

Board of Water and Sewer Commissioner's Meeting September 6, 2023

Agenda items may be taken out of order.

Present: Scott Zajkowski, Robert Sullivan, Tom Fournier, Jay Spahl, Justin Dolan, and George Patrinos,

In attendance: Willy Stevens, Robert Lavigne, Steve Watroba, Tom Haluch, Tracy Greegan, Jeff Faulkner, Cassandra Larochelle and Paul Smith.

Scott opened the meeting at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

Accept the Minutes from August 2, 2023:

Tom made a motion to accept the minutes from August 2, 2023, Jay seconded the motion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

Willard Stevens-32 Mill Rd- permission to connect to water: Willard Stevens is looking to connect a single-family house to water. George stated there should not be any issue connecting with water. Jay stated only water correct, there will be a septic system there.

Tom made a motion to allow water connection at 32 Mill Rd, Jay seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

Robert Lavigne – extension on Nichols College Townhouses: Justin Dolan, stated that he would be recusing himself from this agenda item as he works for Nichols College. Justin left the room during this item. Robert Lavigne stated that he was here about a year or so for permission on construction of Townhouses. The construction has been delayed on these Townhouses. This is not a request to add beds on the campus, it is replacing beds.

Jay made a motion extend water and sewer connection for Nichols College for another year, Tom seconded the motion, a discussion was had regarding possible sewer moratoriums, but this is an extension of an original permit from one year ago and this is a one for one exchange, not increasing any users and more efficient than existing. A vote was taken, all in favor, 4 in favor and one recusal, vote passed.

Charles Zajac – 28 Dudley Oxford Rd – Bill Dispute: No one showed to the meeting.

Steve Watroba- Sawmill Rd Subdivision- easement: Steve Watroba stated that easement needed to be in place before issuing the permit. He submitted an easement for the review with updated plan with revisions that were discussed and approved by the board. A discussion occurred regarding the main and manholes and placement. Scott states that there is no action to take today. Steve asked if he would need to come back with a new plan again to the board or if George could just okay it. A discussion occurred. Steve then asked if the board would be approving the easement tonight. Bob stated that he thought the easement needed to be approved at Town Meeting. A discussion occurred regarding this. Steve stated he will sign the easement and record it and bring a copy to the office so he can get his permit. Another discussion occurred regarding the easement. Steve stated he would wait to record the easement until he hears from Town Counsel. Scott stated that will need to contact Town Counsel to find out what direction need to go.

Tom made a motion to approve the easement for Sawmill Rd subdivision pending Town Counsel's approval, Jay seconded the motion, discussion occurred regarding accepting the easement and does that accept responsibility for the drainage, Bob asked. Are we responsible for other utilities listed in the easement? Scott stated that will ask Town Counsel that question as well. A vote was taken, 3 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstained.

Haluch Construction- Mason Road Project: Tom Haluch and Tracy Greegan were present from Haluch Construction. Scott stated for the record an invitation to the Board of Selectmen was sent by Mr. Haluch and the Board of Water Sewer Commissioners to attend this meeting and it was declined. Mr. Haluch asked if there was a reason why and Scott stated they want to meet on this at the end of October at one of their meetings. Scott stated we are trying to finish up the Mason Rd Project, this should have been taken care of a long time ago. George states that he had conversations with the Town Administrator this afternoon. George suggested that they have a 3-year warranty back from the original date so now only a 2-year, and meet with a couple Selectmen, Mr. Haluch, and our engineer and what the responsibility would be. The Bond company would not endorse that, it open ends his liability and where is the expertise that warrants this. Tighe and Bond does not want to involve themselves as it is outside their scope. Mr. Haluch stated on September 17th, 2021, we were at substantial completion had it signed off, the Town then came up with this sidewalk they wanted to do, we could have paved the road and been done, but we held off due to the sidewalk project. There have been other utilities doing patches on the road that Mr. Haluch had already had ready to pave. The board still owes Mr. Haluch money for the project, and he wants to be paid. Scott stated that it is not our board holding you up it is another board. Bob asked Jeff Faulkner, from Tighe and Bond if there was a final pay requisition sent in yet? There is a pay request from Haluch to close out the job, and the balancing out change order should be documented. Tracy from Haluch Construction states that they would like to have three more cores done, Bob stated that he doesn't think that is a good idea because if three more cores fail then I would want you to replace the whole road. Bob asked if Mr. Haluch would do a 3-year warranty with one year already being passed, Mr. Haluch stated if it was not financial cost and I would get my money, I am agreeable to that. Bob asked Jeff Faulkner if he has ever run into anything other than a 3-year warranty in a situation like this? Jeff stated that in his career he has never run into anything other than a 3-year warranty. A discussion occurred regarding paving standards for the town. Bob states that he would recommend having the pay requisition submitted, the board signs it, if it must be signed by the Town Administrator, then your concerns are with the Town for not finalizing your contract. Jeff stated in order to process that request we need a change order approved.

Tighe and Bond – Potash Brook – Jesse Rd: Jeff Faulkner and Paul Smith from Tighe and Bond. Jeff stated that the board had them prepare a report regarding the Potash Brook interceptor which has been experiencing high flows with SSO. Paul Smith presented a paper copy of the report and gave a brief explanation of the report. A meter was installed in the interceptor back in 2018 and that gave us some good results and then we went manhole to manhole and recorded sizes and slopes. A discussion occurred regarding the results of the report and the issues that need to be corrected and the possible cost associated. Scott stated that we have some reading and reviewing to do regarding this project. A discussion occurred about the results and DEP guidelines. After discussion decided would need a place holder for an article for Town Meeting for this item possibly for design only.

Possible Sewer Moratorium: Scott took this item next as they were discussing this in the previous agenda item. Discussion occurred as to where you want to have moratorium, what areas of town.

Tom made a motion to put a moratorium on any sewer connections that deal with the Pot Ash Brook interceptor, Bob seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

Tighe and Bond – Change Order: Jeff Faulkner from Tighe and Bond is looking for approval of change orders that the town requested, changes to the radios and pavement at the WTP. Scott stated that this was discussed at the last meeting, Bob said it was discussed but not voted on. A discussion occurred where the paving would occur. Scott stated if this change order is approved it would use roughly 36% of the contingency. It also was suggested for a few other upgrades to consider in the future. Bob would like the price on the cameras for Risk and Resiliency.

Bob made a motion to accept the change order as written, Justin seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

Jeff stated all the other items on the list are being discussed with the contractor to secure costs and will have updates to the board.

Webster True-up: There is a meeting set up for September 16, 2023, with the Webster Board of Water Sewer Commissioners in Webster to discuss. Mr. Brinkman will be attending the meeting. Will need to add as a Warrant Article for payment of the true-up.

Indirect Costs: Will need to reach out to the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen and request a meeting. We still have not been placed on the agenda because they are still dealing with the budget.

Budget/Revenue Review: Current budget and revenue presented for review.

Superintendent Report: George presented the report, reviewed, no questions at this time.

Public/Board Comments: Jay asked if the moratorium would be published in the paper for notification, Scott stated that yes it would be done next week and notification to all Town Departments as well.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jay seconded, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

****Documents physically identified, discussed, considered, or voted on by the Board: ****

Posted agenda for September 6, 2023, meeting at 6:30pm Room 315

Minutes from 8/2/2023

Copy of Easement for Sawmill Rd Subdivision

Letter from Haluch

Potash Brook Report from Tighe and Bond

Tighe and Bond Change Orders

Budget and Revenues

Superintendent Report

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Cournoyer, Administrative Assistant

Administrative Assistant took minutes from the recorded video and was not present at actual meeting.