

Milford Water/Wastewater Commissioners'
Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2019

Present: Robert Courage, Chairman
Michael Putnam, Vice-Chairman
Dale White, Commissioner
Kevin Stetson, Director, Water Utilities Department
Evelyn Gendron, Executive Assistant, Recording

Call to Order

Chairman Courage called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

Decisions & Approvals

Meeting Minutes – Upon motion by Vice-Chairman Putnam, seconded by Commissioner White, the meeting minutes of October 1, 2019 were unanimously approved as presented by the 3/0 vote.

New Home Water Service Exemption Request (223 Mont Vernon Street)

The commissioners reviewed Director Stetson's correspondence which provided two possible approaches toward establishing a water service connection to the new building under construction located at 223 Mont Vernon Street. Following discussion, the commissioners did not prefer requiring the property owner to install a connection service to the property line by connecting to the 8" water main located across Mont Vernon Street, a NH DOT state maintained road. Director Stetson confirmed that the property owner is aware of the entrance fee requirement.

Upon motion by Chairman Courage, seconded by Vice-Chairman Putnam, the commissioners unanimously approved by the 3/0 vote to allow the property owner to connect a new building to the existing 2" water service. With their signatures, the commissioners agreed that a tee and isolation valves will need to be installed to allow each building's water to be turned off, and that an easement is necessary to allow the Water Utility access to the valves for service, which would ensure future ownership changes will not have dispute of utility access or ownership. The 223 Mont Vernon Street property owners, having arrived to this meeting following the commissioners' decision, stated the entrance fee has been paid. Vice-Chairman Putnam advised of the Board's decision. Director Stetson offered to email a sampling of easement language details.

6" Water Main Replacement – Merrimack Road

During the Water Department crew's October 9th repair of a water main break near Amherst Street and Merrimack Road, it was discovered that a section of unbroken cement composite pipe was brittle and had crumbled. Despite the crew having removed/replaced a section of the original pipe and with ductile iron and couplings, the pipe repair longevity is questionable. A winter water main break could be avoided by proactively devoting two weeks' time to replace additional water main pipe very soon. The Public Works Department has been notified of the Water Department's plan to oversee the project, laying the pipe, connecting water services, and using a contractor to supply equipment and tri-axle truck with an operator. The project cost is estimated at approximately \$90,000.00, including paving, and not involving the Water Foreman, Ryan Provins, for two weeks as a heavy equipment operator. Mr. Provins, being present, contributed to the discussion regarding the Merrimack Road's water main replacement staffing plan. The commissioners expressed concern regarding the

Water Utilities staff's skill level with operating the 2019 Hyundai rubber tired excavator, purchased during May, with respect to the immediacy of this Merrimack Road water main replacement project. The Hyundai's "reach" capacity to install water pipe was discussed. It would be unsafe for heavy equipment to straddle a trench. The commissioners' concerns include the amount of time that the contractor's heavy equipment would be idle. They inquired of the excavator and contractor fees for this project and mentioned the necessity for scheduling staff to practice operating the new Hyundai excavator, such as a test pit. Referring to a map of Merrimack Road, the road detour route, performing an Amherst Street exploratory dig, and project/equipment details were further reviewed. The commissioners reiterated the need for scheduling excavator test pit dig practice.

Vice-Chairman Putnam made the motion to expend approximately \$85,451.00 to \$90,000.00, as the price is subject to change based on material and ability to keep to approximately an 8 foot wide project width in order to perform the necessary Merrimack Road water main repairs in a timely manner. Commissioner White seconded the motion. Motion passed by the unanimous 3/0 vote taken.

Appointment

Dewatering Project Construction Progress Meeting #1

David Mercier and Dan Jacobson of Underwood Engineers, Dan Dudley of the NH DES, Paul Blandford of PRB Construction, and Jamie Soucy, Milford Wastewater Operations Foreman joined the commissioners and Director Stetson received UE's ten page meeting agenda and discussed the project submittals required prior to the start of construction, the work completed to date, the project work schedule, the project payment request status, construction issues, project federal requirements, and project action items. Underwood Engineers will provide detailed minutes of today's first progress meeting prior to the October 29 commissioners' meeting for attachment to the commissioners' approved meeting minutes. Shipment of the centrifuge is expected to occur this week, key to PRB's construction schedule. Jamie Soucy will contact the polymer supplier regarding bench testing emulsion polymer on the belt filter press. The Town of Milford requires that the PRB Construction foreman be present while work is being performed by PRB or their subcontractors. A sign-in log will be maintained, for submittal to the NHDES. The next Dewatering Project Construction Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 26th at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner White excused himself from the meeting at 1:35pm.

Discussion/Information Items

Milford CMOM Request for Proposal, Draft #2

The commissioners reviewed the second draft of the CMOM proposal. Chairman Courage motioned to accept the CMOM proposal as presented. Vice-Chairman Putnam seconded the motion. Motion passed by the 2/0 vote taken. The RFP will be finalized and sent to six engineering firms. The Wilton Sewer Commissioners will be informed of the CMOM program details.

10/14/19 BOS Meeting Presentation Recap – PFAS Frequently Asked Questions

The power point presentation of PFAS frequently asked questions, delivered by Director Stetson to the Board of Selectmen on October 14th, appears on the Water Utilities webpage and the full video of the BOS October 14th meeting, including this topic, may be viewed "on demand" on the Town of Milford website.

Souhegan River Low Flow Management Plan

The commissioners reviewed Director Stetson's correspondence explaining that the Souhegan River is monitored by the NH DES for flow and river management. As part of the Souhegan River flow management, the Water Utilities Department has a water use plan. Recent flows have been below the "critical" and "rare" thresholds, in place between June 15 and September 30; the timeframe dates have passed. Milford's odd/even day outdoor watering restrictions end annually as of October 1st. Milford's management plan involves reduction in pumping from the Curtis Wells, and the fall hydrant flushing program has been suspended, given the low flow of the Souhegan River. Utilization of Pennichuck Water will increase until the Souhegan River's low flow condition improves.

Schedule BOC 2020 Budget Work Session

The commissioners will discuss the 2020 Water Utilities Budget following review of the CMOM project proposals during the Wednesday, 11/20/19 11:00 a.m. work session.

Activities Report

The commissioners reviewed the list of accomplished and planned Water Utilities Department activities reported.

Future Meetings

- Tuesday, 11/12/19 at 6:00 p.m.: BOC Meeting, Water Utilities Department, 564 Nashua Street
- Wednesday, 11/20/19 at 11:00 a.m.: BOC Work Session, CMOM Bid Review
- Tuesday, 11/26/19 at 12:30 p.m.: BOC Meeting, Water Utilities Department, 564 Nashua Street

Adjournment

The Board unanimously adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Robert Courage, Chairman

Date

Michael Putnam, Vice-Chairman

Date

Dale White, Commissioner

Date