

Minutes of the Board of Water Commissioners
Regular Meeting
August 21, 2013

Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: DPS Facility, 16A Perry Way

Present:

Board: Chairman Larry Kelley, Commissioners Erford Fowler, John Tomasz

Staff: Tony Furnari, DPS Director; Paul Colby, Superintendent Water Operations; Dan Lynch, Distribution Manager; Ethan Manning, Business Manager, Kathe Talkington, Administrative Office Manager

Guest: Pieter Hartford, OPM; Tim Pybus, McCourt Construction Co.

1. Customer Issues

None to report

2. Old Business

Water Treatment Plant

Pieter Hartford noted that the ribbon cutting went well.

Mr. Hartford reviewed the budget status of the Water Treatment Plant project. He noted that the local bond funded the work done on Spring Lane by the construction staff. In addition, funds will be used for the Upper Artichoke work. Mr. Hartford noted that the project is still projected be completed under budget.

Mr. Hartford noted that he had spoken with DEP concerning the contingency and that the loan amount can be increased for additional contingency. Substantial completion is expected by the end of October 2013.

Paul Colby asked the Board to review the information on plantings and signs that had been included in the meeting package. The Board had no issues with the plantings or proposed signage.

Upper Artichoke Dam

Paul Colby noted the following that AECOM had submitted an addendum for signature authorizing \$118,000 for design and engineering costs associated with the Upper Artichoke Reservoir Dam and Gatehouse Evaluation contract. Among the work to be done include repair dam; epoxy construction joints; bring down old gatehouse structure, replace valves, permitting and design.

Commissioner Tomasz asked what is the projected construction cost and Mr. Colby replied ½ to ¾M dollars. He added dewatering and dredging are the most expensive items.

Commissioner Tomasz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fowler to authorize \$118K for the Upper Artichoke Reservoir Dam and Gatehouse Evaluation addendum with funding from the local bond authorized as part of the \$18.75M Water Treatment Plant project.

Vote: 3 yes

Mr. Colby noted that work is also need at the lower dam. Divers detected the air burst line is broken and needs repair. He requested authorization to replace the galvanized pipe from the shore to the intake with stainless steel.

Mr. Colby also noted that there is an issue with the Artichoke Station. During the summer the temperature inside the facility reached 110 to 115 degrees. Even with three large fans, the building could not be cooled. Mr. Colby noted that there may be a need to change the fans and window screens. He added that if the cost is more than \$10K the Board may want to include the cost with the Upper Artichoke work.

Mr. Colby noted that during the summer, temperature swings in the reservoirs affect coagulation. On hot days, from 3 pm to 11 pm floc doesn't settle. Algae thriving and dying creates dissolved O₂. He added that he has asked AECOM to relook at the costs to deal with increased nutrients.

Whittier Bridge Project

Paul Colby noted the request four seismographs were installed at the following locations: new equilibrium tanks, new clear well, eastside of Rt 95 and plant side on 18-inch main. Mr. Colby added snow fencing and jersey barriers are being installed near Bartlett Spring. He added Walsh Construction will replace plantings when project is finished.

Tim Pybus from McCourt Construction requested that stub poles be allowed along the access road. The Board noted no problem with the request.

Construction Report

Dan Lynch noted the following:

Parks are using less water than previous years

- Continue working on revised IMA
- Detected dead-end lines in the Reilly and Beacon Ave area
- Fixed leak on State Street
- Hartnett bid accepted for Merrill Street – work to start in September
- Water lines laid for Bresnahan School project
- Continuing with clean-up work on Spring Lane
- Working on second meter issue

Mr. Lynch noted that he is scheduling a meeting with the Fire Chief and Mr. Furnari concerning a request that construction sites have access to hydrants.

Financials

Mr. Manning noted that FY13 ended in the black.

New Business

Nothing to discuss

Tabled Items

Nothing to discuss

Director's Report

Mr. Furnari noted the Assistant Engineer position has been filled. Nicholas Pepe will start September 9, 2013 and his resume is attached to the Director's Report. The report was accepted as presented.

Minutes

Commissioner Fowler noted that on page 3 under Financial there is a typo.

Commissioner Tomasz made a motion to approve the June 19, 2013 minutes as corrected.

Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 yes

Bills Payable

Commissioner Fowler made a motion seconded by Commissioner Tomasz to approve the June 30, 2013 bills payable as presented:

Vote: 3 yes

Commissioner Tomasz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Fowler to approve the July 15, August 1 and August 15 bills payable as presented.

Vote: 3 yes

Commissioner Tomasz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Fowler to approve the July 15, Roundabout bills payable as presented.

Vote: 3 yes

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Fowler requested that information on open meeting laws relating to telephone or remote attendance be brought to the next meeting.

Commissioner Kelley noted that the updated draft of policies and procedures is under review and will be presented to the Board at the January 2014 meeting.

Commissioner Fowler recommended that a brief report be prepared for the Mayor outlining the work the department has accomplished and issues with the reservoir.

Next meetings:

Wednesday August 28, 2013 – second meter issue @ Wastewater Treatment Plant

Monday September 16, 2013

Wednesday October 23, 2013

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Submitted by: