

WATER COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
MARCH 14, 2000
7:00 P.M.

Meeting held at the Water Department office, 540 Main Street, West Townsend

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Moorehouse and David Dunbar

GUESTS PRESENT: Supt. Paul Rafuse, Carole Stone, Clerk, Todd Melanson, James Craven, Bruce Cramer, Douglas Deschenes, Charles A. Perkins, Ron Koivu, Thomas Wolfinger, Joan Wolfinger, Michelle Erickson, Maurice Ledoux, Joseph Monroe, Robert Potter, Kevin R. Rine, Gregory T. Richard, Louise Bendix, Natasha Carter, Kristina Carbone, Dave Mudge and Vicki Brunelle

Acting Chairman Moorehouse opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Minutes of the February 8, 2000 were read and approved by the two commissioners present. Warrants previously signed for \$370.43, \$615.75, \$2,701.47, \$4,751.33 and \$67.98 totaled \$8,506.96. Previously signed payroll warrants totaled \$13,452.00.

Commissioners read and noted the following correspondence:

- A. Letter from the Massachusetts Clean Water Council dated January 24, 2000 re: Information on the Mass Campaign for Clean Water.
- B. Copy of cover letter to Bayside Engineering from Supt. Rafuse dated February 11, 2000 re: Enclosing signed copies of agreement for water line inclusion in the reconstruction of the Turnpike Road bridge.
- C. Memo from Andrea Wood, Finance Committee dated February 23, 2000 re: Annual Town Budget.
- D. Memo from Beverly Sleeper, Town Administrator dated February 24, 2000 re: Special Town Meeting March 24, 2000.
- E. Memo from Beverly Sleeper, Town Administrator dated February 25, 2000 re: Request if water flow tests have been done in the South Street bridge area.
- F. Copy of letter to Beverly Sleeper, Town Administrator dated February 28, 2000 re: Flow tests on South Street completed February 25, 2000.
- G. Memo from Beverly Sleeper, Town Administrator dated March 1, 2000: re: Mileage reimbursement increased to \$.32 per mile effective July 1, 2000.
- H. Copy of agreement received March 7, 2000 between the Planning Board and James Craven, Trustee of Squannacook Meadows.

- I. Copy of letter to the Personnel Board from Paul Rafuse dated March 7, 2000 re: Proposed Superintendent salary increase for FY01.
- J. Legal Notice received March 7, 2000 re: Cell tower on 84 Bayberry Hill Road.
- K. Letter from Town Counsel, June Riddle dated March 7, 2000 re: Opinion regarding appropriation of public funds to help out landowners.
- L. Copy of letter to Mr. & Mrs. Blackwell dated March 13, 2000 re: Retracting offer to install a test well on their property.
- M. Copy of letter to the Board of Selectmen from the Board of Health dated March 14, 2000 re: Meeting with Shirley Road residents regarding arsenic in their wells.
- N. Letter from Mr. & Mrs. Blackwell dated March 14, 2000 re: Unresolved water emergency at 6 Shirley Road.
- O. Fax received from Bob Wyman, Earth Tech dated March 14, 2000 re: Estimate of \$28,000.00 for Water System Study.
- P. Fax received from Bob Wyman, Earth Tech dated March 14, 2000 re: Cost breakdown for well work and related pumping equipment at the Main Street station.
- Q. Fax received from Bob Wyman, Earth Tech dated March 14, 2000 re: Cost estimates to upgrade Warren Road and extension to Shirley Road.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. James Craven present to discuss the extension of a water main at Squannacook Meadows to supply the sprinkler system for the ball fields. Commissioners would prefer to have him install artesian wells in lieu of being connected to town water. Decision was based on ability to supply them during drought periods and that the Water Department was not in business to supply for irrigation. Motion made, seconded and voted by the two commissioners present to send letter to The Planning Board to have Mr. Craven install wells instead of town water. Also discussed right of way to proposed well site with Mr. Craven. He recommended we get in touch with the Planning Board regarding that issue. Paul to contact them.
- 2. Bruce Cramer of IKON Business Solutions present to discuss copy machine options. He presented prices for a remanufactured unit for the state bid price of \$1,620.00 less \$100.00 trade-in. After reviewing a price quote from Minolta, motion made, seconded and voted by the two commissioners present to purchase a Canon NP 6030 remanufactured copy machine for the sum of \$1,520.00.

3. Discussion held on the Warren Road upgrade and Extension to Shirley Road. Supt. Rafuse recommended we have the Selectmen put an article on the Town meeting Warrant. Motion made, seconded and voted by the two commissioners present to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting them to put an article on the warrant to have the town vote to pay for the cost of the upgrade and extension.
4. Discussion held on Paul's request to increase his salary to \$49,576.00 to bring it more in line with area superintendents. Voted to reduced his request by \$1,576.00 to \$48,000.00. Motion made, seconded and voted by the two commissioners present to approve a final FY01 budget figure of \$352,054.00.
5. Commissioners approved an article to be put on the Town meeting warrant to see if the town will grant an easement to Robert Collins, 105 Fitchburg Road to use our access road to the Fitchburg Road storage tank for access and egress to their property.
6. Commissioners noted copies of articles to have the town accept the Nass property on West Meadow Road and to swap that land for land owned by the Sellars, 90 West Meadow Road.
7. West Meadow Condominium Association and their Atty. Charles Perkins along with West Meadow Corporation representative Ron Koivu and his attorney Douglas Deschenes present to discuss finalizing an agreement with the Water Department so they can get things completed. After discussion, motion made, seconded and voted by the two commissioners present to proceed with the pumping station construction after the town meeting vote to convey the land. Also agreed to extend taking the cost of maintenance from the escrow account at this time. Copy of accounting given to Atty. Deschenes on the escrow funds.
Discussion held on bills submitted by Ron Koivu to pay for legal and engineering fees by West Meadow Corporation on the booster station from the escrow fund.
Commissioners not sure on some of the charges and the legality of it and tabled it at this time.
8. Discussion held on the Leahy property on Warren Road. Paul to have test work done. He obtained estimates from Chapman for \$45,000.00 and Sullivan for \$35,000.00. He also noted that the Hunting & Fishing Club may be willing to give us an easement.
9. Supt. Rafuse reported on the cost to update the Master Plan. Earth Tech's estimate of \$28,000.00 will provide us with new water demand projections, a hydraulic model of the water system with recommendations for improvements and recommendations as to storage facilities needed in the future and their location. Recommendations would also be included relative to water supply sources needed in the future.

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10. Commissioners approved a letter to be sent to the property owners on Old Meetinghouse Road to have them sign agreeing to have water installed to their property at their cost when the water main is installed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Paul discussed the need for a second interrogator for meter reading. After discussion, motion made, seconded and voted by the two commissioners present to purchase a second meter reading interrogator at a cost of \$4,800.00 to be taken from the New Metering System account.
2. Motion made, seconded and voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

Next meeting to be held on April 11, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole A. Stone
Clerk