

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 18, 2018

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Dept.
345 Main Street-Office

In Attendance:

Board members: Steve Ivas, Fred St. Ours, Peter Dillon, Donna Mangan and Dave Osborne.

Meeting Minutes Prepared By: Donna Snow

1. The Board members signed abatements, commitments and vouchers.
2. Jack McInnis was not present for tonight's meeting.
3. Dave Osborne came to ask the BOWC members if they have interest in Whiting fields. Dave Osborne also was looking for some suggestions on where he could place duck boxes on water department land, he has 25 boxes. Steve Ivas offered to make some suggestions however he is going away but offered to do it when he returns on March 8th.
4. Steve Ivas motioned to approve the meeting minutes of 12/14/18; Fred St. Ours seconded and all in favor at 4:51pm
5. A parcel of land listed as 15 acres requires follow up with Darleen Sullivan. Steve Ivas noted it is 85 acres and requested that Donna Snow obtain a status from the Treasurer's Office.
6. An appraisal of the sub division for the Grove Street property that NWD intends to purchase can be done by either Brady or Merrill; however Merrill price was cheaper. Peter Dillon made the motion to award the job to Merrill, Steve Ivas seconded, all in favor 4:54pm

7. Donna Mangan attended tonight's meeting to shed some light on the solar agreement with Kearsarge Energy. This agreement was signed by the Town Administrator and was shared with the BOWC for the first time today. Donna Mangan admitted to being concerned with some of the terms in the agreement that are not normally something a municipality would pay for such as late fees. Donna Mangan did speak with the Kearsarge representative as recently as today via telephone. Peter Dillon was not satisfied that Kearsarge did not attend the meeting, stating that a phone call is not acceptable. The allocation of the credits to identify the specific National Grid accounts is outlined in Schedule Z. Donna Mangan explained that prior to this agreement the Water Department had been reimbursing the school department for our credits. With the new solar agreement with Kearsarge in place, the Water Department is receiving solar credits on the national grid bill; this went into effect March 2017. The Water Department saves 17.5 cents and 82.5 cents goes to Kearsarge Energy. It was noted that the largest cost for the town is street lighting, with each pole using \$40/month of electricity per Fred St. Ours. In an attempt to determine the benefit to the Water Department, Peter Dillon inquired if we have the ability to sever ties with this program. Fred St. Ours does not like to how this new agreement has played out thus far. Donna Mangan did acknowledge that Kearsarge did not notify us until October that National Grid was over estimating our credits. The BOWC did ask how long the term of the agreement is. Donna Mangan reassured the BOWC that they did not have to pay the full 79k at this juncture. She noted that even with five months of no bills Kearsarge is charging us for 1-2 months of credits in advance. Donna Mangan

made a suggestion to the BOWC to leave off the \$15,666.30 so that we are not paying them ahead of schedule. The BOWC agreed to pay the outstanding invoice (\$81,486.48) less the \$2,210.25 recently paid and less \$15,666.30 which is the forecasted amount Steve Ivas motioned to pay \$63,609.93 Fred St. Ours seconded; all in favor at 5:32pm. Donna Mangan did suggest that if the Water Department wanted to they could re-negotiate after this year.

8. Donna Mangan compared both FY16/FY17 for the board. The discussion included the Spence property, water restrictions and an increase to indirect costs. Currently the town is six months into this fiscal year and revenue is about one million, with expenses at 574k. Steve Ivas noted we will be spending additional monies on tanks.
9. Peter Dillon provided an update on Well #2, development is done, pumping is not done, yielding 19 gallons per foot and 400 gallons a minute. The big question is whether it can be sustained and this will be proved through the pumping test, and the silli beads should improve the recharge.
10. A special article request is required for the Grove Street property and parcel 39-37. Peter Dillon wants to add money to the well exploration fund for Grove Street. Peter Dillion also noted interest in a piece of private property off Old Oaken Bucket – 10 acres that the land owner is interested in selling to town for water supply potential purposes.
11. Steve Ivas motioned to adjourn, Fred St. Ours seconded all in favor at 5:52pm

Items not anticipated 48 hrs. in advance of meeting

Accepted:  Date: 2/22/18