



**TOWN OF FREETOWN
WATER COMMISSION**
3 NORTH MAIN ST
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ASSONET, MA 02702
(508) 644-4000



Minutes of the Water and Sewer Commission meeting 01/08/2016

10:17 a.m. Meeting called to order

Members present: Mike Pillarella and Bob Parker

Staff present: Keven Desmarais and Isabel Ferreira

Discussion re: status of Building- Spoke to Environmental Partners and stated that better off to have them just put the building up. Keven D. said that they would like to come to meeting on February 5th to discuss this further. Keven spoke with Town Accountant Kim Fales and she stated that there are certain procedures that need to follow. Keven says everything needs to be procurement- needs to be signed off by procurement officer. Procurement sign off is just to make sure that we are following the procurement laws. We are assured by the Selectmen that they would not turn down the spending it's just to make sure we are doing it right and following the laws.

Discussion- Keven discusses restriction of size of manifold. When it was first done it was temporary. Needs to be studied. What is peak demand? Want to be able to tell developers how much water is available to them.

Mike- discussion on Minutes from December 18th, 2015- Motion made by Bob P. to approve, Mike P. accepted. Approved by Mike P. and Bob P.

Discussion re: Letter to Selectmen on requesting an extra 2 hrs. a day for senior clerk. Letter to be written up to request this. Should state in letter things what needs to be done that hasn't been done for quite some time. Keven D. - will do up a detail letter on history of office and how it used to be 40hrs and so forth - provide copies of logs, list of things that need to be done that are not being done, etc. Keven D. - states that we appreciate that we have the support of the board.

Keven D. - asked if he can start coming in at 7am everyday so he can leave @12 on Fridays with rest of the Town Hall employees. Mike P. and Bob P. have no problem with that. They both approved that Keven can come in @7:00 every morning and leave @ 12:00pm on Fridays. Bob P. states that this is an enterprise fund. Bob made motion to change Keven D.'s hrs. Mike P. accepted motion. All in favor to change hours for Keven D.

Mike P. - discusses bill that came in to replace the pump station battery and smoke detector and how he did not charge the labor to do the work and we've saved a lot of money by not being charged that. But things like this that we do to save money is not appreciated.

Keven D. - discussion on last time that utility was raised was 7 years ago. Reducing fee from \$13.69 to \$3.69 would save customer \$10.00 each quarter over the next 5 years. Mike P. states that

our customers need to understand that we don't have our own water source. All our water is purchased.

Mike says we need to get in contact with Fall River for them to get rid of the fees they've been charging us.

Discussion re: getting rid of minimum usage. Keven D. says if we can remove that it will make a few customers happy. Mike P. we should get rid of minimum billing and reduce the fee to \$3.69. We will let selectmen know. Keven D. - states that we are just informing the Selectmen so they know what is going on, we don't need a sign off from them. Mike P. states that in the letter it should state that this is for Residential customers only. Commercial customers will stay the same. Keven D. says that will need to set up different routes in Vadar to make this work. Mike P. asks Isabel to check with Vadar to see if we can create a different route for Commercial Usage. Having different routes set up will make it easier for reporting. Need to call Vadar on that. Different categories could be Residential, Commercial, Daycare, Fire, etc.

Bob P. made motion to reduce service from \$13.69 to \$3.69 per quarter. Mike P. 2nd. All in favor.

Mike P. - next meeting January 22nd.

Motion to adjourn @ 11:20 by Mike, 2nd by Bob. Passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Isabel Ferreira