

BFD BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

July 13, 2021, 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.

Chairman Jones asked for a motion to approve previous meeting minutes. Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to approve the meeting minutes from June 8, 2021, **seconded** by Commissioner Bassett. The **motion passed Unanimously.**

Capital Projects Update

Superintendent Rooney reported that there has been delays with the Well #1 project because of the difficulty obtaining equipment for the pumping station, and delays related to the electrical service upgrade. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the Department will not have Well #1 available to temporarily pump water during the Summer months as planned. He explained that the Department wanted Well #1 to be available in case PFAS results forced the Department to shut down another well, or there was a catastrophic failure in another pumping station. He also reported that PFAS results have been trending downward, so the possibility of having to shut down another well because of PFAS was less likely. Mr. Rooney also explained that it was going to be difficult to monitor the water chemistry after chemical addition. He informed the Board that GZA Engineer Thomas Sexton communicated to Robert Our Co. that the Board would be disappointed if the pumping station could be available for temporary use during July and August. Chairman Jones suggested that Robert Our not be paid until more progress is made on the pumping station.

Superintendent Rooney Reported that Dankris Builders Company had retightened the Sumo connection on the new KOH bulk tank at Treatment #1 that was weeping chemical. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the bulk tank was filled with 4,00 gallons of chemical, and that the Sumo connection is no longer leaking.

Chairman Jones asked if the roof for Treatment has gone out to bid. Superintendent Rooney reported that the bid specifications have not been completed, so the project is not ready to go out to bid.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the District has applied for a grant to improve interconnections between Barnstable Fire District and Yarmouth Water Department on Route 6A. Mr. Rooney explained that the interconnection with COMM water would also be improved if the Grant is awarded.

Water Rates

Superintendent Rooney introduced GZA Engineer Thomas Sexton to discuss water rate increases that will be needed for debt service being created by PFAS remediation capital projects. Mr. Sexton suggested that the Water Department would need to increase revenues by 20% a year for the next five years. He also discussed the potential that current billing system may be under reporting the amount of water being billed for.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Water Department must account for the volume of water produced to MassDEP and that the under reporting may be increasing the percentage of unaccounted for water reported yearly to the State. Mr. Sexton suggested that future debt terms should be made for as long as possible to reduce the yearly debt service. He also discussed the need for a site assessment to determine the cause of the contamination to obtain funds from the party responsible for the contamination. Mr. Sexton also informed the Board that the Department's yearly operational costs will increase when the filtration plant goes into operation, and the revenue needed will need to be planned for. He also discussed the need for policies and by-laws to address apartment complexes that change from rental units to condominiums. Commissioner Whitmore suggested that new developments should be charged a larger connection fee to assist with debt service.

Superintendent Rooney discussed the drought conditions, and the possibility that outdoor watering restrictions could reduce revenues during the current year, and in future years. Mr. Sexton discussed the possibility of changing the operational financial structure to an Enterprise Fund. He suggested that an Enterprise fund would be advantageous if large PFAS settlements are received by the Department.

Wilkins Way Development

Superintendent Rooney discussed recent changes to the proposed development plans for New England Development Company,

Optional Meter Request

The Board reviewed an Optional Meter Request applications for 6 Harvey Avenue. Chairman Jones asked for a **motion** to approve the requests. Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to approve the requests, **seconded** by Commissioner Bassett. The **motion passed unanimously.**

Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated By The Chair

Collector Vermette presented an Abatement Request for 4040 Main Street. After reviewing the request, Commissioner Bassett **motioned** to approve the request, **seconded** Chairman Jones. The **motion passed unanimously.**

Collector Vermette presented an Abatement Request for 180 Scudder Lane. After reviewing the request, Commissioner Bassett **motioned** to approve the request, **seconded** Chairman Jones. The **motion passed unanimously.**

There being no further business, Chairman Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the Meeting. Commissioner Bassett **motioned** to adjourn the meeting, **seconded** by Chairman Jones. The **motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas Rooney