

BFD BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 2022 AT THE WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

PRESENT WERE: Board of Water Chairman Bassett, and Commissioner Mason. Also present: Superintendent Thomas Rooney.

- Meeting called to order at 2:30 P.M.
- Warrants and payrolls signed.

Chairman Bassett **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes for April 12, 2022, **seconded** by Commissioner Mason. The **motion passed unanimously.** Chairman Bassett **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes for June 14, 2022, **seconded** by Commissioner Mason. The **motion passed unanimously.**

Capital Projects Update

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that GZA Engineer Thomas Sexton had developed a punch list of items to be corrected to meet the contract requirements for the pumping station and treatment facility at well #1. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the list of items would be forwarded to Robert Our Company to address before the two buildings are accepted by District. He explained that the existing pumping station building for well #1 was remodeled, and a new prefabricated treatment building was constructed and installed. Mr. Rooney informed the board that the second coat of new pavement was installed on the access road to well #1 and the parking area adjacent to well #1. The fence posts of the security fence have been installed, but the fence and pass-through gates have not been installed. Mr. Rooney explained that the contractor will assist with the start-up of the chemical feed equipment. He explained that water quality samples would need to be taken, and analyzed, from treated water to satisfy MassDEP requirements for approval to supply drinking water to the distribution system.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the construction plans for the water filtration plant are approaching 90% completion. Mr. Rooney explained the details of the site layout are still being determined. He explained the location of utilities, including water main layouts, are being designed with guidance from the water department staff. Proposed storm water drainage plans, and grading for the finished building site are being determined. Mr. Rooney also explained that the location, size, and installation details of settling lagoons and drainage lagoons are still being determined. Superintendent Rooney reported that a meeting was held to discuss the environment review application filed as part of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act. Mr. Rooney explained that an environmentally sensitive Vernal Pool was identified on the site, and that the proposed location of the new facility was moved to provide greater separation between the environmentally sensitive area and the building. He explained that the original building location would have been too close to the 100' radius around the vernal pool.

The Board discussed the possibility of installing solar panels on the roof of the new filtration plant or ground mounted solar panels on the site. Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the District would be seeking a Massachusetts State Grant to pay for the addition of solar panels.

The Board asked for an explanation the current solar revenues. Superintendent Rooney explained that the District receives 35% of the net metering credits to off-set electric supply costs, and that the District sells 65% of the net metering credits to other municipalities.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Emergency Interconnection Project with the Town of Yarmouth water system is 90% complete. Mr. Rooney explained the details of the water main gates, fire hydrants, and piping that were installed and replaced. He explained that Dig-It construction would be installing the water meter to the new piping configuration, and structural supports to the vault. Dig-IT will also be repairing the landscaping that was disturbed by the project.

FY-22 End of Fiscal Year Water Department Operations Budget Review

Superintendent Rooney presented the water department's operation budget line-item balances. Mr. Rooney discussed the assignment of expected invoices between funding sources. He explained that there were unexpected expenses to complete the Emergency Interconnection Project with the Town of Yarmouth. The Board instructed Superintendent Rooney to assign the additional expenses to the FY-22 Operations Budget. Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Water Department has not received several invoices for fiscal 2022, and he expressed concern that the remainder of the Operations Budget could go into the negative. Commissioner Mason **motioned** that \$5,000.00 be transferred from the Water Department Reserve Account to the Water Department Operations Budget to ensure that remaining items that should be paid out of the Fiscal 2022 Operations Budget are funded, **seconded**, by Chairman Bassett. The **motion passed unanimously.**

Development projects in then District

Superintendent Rooney explained the current development plans for parcels on Wilkins Lane. For the benefit of a new Board member, Mr. Rooney explained that Cape Cod Healthcare and New England Development are proposing projects on Wilkins Lane that will place a large water demand on the District's water system. Chairman Bassett expressed here concern that District's water system will not have water production capacity to supply the volumes of water needed to service current and future development projects in the Barnstable Fire District.

Superintendent Rooney explained the PFAS contaminants has been discovered in the groundwater used to supply drinking water. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that levels detected are more the halfway to the MassDEP limit of 20 PPT (parts per trillion). He also explained that supply wells with higher detections are limited in the water that they can produce, and that the supply wells could be required to be removed from service, by MassDEP, if the contaminant levels increase due to increased pumping.

Superintendent provided an inquiry from a real estate developer, received by the water department, to the Board of Water Commissioners regarding a property owned by the Barnstable Fire District in Cummaquid. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that he had met with the developer, and that the developer would like to obtain part of the parcel owned by the District. He explained that the developer would like to buy a portion of the parcel or swap for land on the developer's parcel.

Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the parcel in question was taken by Eminent Domain for the purpose of water supply. He informed the Board that Prudential Committee Chairman William Jones was made aware of the inquiry. Chairman Jones joined the Meeting to inform the Board that he had asked the District's Counsel to review the status of the parcel in question. Mr. Jones explained that no response could be given to the developer until an opinion is received from Counsel.

Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated By The Chair

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that he intends to retire. Mr. Rooney presented the Board with a letter of resignation effective October 3, 2022. The Board discussed the process for selecting a new Superintendent. The Board asked Superintendent Rooney to contact three municipal hiring consultants to seek proposals to consult on the hiring process, and to help with the selection process.

There being no further business, Chairman Bassett **motioned** to adjourn the meeting, **seconded** by Commissioner Mason. The **motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas Rooney