



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

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FREETOWN CLERK
REC'D FEB 5 2024 AM 8:33

Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 11.28.23

Meeting held at Town Hall, 3 North Main, Assonet, MA

9:30AM Meeting called to order by Bob Parker
Members present: Bob Parker, Chairman; Paul Sadeck, recording meeting;
Mark Rosofsky
Staff present: Steven Chandler, recording meeting; David Thibodeau

The owner of GilDen came in to discuss the letter he received requiring him to move meter from pit to inside the building. The meter pit is located on the property for the residential duplex and services the residential duplex and business. David Thibodeau explains that MassDEP has regulations regarding confined space and a meter in a pit qualifies for confined space classification. The reason the Board sent letters is in response to DEP guidelines.

Discussion of the process for moving the meter and adding a second for the other building. The Commissioners have stated the customer would need to purchase a second meter if he wants to separate the service into residential and commercial. Customer understands the need and the process and he will work on a plan to have the meter moved inside.

Chandler asked Dan Loranger to send an email so he has the email address and Chandler will send Dan the price for a 5/8" meter when the quote comes in.

History of Connecting to Fall River and New Bedford Water Systems

- David Thibodeau informed the Commissioners that the FW&SC was contacted by Vanessa Curran of the Water Resources Commission (WRC) who administers the Interbasin Transfer Act (ITA). The ITA and its regulations require that any water supply or wastewater which is proposed to be transferred across both a municipal boundary and a major river basin/watershed boundary needs review and approval by the WRC. Westport approached the WRC about pursuing an interbasin transfer of water from Fall River. Vanessa is looking for information regarding the connection to Fall River and was provided that information from Chandler and David.
- Regulations for procedures have not changed over the years. No changes to installation requirements since 2010.
- Discussion of whether or not the Commission require shut offs to hydrants be installed retroactively if they were not installed at the time of a road being built out. No determination at this time.

Status of:

- **MasterMeter Meter Interrogation**
 - Nothing to report.

- **17 Nick Drive**
 - Bob Parker send customer an email and she has not responded. The Commissioners have agreed to rebate a portion of the bill based on the accuracy report conducted by Regan Testing and for the delay; it was over 100% accurate.
 - Mark Rosofsky made a motion to rebate \$414.50. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - Chandler will enter the rebate and draft a letter from the Commissioners for them to review. Once approved Chandler will send to customer.

- **Chipaway Pump Station Roof Repair**
 - Carl Bizzarro, Building Dept Head, said the repair is complete.

- **Assonet Sewer Line Extension**
 - Bob Parker and Mark Rosofsky have been approved by the Board of Selectmen to be part of the Committee for the ASLE project. They have a meeting on December 13th.
 - Paul Sadeck stated a meeting notice needs to be posted, and minutes drafted, for each meeting. Chandler will create notices as they are needed. Bob Parker said the FW&SC can submit the same minutes created by the Selectmen's office.

- **WhiteWater Contract/Agreement**
 - There has not been an updated agreement since 2007. Chandler forwarded an email to the Commissioners for review on 10.11.23 from Jared Whitney of WhiteWater with information about the services they currently provide to Freetown.
 - Chandler stated they are working on putting together an updated agreement and will come in to present to Commissioners. Chandler will follow up with Jared.

- **Bleeder Pits**
 - David Thibodeau confirmed that bleeders are shut off but not removed.
 - Cant get more than 30 gallons per minutes so may have to retap water line with 2" line and 2" meters. This would be to keep THHM's at an acceptable level.
 - Bob Parker will call Jim Rezendes to attend the next meeting to discuss bleeders.

- **Equipment**
 - Bob Parker wants all maps that David draws downloaded to the iPad he uses. David having problem gaining access with the computer he has currently. Bob wants to get a laptop for David Thibodeau so he can access water and sewer server.
 - Paul Sadeck stated that Town Administration was supposed to get David a data plan for the tablet so he can access the mapping and anything else he needs remotely. Get data plan from Lu-ann Souza, Executive Assistant, Town Administration.
 - Bob Parker wants to purchase a vacuum to suck dirt and stones out of curb stops and gate valves as needed. David has been able to to the job with a "clamshell" and a vacuum is not needed.
 - At a prior meeting, Commissioners had voted to purchase an excavator and Bob Parker does not think it is needed. David states there are many residential curb stops that need their rizers

dug up and replaced. At \$500-\$700 per job to do this, having an excavator will pay for itself and a few years.

- **Paint Ball Company**
 - Applicant will have to conform to subdivision guidelines and requirements.
 - Nothing else to update at this time.

- **FW&SC Truck**
 - Light on roof of cab and back up light needs to be repaired.
 - Can't use generator because of no ventilation. Exhaust fan was never installed. As discussed at a prior meeting, install a lift to move generator in and out of truck.

Sign Bills

- No bills to sign

Executive Session . 11:37am

- Bob Parker, Commission Chair, declares going into executive session. Roll call... Paul Sadeck, yes. Mark Rosofsky, yes. Bob Parker, yes.

Regular Session . 12:47pm

- Bob Parker, Commission Chair, declares going into regular session. Roll call... Paul Sadeck, yes. Mark Rosofsky, yes. Bob Parker, yes.

Update on Data Plan for Tablets

- Paul Sadeck makes a motion to allow Lu-Ann Souza purchase an unlimited data plan for tablets David Thibodeau uses. Mark Rosofsky 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Other Business

- Certificate of Compliance from 1992 water line project in Assonet Bay Shores that was not filed with Fall River Registry of Deeds. This needs to be recorded in order to close out the project with the Conservation Commission. Chandler to submit request to accounting for check in amount of \$105.00 (filing fee) and will send out COC.

Approve Minutes

- Paul Sadeck makes a motion to approve the minutes for October 31, 2023. Mark Rosofsky 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Paul Sadeck makes a motion to adjourn at 12:45pm. Mark Rosofsky 2nd. All in favor.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Chandler, Senior Clerk, Freetown Water & Sewer Commission