



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

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Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 6/15/2018

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

9:30AM Meeting called to order by Bob Parker
Members present: Bob Parker; Paul Sadeck; Brad Paiva
Staff present: Keven Desmarais; Steven Chandler
Meeting being recorded by Paul Sadeck and Chandler

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City of Fall River

- Another water line break in Fall River yet no one from City called us to let us know. Bob Parker suggests that a letter be drafted and sent to John Friar and Paul Ferland asking them to notify us going forward.
- The way that the FW&SC learned of the issue was when Chandler received a phone call from a Freetown water customer complaining of low pressure. This customer lives near the Fall River line. Chandler then contacted someone at the City of Fall River Water Division and was told that there was a fire hydrant that had been knocked off its base by a DOT worker mowing grass at the North Main Street exit off Route 79.
- Chandler received a call from Kevin Shea at Ashland who stated that the alarms for his backflow devices were going off and water was spewing. Chandler immediately called Keven Desmarais who in turn called Kevin Shea at Ashland. Chandler then called all businesses along South Main Street, who rely on water, to let them know there is an issue.
- Brad Paiva makes a motion to send a letter to Fall River Water Division asking them to please notify the FW&SC when an event takes place so that when a customer calls the office there will be an answer as to why they lost pressure or water altogether. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

City of New Bedford

- Bob Parker states the FW&SC has received notice of a rate increase.
- It is decided that a rate increase to Freetown customers will have to be implemented to cover the costs of the New Bedford increase. Paul Sadeck makes a motion to increase per unit cost by .20 cents bringing the unit cost to \$6.70 per unit (748 gallons) from \$6.50 per unit. Brad Paiva 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Chandler shall draft a letter to go to all water customers in the next quarter notifying them of the increase and send to Bob Parker for review and acceptance.

Sewer Line Extension State Funding

- The study is a Board of Selectmen's initiative and has passed at Town meeting. The study will be paid for by the State of Massachusetts with \$30,000 being earmarked for the study.
- State Representative Carol Fiola has worked on getting funding for the study and the project. Governor Baker signed the okay for \$1 million to be earmarked for the Town of Freetown should the sewer line extension project fall into place.

Innovation Way Line

- A test has been conducted with 250 PSI of water flowing through the pipe and there is no evidence of a leak in the line running over Route 24.
- Engineers think that because there is rubber flange and not an affixed flange that the cold weather could be shrinking the flange and causing the leak like there was in November of 2017.
- Keven has been moving 20 gals per minute all week; white water is having water tested.

Land at Ashland/ISP

- Bob Parker has a conversation with David DeManche regarding the land and he stated that due to the land being used for a utility, there does not need to be a vote at Town meeting to appropriate funds to purchase the land. Actually, the land is being given to the Town of Freetown.
- Town Counsel has advised that the Town pay for a 21-E which will determine if the land is clean or if it needs to be remediated.
- Kim Fales, Town Accountant, joins the meeting.
 - Kim states that the cost for having the 21-E done may not be taken from the \$650,000 which is earmarked for the beginning stages of the building of a new filter site.
 - If the land is acquired but there is no longer a need for a water filtration system then that money may be used for a sewer system if the project is voted on to move forward when the time comes.
 - The Commission has until July 18th to get a bill for the 21-E to accounting in order to pay it out of Fiscal Year 2018.
- Brad Paiva makes a motion to pay for the 21-E out of the FW&SC operating budget in the amount of \$3,200 if it does not have to go to Town meeting. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in Favor. Motion carried.
- Perhaps Commission Chair, Bob Parker, could meet with a member of the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Town Accountant, Finance Committee Chair and Town Counsel. This would allow everyone to have knowledge of desired use and the process needed in order to receive the land from Ashland.

GPS Training

- Keven Desmarais has contacted Waypoint Technology Group to determine what is needed in order to set up training for the Trimble GPS unit.
 - The specific GPS Terra Sync software shall be purchased and training may be scheduled at the same time of purchase.
 - Commissioners request that training take place on a Friday morning.
 - Brad Paiva makes a motion to invest the \$4,490.00 to purchase the software and training for the GPS location system. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Insurance for Commission

- Bob Parker states that David DeManche, Town Administer, was looking into insurance to protect Commissioners should they get injured while out

Supply Order

- Discussion of recent order to WB Mason which was approved by Bob Parker via email and verbal conversation with Chandler.

Regular Business

- Approve and Sign Abatement
 - Abatement for \$18.32 for a property located at 9 Cliff Drive, Assonet that the Treasurer's office has taken for unpaid taxes. Jessica
 - Paul Sadeck makes a motion to approve abatements. Brad Paiva 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Approve minutes:
 - May 31, 2018
 - Brad Paiva makes a motion to approve. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Sign bills
- Brad Paiva makes motion to adjourn. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Chandler
Senior Clerk
Freetown Water & Sewer Commission