

Board of Water and Sewer Commissioner's Meeting August 4, 2021

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

Scott opened the meeting at 6:35 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

Reorganization:

Chairman: *Bill made a motion for Scott to continue as Chairman, Jay seconded the motion, no other motions, a discussion occurred, Scott is willing to continue as Chairman, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.*

Vice-Chairman: *Tom made a motion for Jay to continue as Vice-Chairman, Bob seconded the motion, no other motions, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.*

Clerk: *Tom made a motion for Bob to be the clerk, Jay seconded the motion, no other motions, no discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.*

Accept the minutes of 6/9/2021, 6/15/2021 and 7/7/2021: *Bill made a motion to accept the minutes from 6/9/2021, 6/15/2021, with the correction that Bill was in attendance to the meeting, he just came late and 7/7/2021, Bob seconded the motion, Jay stated that he was not here for the 9th or 15th meeting, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.*

Sheri Houle- 1 View Street – Bill Dispute: Sheri did not show to the meeting, members reviewed the copy of the bill in their packets. It was explained that a leak was found, a leaking toilet and that is why the bill was so high.

PFAS Litigation: The Board is continually receiving PFAS litigation material, and a decision must be made as to how to proceed. Hank Naughton from Napoli Shkolnik PLLC was the first to come to a meeting and is very reputable. His retainer was the one that was originally sent to Town Counsel and had been worked out between the two parties.

Bob made a motion sign the retainer with Hank Naughton for PFAS Litigation, Bill seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, Tom abstained as he just came into the meeting, so it passed with a vote of 4 in favor and 1 abstention. *The retainer now must go to the Selectman's meeting and be signed by the Selectman, will request to be on Monday's meeting agenda.*

Policy Review for Backflow and Cross Connection and Permit Connection: The Backflow and Cross-connection policy was reviewed, and it was decided that since Toomey is our backflow provider, we should check to see what Toomey has for a policy and mirror that one. The connection policy was reviewed next, and all looked to be in order.

Tom made a motion to accept the Water Sewer Policy for Permit Connection, WS003.001, Bob seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

Will have policies for Non-payment/Service Shut-off for next meeting as well as mandatory connection to water and sewer for new construction projects.

Bob asked if we knew who has not paid on their water sewer bills. Explained Treasurer Collector has that information. Bob asked that the Board of Water Sewer Commissioners please send a letter to the

Treasurer Collector asking for copies of the Accounts receivable and payable for the Water Sewer users. Scott stated he would be in Friday morning to sign the letter.

Moratorium and Water Ban: No need to consider at this time, due to the increase in the rain lately, but will keep on monthly meeting agenda.

Superintendent's Report: The Board was given a brief report for their review with some highlights of the report as follows:

- Possible leak at Bates Tank – divers brought in, not leaking
- Discussion about the new truck and box truck repairs
- Blending going well, PFAS levels remain around 16ppt
- Purchasing Battery powered tools to be kept in truck to not use corded equipment near water.
- On going issues with Police Details for projects, have been using flaggers
- Having problems with rags and pumps on Lyons Rd, will need to replace pumps

Administrative Assistant's Pay Review: The salary survey is coming to completion and a benchmark pay scale has been created. It is the goal of the town to get all employees up to at least the beginning of fair market value. A sheet with pay scales was provided in their packets. The Board has a few other questions to be asked before deciding on the correct pay. Bob asked: Are there steps or increases and are they based on merit or service? Will there also be yearly COLAs? What is the time frame for this to occur? Bob also stated that will need to add a marker for Fall Town Meeting for moving money from Retained Earnings.

Board Comments: none.

Jay made a motion to adjourn at 7:45pm into Executive Session, not to reconvene in a public meeting, Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c. 3A §21(a)(7), to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements: America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 ([Pub. L. 115-270](#)) and/or the Safe Water Drinking Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. §300f et seq), both as may have been amended, federal regulations promulgated thereunder, and/or G.L. c. 4, §7(26)(a), (b), (d) & (n). Bob seconded the motion, a roll call vote was taken Tom, Bob, Jay, Bill and Scott, all in favor, unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Cournoyer, Administrative Assistant