



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

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Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 11/21/2017

Meeting held at Council On Aging, 277 Chace Rd, E Freetown, MA
8:30AM Meeting called to order by Bob Parker
Members present: Bob Parker; Brad Paiva; Paul Sadeck
Staff present: Steven Chandler; Keven Desmarais
Meeting being recorded by Paul Sadeck and Chandler

Meeting with Police Sub-Committee and Selectmen

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK
2017 DEC - 8 AM 10: 01
JB Brown

East Freetown Water Line Extension

- Discussion regarding extending the water line via Chace Road or Chipaway Road in East Freetown to service the Freetown Elementary School (FES) and proposed Freetown Police Headquarters (FPH).
- Selectman Chair, Lisa Pacheco, states that after the last meeting of the Police Sub-Committee (PSC), there was a lot to take into consideration regarding the implementation of the proposed Police Headquarters.
 - One of the things discussed is the possibility of bringing water to the site. Using well(s) for this project and future projects will be an issue with regards to fire suppression and general service. The FES currently has issues with their drinking water.
 - Lisa thinks that this is not a Water Department (FW&SC) issue, it's a Town issue because anything built on the site will be Town owned and operated.
 - She also thinks that the school [budget] should pick up half of the cost for bringing water to the FES.
 - Lisa has a practical point of view and has had a couple of discussions individually with a Commissioner and Bob Kelleher of the PSC and sees this [water line extension] as a win for the FPH, future projects, FW&SC, and the Town.
 - Including Town water into the FPH project will help to keep the cost of the project down by eliminating the need to include wells, cisterns, water treatment, and costs associated with implementing and maintaining these components.
 - As far as whether to extend the water line along Chace Road or Chipaway Road, she leaves that up to the FW&SC.
 - All parties involved need to coordinate their portion of the project to ensure that everything is completed together.

- Lisa does not want the burden to be put upon the home and land owners along the Chace Road route or current water customers. For estimated debt service, were looking at the high end of \$232,000 for the first year and working our way down. The Town has been fiscally conservative and we look pretty good right now; paid down the debt for the work done on bridges and have been putting money into Capital Stabilization. The water line extension project would be paid through taxation and the FPH would be paid through a debt exclusion.
- The decision to add a water line is a PSC decision.
- The Board of Selectmen need to vote to fund the project.
- A Town meeting would be scheduled for January or February to present the entire project to the community for a vote.
- It was important to hear thoughts from the Water Commission to make sure they are on board and which route would be the best.
- Selectman Rob Jose states that a betterment plan could be created where by a resident is charged only if or when they tie into the water line there would be a connection fee.
 - Also, there may be money in the FW&SC budget that may not be needed to do MassDEP upgrades that could help fund a portion of the water line extension project. [This has yet to be determined].
 - The budget needed for this project is very doable.
 - Project is contingent on approval at Town meeting.
- Selectman Charlie Sullivan is interested in looking at alternate funding sources for the water line extension project.
- Bob Parker, Commission Chair for FW&SC, states that the Freetown Water & Sewer Commission would like to work with the PSC on the project provided that the Town recognizes that it would be responsible for funding the project.
- Pomroy Associates explains that by bringing in Town water it would cut the need for a well and well fed fire suppression pump system and the Town will save approximately \$200,000. Furthermore, cutting the need for a treatment facility would save an additional \$250,000.
- Paul Sadeck, Commissioner for FW&SC, explains that based on the research done by Keven Desmarais, the Chace Road option is the shortest in linear feet.
 - It would be picked up at Braley Road and a 12" line would be brought down maximizing pressure for general use and fire safety. This route is least expensive of the two.
 - Paul brings up the fact that the State would need to be contacted regarding the new water line running under the railroad track at Chace Road.
 - Adding a new water line is a wonderful idea and will serve the entire town.
- Keven Desmarais has stated that:
 - The cost for installing a water line is approximately \$200.00 per linear foot. \$200,000 is the cost for running the water line under the railroad track on Chace Road and adds another layer to the project.

- Estimated time frame from Commissioners vote to proceed through the end of the project is about a year.
 - MassDEP has entered into an AOC to come up with an amicable solution to the filter site upgrades. Because the FW&SC and Town of Freetown has been in compliance, the MassDEP will allow the current mode of operation to continue. Increased testing schedule needs to be put into place as well as disconnecting the existing filter site completely; take it off line. If compliance is met for the next two calendar years, the ACO would cease and compliance goals would revert to regular operations.
 - Kudos to everyone... Water Commissioners, revue engineers, Town leaders for getting this through on Town floor...to date, we've met the goals asked of us.
 - If the Town goes forward with the water line extension project, would the BOS consider installing a dry forced main sewer line, while the road is open, to service residents at a later date. This would eliminate the need to open the road a second time and lessen the impact for residents and motorists.
- Bob Kelleher states:
 - There is a property value and insurance reduction for homeowners [being tied into Town water] and it's a big win.
 - The [Freetown] highway department is going to be repaving Chace Road in 2018, using Chapter 90 funds, so they should be contacted to coordinate the timing of the water line extension project.
 - Applying for every grant available should be considered, especially since this is an infrastructure project.
 - Everyone agrees that the timing of both projects coming together simultaneously is crucial.

Brad Paiva makes motion to adjourn. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Chandler
Senior Clerk, Freetown Water & Sewer Commission