

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, December 9, 2021

There was a regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held at the department administrative offices, 605 West Queen Street, Southington, Connecticut, on Thursday, December 9, 2021. A recording of this meeting is achieved at the Department office.

1.) CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by President Robert Berkmoes.

PRESENT: President Robert Berkmoes, Secretary/Treasurer Rudy Cabata, Commissioner Ralph Warner, Commissioner Thomas Murphy, Commissioner Ronald Lamoreux, Superintendent Douglas Arndt, Assistant Superintendent Albert Fiorillo, Office Supervisor Maria Nason, Recording Secretary Angela Pascariello, and William Casarella.

Vice President Erika Pocock joined the meeting at 6:50pm.

2.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

Commissioner Cabata made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner. No comments on the motion. The motion was passed by a voice vote.

3.) COMMUNICATIONS:

a.) Communication from the Public:

None

b.) Communication from Administration:

None

c.) Communication from Board Members:

Commissioner Ralph Warner congratulated President Robert Berkmoes, Vice President Erika Pocock, and Secretary/Treasurer Rudy Cabata on their newly elected positions.

President Robert Berkmoes appointed Commissioner Thomas Murphy to chair the Infrastructure Committee with Commissioner Ralph Warner and himself.

Secretary/Treasurer Rudy Cabata will chair the Policy and Procedures Committee.

Secretary/Treasurer Rudy Cabata, Vice President Erika Pocock and Ron Lamoreux will be working the Department lobbyist.

4.) NEW BUSINESS:

a.) Application review for 60 Mastrianni Place

Assistant Superintendent Albert Fiorillo presented plans for a proposed 8” water main extension off Burritt Street to Mastrianni Place which will service three lots consisting of 24 storage facilities and rental garages with 2 private hydrants. Commissioner Cabata made a motion to accept the plan as presented. Commissioner Thomas Murphy seconded the motion and it passed by a voice vote.

b.) Rain Garden Proposal- Southington High/UConn Conservation Training Partnership

Postponed

5.) FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a.) Review of Water Billings & Outstanding Jobbing Bills & Approval of Invoices:

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to accept the listed invoices for payment as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and was passed on a voice vote.

b.) Review of Financial Statements:

Secretary/Treasurer Cabata made a motion to accept the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner and was passed on a voice vote.

6.) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

7.) OLD BUSINESS:

a.) Manganese Pilot Study:

Mariusz Jedrychowski and Sarah Simoni of Wright-Pierce presented preliminary results of the Well 7A and Well 8 Manganese Pilot Study completed by BlueLeaf, Inc. They reviewed the findings of Greensand Filtration vs. Biological Filtration. Mr. Jedrychowski and Ms. Simoni are waiting on additional information from

BlueLeaf before giving their final recommendations. They hope to have their recommendation to the Board at the January 2022 Board meeting.

b.) Property Purchase:

Superintendent Arndt stated the closing date for the property on Robert Porter Road will be sometime after the new year.

c.) Well 10 Construction:

Weston and Sampson will be delivering and installing the screen by the end of December. Once the screen is installed, SB Church will begin developing the well.

d.) Well 9 Diversion Permit:

Superintendent Arndt and Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo spoke with DEEP last week and there were no issues with the diversion permit application. DEEP requested information regarding Crescent Lake and the reservoir, however, this will not affect the permit. DEEP will be moving forward for approval. There will be a 30-day public comment period. Superintendent Arndt is hopeful the Department will have a new 25-year permit issued in March of 2022.

e.) Valley Water-Shuttle Meadow Water Main:

Superintendent Arndt informed the Board the purchase of the Shuttle Meadow water main was made on November 29, 2021. The final connection off Thunderbird Drive has been completed. The Department will realize 27 new customers on Shuttle Meadow. Changing of the water meters will start soon. Valley Water provided all street card locations for gate and curb valves.

Commissioner Murphy requested the Department send letters to those customers on Shuttle Meadow that currently have wells in hopes they will consider tying in.

f.) Lead Removal:

Superintendent Arndt stated that the department will receive \$900k from the Town to use toward lead removal. DPH currently is offering 25% matching funds program that caps out at \$250,000 per phase of the project. The project can be completed in phases, which could potentially save the Department up to one million dollars. DPH will fund the replacement of water services from the curb box to the first valve. Superintendent Arndt also mentioned utilizing funding to expand GIS asset management program to track lead abatement work as required by forthcoming Lead a Copper Revised Rule (LCRR). This would be a cost saving effort to reduce anticipated work required by consultants if not done in-house.

8.) PERSONNEL MATTERS:

Assistant Superintendent Fiorillo stated the Maintainer 1 job posting closed on December 7, 2021. Twenty-two (22) resumes were received. Interviews will be scheduled next week.

The Office Manager job opening was posted on Indeed, CT AWWA and the Connecticut Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA-CT) website. The Department has received over 100 applicants. Interviews are taking place currently.

9.) EXECUTIVE SESSION ANTICIPATED FOR PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATION MATTERS:

Secretary/Treasurer Cabata made a motion for adjournment to Executive Session, barring the public and the press but to include Superintendent Arndt, Assistant Albert Fiorillo and William Casarella. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner, and it passed on a voice vote at 7:38pm.

Commissioner Cabata made a motion to reconvene back to regular session at 8:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner, and it was passed on a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Cabata made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m.
Commissioner Warner seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

Attest:



Douglas R. Arndt, Superintendent