

Board of Water and Sewer Commissioner's Meeting August 5, 2020

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

Attended Meeting: Kevin Goodwin and Jeff Faulkner from Tighe and Bond

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

Accept the Minute from July 8, 2020: A motion was made by Bob to accept the minutes from July 8 2020 as written, Jay seconded the motion, no discussion, a vote was taken, 4 in favor, 1 abstention, passed with 4 in favor.

Accept the Minute from July 15, 2020: A motion was made by Tom to accept the minutes from July 15 2020, seconded by Bob, no discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor passed unanimously.

Kevin Goodwin from Four Lots Realty looking for permission to connect to Water and Sewer: Kevin stated he is looking to build a single-family home with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms 1600 sq ft. George stated that Sewer and Water lines run right by this address. **Tom made a motion to allow connection of water and sewer to Kevin Goodwin at 44 Oxford Ave, Jay seconded the motion, no discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor passed unanimously.** Kevin was given an approval letter and reminded the permit was good for one (1) year and the deposit had to be paid within one (1) week.

PFAS Treatment Grant – Tighe and Bond: Jeff from Tighe and Bond stated he had three (3) items to go over with the board tonight.

1. Plans were presented to the board for PFAS with the water main to connect pumping stations 3 and 6. Jeff has been working with George to update the design. There is a Conservation Meeting scheduled for next week which Tighe and Bond will be attending, they also have filed permits with Mass Highway.
2. PFAS grant that was to be awarded on 7/31/2020 by DEP has been extended a few more weeks. The SRF funds application deadline is 8/21/2020, the board may want to have a decision regarding this.

Scott: Would applying for this would adversely affect their status?

Jeff: No, the benefit is that this program offers 0% interest for PFAS and more likely there will be more grants pushed through, also this will keep things moving forward. The detriment is to not go forward and hold the project back.

Scott: What if we apply for the loan and are awarded it and then we do not use it, is there an issue?

Jeff: Applying for the loan only keeps you in the loop, you can turn down the money. The PFAS project only has 0% interest and principle forgiveness.

Bob: I would feel comfortable moving forward with the SRF application but still has concerns about spending \$200,000 on something that we do not know if we need at this time, the \$7000 to spend on the application for SRF is reasonable.

Scott: To Jeff, has the DEP has set the level for PFAS yet?

Jeff: The draft regulations came out with the level being at 20 ppt, it is now in DEP's hands, but the word is it will 20 ppt.

Bob made a motion to move forward with the SRF Application process for a fee of \$7000.00, Tom seconded the motion, no discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor passed unanimously.

3. Asset Management Plan Grant Program due by 8/21/2020, we need to have Appendix E Asset Management Participant Survey Form completed by at least 10 employees for in kind services. Some of the other items that Tighe and Bond will be doing is to build a hydraulic model, GPS location of hydrants in town, inspection of building and tanks, in kind services and purchase of a tablet and GPS devices and a hydrant diffuser. Jeff asked that the board review the documents and provide feedback and complete the participant survey. This is all for the grant application going to be submitted by 8/21/2020. This is a grant for 60% of the cost and then 20% the water/sewer department is responsible for and 20% is for in kind services. George is the signing authority and looking at the Spring Town Meeting for the asking of the total amount for this. You pay for the total and then receive reimbursement from two (2) grant payments.

Discussion of Job Re-classification: A discussion of the job reclassifications occurred, the descriptions have been reviewed by the Town Administrator and Tracy Wright from the Union. The plan is for there to be added compensation for these added responsibilities. The union will be in process of coming up with new pay scales. Jay asked how far down the line is this? George responded it needs to come up very soon and it will be in the hands of the union. Tom wants a letter sent to the TA stating that Scott and Bob would like to sit in on contract negotiations as well as George is permitted. Scott asked if there was a record being kept between the two departments as to when workers work for other departments so that there is a true up done between them. George stated that he keeps a log book.

Superintendent Report: See attached report

Board Member Comments: Tom asked where we were at with the meeting with the Town Administrator, George, the Chairman and our Administrative Assistant. A discussion occurred, stated letter was sent and we are working on a date to meet. More discussion occurred it was then stated that George will need to speak with Jon and set up a meeting and have a remedy to the situation by 8/21/2020, if not then they will remove the admin from all other responsibilities except for Water Sewer.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Cournoyer, Administrative Assistant