirements will be incorporated into project plans to move forward to complete the design.

Acting Superintendent Tivey reported that minor details on the Well #1 project are being completed by Robert B. Our Company and Fall River Electric Company. Mr. Tivey informed the Board that he expects MassDEP to grant permission to begin pumping water into the distribution system this week. Mr. Tivey also informed the Board that the Department will need to apply for a waiver with the Massachusetts State Building Division to avoid the requirement for an automatic fire sprinkler system for the new chemical addition building at Well #1. The Town of Barnstable Building inspector will not issue a Certificate of Occupancy without a waiver from the State. Mr. Tivey explained that the District's insurance company, Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Agency may refuse to issue insurance coverage for the new building if the Occupancy Permit is not obtained. He explained that the Department has contacted the insurance company representative, and that the District is waiting for a response to the inquiry.

**FY-24 Proposed Capital Projects**

Acting Superintendent Tivey informed the Board that there are preliminary plans for the Town of Barnstable to make alterations to Commerce Road. Mr. Tivey explained that there is poor water flow to the area, and that the Master Plan for water system improvements identified the area as lacking adequate fire flows. He explained that the plans include the replacement of the culvert from Maraspin Creek, and the two projects could be done in tandem. Mr. Tivey suggested that the Town may provide financial assistance to replace the water mains in the area.

**Lead Service Line Inventory Project**

Acting Superintendent Tivey discussed the USEPA/MassDEP requirement for the Department to conduct a Lead Service Line inventory to identify and replace water services containing lead. Mr. Tivey discussed the availability of grant funding to assist with the inventory project. He suggested that the inventory could be done in house without the need to obtain a grant and to hire an outside firm. The Board agreed that the project should be done in house if possible.

**ARPA Funding Request**

Acting Superintendent Tivey informed the Board that the request for ARPA Funding for the Well #1 Rehabilitation project was not approved to move forward in the process. Mr. Tivey informed the Board that there were many requests for funds, so there was competition for the available funds. He stated that the Department will submit another request in the next round of funding.

**Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated By The Chair**

Acting Superintendent Tivey informed the Board that the Department had received an inquiry regarding a utility easement across a District owned parcel of land at 586 Oak Street in West Barnstable. Mr. Tivey explained that the parcel was purchased as a potential location for water storage tank in the future. Commissioner Whitmore asked if the easement would conflict with any possible uses for the site? Mr. Tivey responded that the easement would not cause a conflict because the easement would be across a small corner of the four-acre parcel.

Acting Superintendent Tivey informed the Board that the Department had received an inquiry for the Fire District to partner with Town of Barnstable to use Community Perseverance funds to purchase an Oakmont Road parcel next to a District Owned parcel. The Board took the question under advisement.

Water Department Collector Kim Vermette joined the Meeting to present an Abatement Request from #119 Oakmont for reduction of a large water billed caused by an irrigation leak. Commissioner Mason **motioned** to reduce the water bill by \$500.00, **seconded** by Commissioner Whitmore. The **motion passed unanimously.**

There being no further business, Chairman Bassett asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mason **motioned** to adjourn the meeting, **seconded** by Commissioner Whitmore. The **motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
Thomas Rooney