

BFD BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2017 AT THE WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

PRESENT WERE: Board of Water Commissioners: Chairman David Jones and Commissioner Bassett, and Commissioner Whitmore. Also present: Superintendent Thomas Rooney.

- Meeting called to order at 2:30 P.M.
- Warrants and payrolls signed.
- Collectors End of Month Report reviewed and signed
- Superintendent's Projects Report reviewed

Chairman Jones asked for a motion to accept the previous Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Bassett **motioned** to accept the Meeting Minutes from November 7, 2017, **seconded** by Commissioner Whitmore. The **motion passed unanimously**.

Solar Panel Update

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that he contacted the District's Legal Counsel, Charles Sabatt, to inquire about his progress investigating the Personal Property Tax reimbursement issue. Mr. Sabatt informed Mr. Rooney that he was unable to obtain a copy of the tax bill in question. Mr. Rooney suggested that the bill might be paid from Offtaker revenues. The Board suggested that Superintendent Rooney explore that possibility. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that he had also spoken with Cape and Vineyard Electrical Collaborative Special Projects Coordinator Liz Argo about a resolution of the tax bill issue. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that Ms. Argo volunteered to contact the Town of Barnstable Tax Collector to try to obtain a copy of the tax bill.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the District had received another Offtaker payment in the amount of \$3,213.13 bringing this fiscal year's total to \$14,269.00. Commissioner Whitmore asked how the revenue compared to last year's totals? Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the District had received \$37,000.00 dollars of Offtaker revenue in the prior fiscal year. Commissioner Bassett asked what happens to those funds? Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the District Treasurer deposits the funds into the District's General Fund.

Capital Improvement Projects

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that Lawrence-Lynch Corporation was in the process of completing the paving work. Their crew was currently grading the tank site access road, and that they were hoping to grade the wellfield site tomorrow. He also informed the Board that they were planning to pave the tank site the following day.

Chairman Jones asked Superintendent Rooney how the Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project was progressing? Mr. Rooney responded that he was expecting to receive the 90% plans for the project the following day. The Board discussed using former Superintendent Jon Erickson to assist with the oversight of the project.

Chairman Jones asked Mr. Rooney what is the status of the Office Remodeling project? Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the project was currently on hold, and that he planned on working on the bid specification in January. Mr. Jones reminded those present that the Prudential Committee would like to see the bid amount prior to the Annual District Meeting in case additional funds were needed. The Board discussed using the Water Department's Stabilization Account if additional funds were needed. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that a two thirds vote of those present at the Annual District Meeting would be required. He went on to inform the Board that the Water Department currently had a balance of \$353,519.25 in the Water Stabilization Account, and \$39,172.89 in the Department's System Improvement Account.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that he had obtained an estimate for replacing water main gates in the center of the Village, and that the rough estimate was \$300,000.00 dollars. He went on to say that \$50,000.00 dollars of that estimate was for engineering costs.

Mr. Rooney reviewed the Department's expenses and debt with the Board. He discussed the retirement of previous debt in FY-20. He went on to inform the Board that the revenue estimate provided to the Prudential Committee for Fiscal 2017 was \$950,000.00 dollars. The Water Department received \$1,185,960.00 dollars in revenue. The Water Department should receive \$273,109.00 dollars in excess revenues. Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the District's Treasurer had discovered six accounts with unspent funds from previous Department Articles in the amount of \$33,362.00 dollars.

Superintendent Rooney expressed his desire to replace the Department's 2000 Dodge puck up truck. The Board granted Superintendent permission to research a replacement vehicle.

Development Projects In The District

Superintendent Rooney explained the progress of the six major development projects currently being constructed in the District. Commissioner Whitmore asked if the Department has the capability to supply water to the new developments? Superintendent Rooney replied that he believed that the Water Department should be able to produce enough water to supply the new buildings. Mr. Rooney explained that the Department is currently doing additional water quality sampling in the between Sun Island Transport and Wells #3 & #4. He went on to explain that the Department is also conducting water quality sampling between Barnstable Municipal Airport and Wells #2 & #5. Mr. Rooney also discussed the resolution of the billing error with the Village Green.

Abatement Requests

The Board reviewed two abatement requests from the owner of 19 Salten Point Road, and the owner of 90 Oakmont Road. Water Department Collector Vermette joined the Meeting to explain the circumstances of the requests. Ms. Vermette explained that the owner of 19 Salten Point had received a large bill due to an irrigation lead which he provided repair documentation for.

Collector Vermette informed the Board that charging for the usage at the lowest usage rate would reduce the customer's usage bill by \$874.68 dollars. Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to adjust the usage bill to the lowest rate, **seconded** by Commissioner Bassett. The **motion passed unanimously.**

Collector Vermette explained that the owner of 90 Oakmont was requesting an abatement due to water used by the previous owner after the meter was read, but prior to a postponed real estate closing. Collector Vermette explained that charging for usage at the lowest usage rate would reduce the customer's usage bill by \$330.54.

Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to adjust the usage bill to the lowest rate, **seconded** by Commissioner Bassett. The **motion passed unanimously.**

Optional Meter Requests

The Board reviewed two optional meter requests for the Village Green Apartments. Mr. Rooney explained that the option meters were for the two newest buildings. Chairman Jones asked if the other two building have optional meters? Superintendent Rooney responded that they do. Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to approve the requests, **seconded** by Commissioner Bassett. The **motion** passed unanimously.

Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that he had contacted the District's Counsel Charles Sabatt, at the request of Prudential Committee Chairman William Jones, to inquire about the issue of Hyannis Water Systems placing a well within the District's boundaries. Mr. Sabatt informed Mr. Rooney that he had not received any further information from the Assistant Town Attorney Charles McLaughlin.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that there is a new wind project is trying to use Cape Wind's plan to install Shunt Reactors in Independence Park.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that he had received an estimate for lead detecting the District if \$5,000.0 dollars. The Board granted approval for the leak detection to be done in house.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Town of Yarmouth was investigating the water service agreement for Yarmouth residents in Cummaquid who receive Barnstable Fire District water in response to a complaint made to the Yarmouth Selectman.

There being no further business, Chairman Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to adjourn the meeting, **seconded** by Commissioner Bassett. The **motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Rooney