



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

3 North Main Street . P.O. Box 438 . Assonet, MA 02702
508.644.4000 . Fax: 508.644.2053

Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 5/17/2017

10:00AM 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 Steven Chandler

South Main Street Water and Filtration Site

- Funding for Improvements
 - The Finance Committee has decided not to recommend any and all requests from the Freetown Water & Sewer Commission regarding funding. [it is their determination that the water customers pay for the State mandated improvements]
- Emergency By-pass Valve Project (EBVP)
 - No word on start date of EBVP; Keven will contact Ryan Trahan.
- Land at Ashland/ISP
 - Bob Parker called and spoke with John Hanna regarding land at Ashland. Waiting for their attorney to get in touch with Bob Parker. If they have not reached out to Bob by the end of the week, call John Hanna back.

AmeriCann Permit Fee

- The permit fee is \$2,100 to connect to town water.

Articles for Upcoming Warrant

- The Warrant has not been posted, but, Ali Golz says that the Board of Selectmen are not accepting any more Articles.
- Kim Fales, Town Accountant, joins meeting to explain the financial situation of the FW&SC. This fiscal year's budget was based on what was collected last fiscal year for a total of \$550,000 in expenditures plus, another \$50,000 from retained earnings for a grand total of \$600,000.
 - The department has not collected \$600,000 this year and is behind. The budget gets us to where we thought we would need to be this year but there have been increased expenses i.e. more meters, more testing, and increase water purchased. The department still needs to collect monies for water sold to meet this year's budget and the rest of billing for the 3rd quarter needs to go out ASAP.
 - There is money in retained earnings (\$61,000+) so if the BOS will reopen the Warrant the Commission could request those funds at Town Meeting.

- Make a request to the BOS requesting funds and if they choose not to accept the request then there is nothing else to be done.

- To be able to track the department's budget at any time, Kim will show Chandler how to use that part of the Vadar system.

- Brad Paiva makes a motion to send an email to the Board of Selectmen with a drafts of a Special Town Meeting Article and Request Funds Transfer pay unforeseen and unbudgeted expenses for end of FY2017. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Paul Sadeck and Chandler draft and send email to Board of Selectmen explaining financial situation that has just been learned, and ask to consider approving and recommending a Request for Transfer From The Reserve Fund, or, an Article to appropriate funds to pay unforeseen, and unbudgeted, expenses for end of FY2017 with explanation of specific expenses. Documents attached to email.

New Bedford Water and Sewer Agreements

- Bob Parker waiting to hear from representative from the NB water department for appointment.

Letter to Water Customers

- Brad Paiva makes a motion to send a letter to all water customers informing them of a potential rate increase due to the mandated improvements needed at the filter site at South Main Street, Assonet. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Chandler to mail a letter drafted by the Commissioners ASAP and post notice on the website. He will also let Mike McCue, Town Moderator, know so that he may prepare if desired. Send letter to the BOS for their information.

Approve Minutes

- Brad Paiva makes a motion to approve minutes from May 1st and May 5th, 2017. Bob Parker 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Bills signed

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

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Chandler
Senior Clerk, Freetown Water & Sewer Commission

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK

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