

Board of Water and Sewer Commissioner's Meeting July 15, 2020

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

Attended Meeting: Jeff Faulkner and Tom Mahanna both from Tighe and Bond

Scott opened the meeting at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and then read the Governor's Order

Tighe and Bond PFAS Grant and Blending Project: Jeff Faulkner from Tighe and Bond began to discuss the PFAS Grant Reimbursement which was submitted to DEP on Friday for the amount of \$178,500 for the Phase II of PFAS and will hope to hear by the end of July. This is the first time the DEP is doing this grant due to PFAS issue. This is for the design and Phase II also includes the proposal for the next step to apply for another round of SRF for construction phase.

Phase I is the blending of the two stations.

Scott: What was the route of the blending line going to be?

Jeff: Tighe and Bond recommends moving forward with an in the road water main.

George: What changed from the prior configuration?

Jeff: The in the road water main makes it more accessible if there is ever a break or a problem.

George: is it still going to be straight as possible through the Town's property and parallel on the street, is that still the plan?

Jeff: You will be in the paved area on the State road

George: We need to be able to cross in a certain area

Jeff: The location of where the line crosses will be evaluated and depends on where the other utility lines are located, originally the plan was to stay on the shoulder of pumping station but that is right next to gas and utility.

Scott: There is one business that this may affect cutting 100% if their driveway during the work

George: The business has been made aware and there is other access and it will only affect about 40 feet at a time

Bob: What size main is being proposed?

Tom from Tighe and Bond then passed out a map/diagram showing the projected piping and sizes

George: I have asked for an 8-inch pipe in and a 10-inch pipe going out

Tom F: Why the difference?

George: The output would be for two stations and wanted more

A discussion occurred about what size would be best and how it would progress.

Bob: Why not do a 10-inch line in?

George: Why would we need it bigger than an 8-inch

Bob: It won't actually be pumping more but there will be a longer retention time in the pipe

Scott: Is there a cost difference between the 10 and 12-inch pipe?

Bob: No, not really

George: I don't really see the need for larger than 8-inch pipe.

Jeff: Will you ever need more volume?

George: I will be limited on the amount of volume due to the blending.

Tom F: Bob, would it be better to have a 10-inch line?

Bob: The rate will not change but it goes slower through a larger pipe and it will benefit if you have a bacterial hit and you need to treat, this would benefit it. George, not sure why the hesitation to increase, if you need to treat you will pay to increase treatment plant or re-dig pipes and put in larger pipes then.

Tom front Tighe and Bond: We can run some calculations for you

Scott: When you are talking about millions of dollars for projects a little increase is worth it

Tom F: I don't see why you wouldn't enlarge the pipe

Scott: Is it a 6-inch pipe on New Boston Rd?

George: I believe there is an 8-inch trying to work with Jeff to find out about lines that are in the road

Jeff: If we that it is a 6-inch pipe there we will increase it to an 8-inch pipe

Scott: What does the board want to do?

Tom Fournier made a motion to sign both contracts (Phase I and Phase II)

Jay: On Phase I we know we have to this but on Phase II where do we stand on a time period?

Jeff: Logistically it would be piloting in Summer/Fall/Winter and Final Design, next Spring/Summer/Fall with Construction Spring of 2022 and Treatment Plant online 2023

Bob: What if we wait to see the if we get the grant for Phase II?

Jeff: It is only a couple weeks, Phase II keeps the ball rolling, the action plan submitted to DEP has the blending project and treatment plant.

Bob: If it's just a matter of waiting I think we have a good shot at getting it

Jeff: Another DEP application for Construction deadline is 8/21/2020

Tom M: We will need to know by the beginning of August

Bob: Can we vote to approve pending the approval of the grant?

Scott: To Jeff, does that set you back or behind?

Jeff: No, not really, unless DEP holds off on awarding the grant

Jay: Where is the money coming from?

George: It was approved at Town Meeting. I spoke with Bob Bostwick from DEP and he is happy with how we are moving forward and proceeding

Tom F amended his motion to Sign Phase I and approval to sign Phase II pending approval of the grant from DEP, Bob seconded the motion

Scott: What if they need this sooner or something happens

Bob: Then we hold an emergency meeting

Jay: Has the new well gone through prolonged testing

Bob: Did they do a ten-day pump test

George: Yes

No more discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously

Asset Management Study: Jeff from Tighe and Bond stated that there is an application for a grant DEP/SRF out there, 60% is a grant, 20% cost to the Town and 20% for in kind services. We would need to know what you would like to include in it. Talk of Hydraulic Water Model of water system which would benefit the town. At the mapping stage they would improve it and bring model forward. It can locate all hydrants and valves. The grant is up to \$250,000, the target for the town would be \$100,000 with a cost of \$20,000 to the town.

Scott: What else could be drawn into this grant?

Bob: All assets, pumps, building, tanks everything

Jay: How would be provided?

Bob: Whatever we would like a PDF file or bound book

Scott: I think it would be money well spent. It would be great to updated the records

Jeff: DEP emphasizing Asset Management, that grant is due 8/21/2020. The application would be completed by Tighe and Bond and submitted. If awarded, that be a November/December 2020 notification and would ask for it at the Spring Town Meeting.

Sewer: Update from Jeff regarding I & I study TV work is done and being reviewed which will lead to a design of sewer rehab for summer/fall 2020 with eventually construction next year.

Water: Update from Jeff regarding other ongoing projects. One new thing that George had mentioned, June 30th of 2021 Vulnerability Risk Assessment report will be due. Jeff will work on that with George, It will take about three months to pull together, the Emergency Response Plan will be due by 12/31/2021

George: There was a plan developed years ago that is now obsolete

Scott thanked Tighe and Bond for the information presented tonight and for attending the Town Meeting.

George stated that the Lead and Copper regulations/procedures will be updating in the future.

A discussion occurred regarding the Water Sewer Department Administrative Assistant. Scott explained to board that a while back when some of the Town Hall staff was being furloughed, Jon Ruda asked Scott if the Water Sewer Admin could temporarily help cover some of the offices that were being furloughed, Scott entered into what he calls a gentleman's agreement that they would help cover. It has now been over 2 months and the Admin is covering Water Sewer, Building, Board of Health, Conservation and ZBA. Scott explained that he had asked when the coverage started for the Admin to keep a log of the hours she was putting in for the other departments, which she did on a spreadsheet. Scott reviewed the spreadsheet and was amazed at the number of hours the admin was putting in for the other departments, she was putting in more than her 39 hours a week, with coming in early, staying late and night meetings. A discussion then occurred regarding compensation for her extra hours. It was asked if the admin was being paid extra for the additional jobs or paid anything besides her 39 hours a week, which was stated, there was no extra payment for additional hours or jobs. More discussion occurred and the Board was concerned as to how long could they expect this to go on, stating that this was not fair to the Admin to be handling all this extra work and it was not good for the Water Sewer Department or for the Admin physically or mentally.

Tom made a motion to send a letter to the Administrator and Board of Selectman addressing their concerns regarding this situation, Jay seconded the motion. The letter will be compiled by George then sent out to the Board for their input/approval and then sent to the proper parties. ***No additional discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor passed unanimously.***

A motion to adjourn was made by Tom, seconded by Jay, no discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Cournoyer, Administrative Assistant