

**Minutes of the Board of Water Commissioners
Regular Meeting
June 19, 2013 Minutes**

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: DPS Facility, 16A Perry Way

Present:

Board: Commissioner Larry Kelley; Commissioners Erford Fowler; Roger Jones; John Tomasz

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

Guest: Pieter Hartford, OPM; Andy Port, Planning Director; Doug Gove, AECOM

Commissioner Kelley called the meeting to order.

Whittier Bridge Project

Andy Port reviewed the request to use Spring Lane as staging area for the Whittier Bridge Project and noted the following:

- mobilizing will start soon
- access plan and staging reviewed
- seismic monitoring devices locations agreed on
- seismic data will be sent to Paul Colby and archived
- restoration of bank area
- improved sidewalk connections
- liability issues covered
- 2 – 3 year period for construction
- pier removed when project completed

Commissioner Kelley asked if the owner of the property at the end of Spring Lane has been notified. Mr. Port replied he will speak with the owners and let them know of the staging area plans.

Customer Issue

Mr. Lynch noted that several discolored water complaints were received from the area around Anna Jaques. Staff located a closed valve and unless complaints about discolored water continue in that area no further action will be taken.

Old Business

Water Treatment Plant Project

Pieter Hartford presented the Water Treatment Plant Project update.

Mr. Hartford noted that the ribbon cutting is scheduled for June 21, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Hartford noted the following:

- work on flow equalization started with new contractor
- water treatment plant re-roofing almost completed
- final change order for Contract 1
- reviewed Change Order #2 for Contract 3

Commissioner Tomasz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fowler to approve Change Order #2 for Contract 3 in the amount of \$137,347.

Vote: 4 yes

Construction Report

Dan Lynch presented the construction report:

- working on meter boxes for Plum Island connections
- waiting for various parks to respond to water conservation plan requests
- working on many issues with Plum Island, i.e., rebuilding requests, lawsuit
- working with Kopelman & Paige on IMA
- continuing work with Newbury concerning buildable and non-buildable lots
- reviewing plans for various projects
- hired Carl Sopher to locate leak on Hanover Street – maybe ground water
- Spring Lane work almost completed
- meeting with engineers and construction personnel on Whittier Bridge and Bresnahan School projects.

Mr. Lynch reviewed an agreement need to place a deed restriction on 81 Old Point Road which gives up the right to water and sewer service and transfers those rights to 3 Temple Blvd. The properties are in Newbury.

Commissioner Jones made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Tomasz to accept the agreement placing a deed restriction on 81 Old Point Road giving up right to water and sewer service and transferring those rights to 3 Temple Blvd.

Vote: 4 yes

Operations Report

Upper Artichoke Reservoir Dam and Gatehouse Evaluation

Doug Gove, AECOM noted the following:

- structural engineer visited site and looked at the dam
- observed spalling and cracking
- repairs needed to wing walls
- gate house in poor condition – should be demoed & gate covers installed
- replace access road with new gravel road
- underwater inspection showed main channel about 12-feet deep
- sediment approximately 4 – 5 feet deep
- lots of plant growth observed

Paul Colby noted that the trees around reservoir are mature and drop lots of small branches and leaves. Commissioner Kelley asked if better maintenance around the shore is needed. Mr. Colby replied that DPW has helped with the maintenance and it is not an easy task.

Mr. Colby added that the pipe is 2/3 filled since last fall and that the work needs to be done. Mr. Gove noted that the permitting will require much effort and a maintenance plan will be included in the permitting effort.

Mr. Colby noted it would be worth removing tress near the reservoir. Commissioner Kelley asked if staff would be able to do some of this work. Mr. Colby replied yes.

Mr. Gove noted the project's next steps:

- additional survey work
- prepare design plans including dredging
- sediment removal
- create staging area
- conduct hydrologic and hydraulic study
- Chapter 253 Dam Safety Permit
- Permitting – MEPA, NOI, Army Corp of Engineers among others

Doug Gove noted that the State will be offering SRF monies for dam and levee upgrades. Commissioner Kelley asked if there is a way to utilize remaining funds from the WTP project for work at the Artichoke Reservoir Dam. Mr. Gove did not know.

Paul Colby noted the valve house and dredging needs to be done. Doug Gove noted that design and permitting could take 6 – 8 months. The Board requested Mr. Gove submitted a contract.

Mr. Colby noted that the reservoirs are full and groundwater levels similar to last Fall.

Financial

FY14 Water Rate

Mr. Manning reviewed the FY14 Rate Recommendations and noted that the FY14 budget increased by 24.6% and the proposed rate increase is 3.1%.

Commission Tomasz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the FY14 water rates as presented with the first tier at \$4.58 per 100 cf and second tier at \$5.33 per 100 cf.

Vote: 4 yes

FY13 Budget

The FY13 Budget is on track for expenses and revenue.

New Business

Nothing to report

Key Topics

Nothing to report

Director's Report

Accept as presented. Mr. Furnari thanked Mr. Manning for the budget work and rate recommendation packet. Mr. Furnari noted that Budget and Finance requested more information on the DPS building. Also, Councillor Herzog would like to meet and discuss the combining of Water and Sewer Commissions.

Commissioner Kelley noted that the Water Commission should meet separately with Councillor Herzog. Commissioner Fowler added that the request should go through the Mayor's office, as it is her initiative to combine the Commissions.

Commissioner Jones asked if a press release could be prepared outlining the construction and other work done in-house resulting in savings.

Tabled Items

Nothing to report

Minutes

Commissioner Fowler made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept the May 22 and 29, 2013 minutes as presented.

Vote: 4 - yes

Bills Payable

Commissioner Tomasz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept the June 1 and 15, 2013 bills payable as presented.

Vote: 4 - yes

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Fowler asked if the City had accepted the Open Meeting Law permitting telephone participating.

Meeting Schedule

June 21, 2013 - dedication

July 17, 2013

August 21, 2013

Submitted by: