

Minutes of the Board of Water/Sewer Commissioners
October 22, 2014
4:30 p.m.

Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: Wastewater Treatment Facility
115 Water Street

Present:

Commissioners: Chairman David Hanlon; Commissioners Robert Cook, Larry Kelley, Roger Jones, John Tomasz

Staff: Tony Furnari, DPS Director; Joe Dugan, Chief Operator, Tom Smolski, Acting Superintendent Water Operations, Dan Lynch, Distribution Manager, Jamie Tuccolo, Collection System Superintendent; Lisa Valcich, Business Manager, Kathe Talkington, Administrative Office Manager; Jon-Eric White, City Engineer; Nick Pepe, Assistant Engineer; Bob Bradbury, Assistant Chief Operator

Guest: Pieter Hartford, OPM

1. Appointments/Customer Issues

None

2. Approval of Minutes/Bills/Transfers

September 24, 2014 Minutes

Commissioner Cook noted the following edits:

Page 1 section 1: add Tracy Blais title (Newbury Town Administrator)

Page 2 section 3A: change abstained to recused

Page 3 section 5: correct Can to Dan

Page 5 section 10: correct DMC to CDM

Commissioner Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the September 24, 2014 minutes as edited. Vote: 3 yes

4. Water Treatment Plant Report

Tom Smolski noted the following:

- reservoirs are at 86% capacity
- post caustic line leaking under chemical room
 - looking at alternative material for lines
- cleaning lagoons
- final paving complete
- checking on dam progress
- well are low – set off alarms
- Bartlett Spring Pond treated for algae

Mr. Furnari noted Tom is doing a great job

Commissioner Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept the Water Treatment Report as presented.

Vote: 4 yes

5. Water Construction Report

Dan Lynch noted the following:

- work on Plum Island going slow
- Jackson Street water main replacement project complete
- Reilly Avenue water main replacement project to start by end of month
- hydrant flushing ongoing
- water main breaks on Parker Street and Storeybrook Road
- reviewing plans for Inn Street fountain

Chairman Hanlon noted concern with the water quality at the Inn Street Fountain. Mr. Lynch noted that the water will be potable quality and the Board of Health will monitor. The department's responsibility ends at the meter.

Mr. Lynch noted the bi-annual leak detection was completed and leaks repaired. Commissioner Cook asked if DPS should purchase lighted sign boards. Mr. Lynch noted he is reviewing cost. Chairman Hanlon noted the cost for sign boards should be split between water, sewer and highway divisions.

Commissioner Cook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kelley to accept the Water Construction report as presented.

Vote: 4 yes

6. Sewer Superintendent Report

Jamie Tuccolo noted the following:

- preparing power point FOG presentation (residential and industrial grease problem)
- other communities facing issues with FOG

Mr. Tuccolo noted that the restaurants and inns fall under the Board of Health and that 80% of the problems are associated with residential misuse.

Commissioner Cook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept the Sewer Superintendent's report as presented.

Vote: 4 yes

7. Sewer Pretreatment Report

Joe Dugan noted a violation was detected at PCI Synthesis and a warning issued. He added that Dave McGarth will have an update on the EPA's Dental Amalgam rule at a future meeting.

Commissioner Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cook to accept the Sewer Pretreatment Report as presented.

Vote: 4 yes

8. Sewer Chief Operator Report

Joe Dugan noted the following:

- nitrogen removal working great
- anoxic zone and mode of operation working well
- requested reduction in number of tests from State
- HVAC prepped for winter
- some discrepancies with scales on truck – looking for new flat scales
- looking at cost for mixers – will look for funding from capital
- next month revisit capital for scales and mixers; also some consultant help

Commissioner Cook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept the Sewer Chief Operator's report as presented.

Vote: 4 yes

9. Director's Report

Tony Furnari noted the following:

- several personnel openings – mechanics, HEOD-2, Water Superintendent, truck drivers
- Wayne Amaral started as Deputy Director
- reviewing vector truck quotes
- DPS building variance approved by ZBA
- peer review DPS building peer review of site plan and storm water design need for Planning Board
- Sewer maintenance crews made repairs at Graf Road and Scotland Road lift stations

Commissioner Cook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kelley to accept the Director's report as presented.

Vote: 4 yes

10. City Engineer's Report

Jon-Eric White noted the following:

- coordinated meeting with DPS building Architect, Dave Zinck and Mark Kavanagh
- working on West End Easements project

Chairman Hanlon asked if the West End Easement work mean the plans are being revised and the abutters would need to be notified. Mr. Furnari replied no.

Mr. White noted that he does not have much involvement with the Plum Island work and that Pieter Hartford is representing the City's interests. Mr. White added that the Mayor decided not to forward his comments on the 16 hydrants to CDM and the Attorney General's office. If modifications need to be made, Mr. Hartford will observe and recommend.

Chairman Hanlon noted that when the work is done, the Commission has to accept the Commission needs to be in the loop. Mr. White noted that he recommended using stainless

steel but CDM choose ductile iron. Mr. Hartford noted that on the hydrants inspected there is no consistency on the materials used.

Commissioner Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept the City Engineer report as presented.

Vote: 4 yes

11. Business Manager's Report

Ms. Valcich noted that 25% of fiscal year completed; Water enterprise fund has used 35% of budget and Sewer enterprise fund used 28% of budget. End of month show deficit due to one-time annual charges and debt principal and interest paid semi-annually at beginning of fiscal year.

Ms. Valcich noted that 5 residents hired plumbers due Billtrust sending leak notices to the wrong accounts. Billtrust has agreed to reimburse 4 of the residents. City will help 5th resident. Ms. Valcich added that she is discussing with the Treasurer and Auditor on alternate vendors.

Commissioner Kelley noted several major companies are leaving the city and asked what effect their moving will have on consumption. Ms. Valcich noted that she is reviewing the five-year consumption data.

12. Old/New Business

The Commission received and accepted the letter from Newbury Board of Health in reference to the Newbury Town Hall Septic System failure.

Mr. Tuccolo presented the agreement with BETA Engineering for professional services for Graf Road Pump Station Rehabilitation Design and Bidding Services.

Commissioner Kelley made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cook to approve the agreement with BETA Engineering for professional services for Graf Road Pump Station Rehabilitation Design and Bidding Services. The cost for the agreement not to exceed \$205,000.00.

Vote: 4 yes, 1 present

3. Water Treatment & WPCF Report/Updates

Dam Project

Mr. Hartford noted the following

- dam work on the West Newbury side is complete
- old gate house removed
- work on schedule
- change order pending for \$8029.98 associated with porta-dam installation and level of sediment

Commissioner Cook made motion, seconded by Commissioner Tomasz to change order #1 in the amount of \$8029.98.

Vote: 5 yes

Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement Project

Mr. Hartford noted the following:

- LEED appeal is underway
- processing Waterline final payment

Mr. Hartford noted that bids for Wastewater Treatment Facility fencing were received and notice of intent to award was issued to G.B. Hastie Fence Co Inc. Fox Painting bid was rejected. Commissioner Cook asked if Fox was notified and are they appealing. Mr. Hartford replied Fox was notified and no appeal was filed to date.

Commissioner Cook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Tomasz to award the Newburyport WWTF Fence Replacement contract to G.B. Hastie Fence Co., Inc.

Vote: 5 yes

Mr. Hartford distributed a memo from GEI Consultants on the environmental consulting services at 115 Water St. Mr. Hartford noted that GEI will continue groundwater monitoring. Mr. Hartford will present a cost proposal from GEI at next month's meeting.

Mr. Hartford noted there was not a lot to report on budgets. The contingency for WWTP is approximately \$70K. Mr. Hartford added he is working with the Auditor to reconcile the budget with MUNIS accounts.

Commissioner Cook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kelley to accept the Water Treatment and WPCF reports as presented.

Vote: 5 yes

13. Executive Session

14. Confirm Next Meeting

November 19, 2014

December 17, 2014

15. Warrant and Contract Signing

Commissioner Cook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Tomasz to accept the October 1 and 15 2014 bills payable for both Water and Sewer Divisions.

Vote: 5 yes

16. Adjournment

Commissioner Cook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to adjourn at 5:30.

Vote: 5 yes

Submitted by:

Kathe Talkington