

Board of Water and Sewer Commissioner's Meeting April 20, 2022

Present: Scott Zajkowski, Jay Spahl, William Conley, Robert Sullivan, Tom Fournier, George Patrinos, and Jennifer Cournoyer.

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

Accept the minutes of the April 6, 2022, public meeting: *Tom made a motion to accept the minutes, Bob seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.*

Seasonal Employee: This was a follow-up from the last meeting. George will have a template for hiring a position for less than 20 hours a week. He will take from the Highway Department's Seasonal Employee posting. Bob asked if he was looking for a part-timer or a seasonal? George stated he would really like a part-timer not just a seasonal employee. Tom asked if it was seasonal, how many months. George stated probably would not need them Thanksgiving to March. Scott then advised that this may change to a part-time employee. Tom then asked you are still down a guy, correct? George replied yes, then Tom asked if he thought they should fill the full-time position? George stated that no, he thought the part-timer would help and keep costs down. A discussion occurred about a part-timer vs full-time employee and how any full-time new hire will need to have a license to be able to work on their own.

George asked the board what they were looking to pay the person for a part-time/seasonal position, he would like to see at least \$18.00/hour. Bob then replied that he thought that part-time help would be beneficial. Scott asked if there were funds to pay for this position and George replied that there was funding. Tom asked how it would be advertised which George stated that same way in the past. Another discussion occurred regarding part-time versus seasonal and the number of hours that cannot be exceeded.

Tom made a motion to hire a part-time employee at no more than 1000 hours/year at \$18.00/hour, Bob seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

Pump Station #1 Change Order: Scott stated this change order is still in discussion the sewer line coming out of the main station. My question is we just spent \$1 million dollars to identify infiltration in our sewer system and we are looking at a change order that would tie a sump pump directly into the sewer system. A discussion occurred as to whether it was a sump pump and where the water was coming from and how you cannot discharge a sump pump directly into the sewer system.

Scott stated they are looking for an answer to this and we cannot pump directly into sewer system, so where can we pump it? Bob stated that DEP rules state that you can discharge into open air or by an ejection well permit. George stated we can discharge the water by running off the hill on the opposite side into the woods. Bob stated that would be acceptable per DEP. More discussion occurred as to sampling needs, chemical feeds and this being a temporary situation. George stated he would reach out to Jeff Faulkner from Tighe and Bond regarding this.

Indirect Costs: Scott asked if everyone has had a chance to review the Indirect Costs sheets. Some questions were raised such as, why are we paying a portion of the Selectman? Why are we paying for both the Treasurer and Collector when it is one position, the Personnel Board doesn't exist what are we paying a portion of a budget line item? There are a lot of questions on this report. Tom asked how does

we get answers? Bob asked who came up with the Hydrant Credit, it doesn't seem correct to me. Jay replied that it was done years and years ago and George stated it hasn't been revamped in a long time. Tom then asked again, who do we ask about this? Scott states that he has asked the Treasurer about this as the report comes from him and have received limited information. A discussion occurred about what is being presented and what can be done to clarify the information.

Tom stated that he thought this needed to be addressed and wanted to know if we could get a consensus to go to the next Selectman's Meeting, Scott asked to have them placed on the next Selectman's meeting and post a joint meeting. Bob raised the concern if this Indirect Costs sheet would pass an audit.

Policies and Procedures: Four policies were presented for the Board's review: Water backflow Cross Connection, Meter Pit, Customer Service Leaks and Meter Repair Policy. Each policy was reviewed and revised by the board and will be presented at the next Policy meeting for review again.

Scott brought up one more item of interest, he has noticed that the Selectman and Planning Board are using tablets for their meeting instead of paper and he thought it may be something to consider. A price list was presented for the Board's review. Bob had a couple questions as to if they are connected to the internet? Would there be another monthly fee? Could we get a little more information?

Tom made a motion to adjourn, Bob seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 8:42pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Cournoyer, Administrative Assistant