



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

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Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 12/18/2017

Meeting held at Council On Aging, 227 Chace Rd. East Freetown, MA
with Board of Selectmen

6:25PM Meeting called to order by Bob Parker
Members present: Bob Parker; Brad Paiva; Paul Sadeck
Board of Selectmen: Lisa Pacheco; Robert Jose; Charles Sullivan
Staff present: David DeManche, Town Administrator; Steven Chandler;
Keven Desmarais; Ali Golz

Meeting being recorded by Paul Sadeck, Chandler, and Lisa Pacheco

RECEIVED
FREETOWN TOWN CLERK
2018 JAN -5 AM 10:53
J. Brown

Discuss Proposed Water Line Extension

- Lisa Pacheco states that The Board of Selectmen (BOS) wonder if the decision to extend the water line from Braley Road and run down Chace Road and up Memorial Drive is just a Police Station Sub Committee decision or a BOS decision.
- Today's meeting shall allow the BOS and the Freetown Water & Sewer Commission (FW&SC) to have an open and concise conversation, with pros and cons, as to whether it behooves the Town to have the water line extension.
 - What is being called the police station site is actually a 50 acre site that will also contain new buildings for the Council On Aging, a library, and any other buildings that the Building Planning Committee proposes in the future.
 - There have been issues at the Freetown Elementary School (FES) and the Town Barn with the existing wells.
 - The amount of buildable land becomes smaller with every well that would need to be put into place and the buildings would not be able to be placed on the land as desired.
 - Lisa reached out to the FES and received an email response while away. She forwarded the response to Ali Golz in BOS office late this afternoon.
 - Asked how often water is tested?
 - Answer: monthly, quarterly, annually for broad spectrum of potential contaminants. They receive a testing schedule from MassDEP every three years or so.
 - Have there been times when the water quality is a concern.
 - Answer: during routine water system monitoring it was determined that water from the well had somewhat low PH levels. Under direct oversight

from MassDEP a lime/ash treatment system was installed (2008-2009) to maintain proper PH levels.

- When the “family” of chloroform is detected, a protocol from MassDEP of testing and re-testing is followed to determine which bacteria strain was detected and to determine if there were any issues with water quality.
- No E-coli has been found at this time.
- When was the last well replaced?
 - Answer: The well on the west side of the facility (FES) was replaced in 2014. The well on the north side was replaced in 2012.
- When do you think the well would need to be replaced [again]?
 - Answer: Typically a well and pump assembly will last about 6-10 years.
- How much money in testing and well replacement has been spent?
 - Answer: Testing, about \$6,000 annually. Well replacement, about \$8-\$10K
- Do you feel the school would benefit tying into the water line?
 - Answer: Yes, I feel the school would benefit from tying into a municipal water line. There are several benefits...first and foremost, fire suppression. As an added benefit, it would reduce man hours in fiscal maintenance.
- - Lisa feels this is more of a Town issue. We have the money and capability to do this [project]. [Interest rate for] borrowing is relatively low right now.
 - It is Lisa’s personal feeling that if the Town is going to be doing other projects in the area, this [water line extension] should be done regardless whether a police station is built or not.
 - There would be a lot of coordination between the water line extension, construction of the [new] police station (which is behind schedule a bit), and with the Highway Surveyor and projects he has under Chapter 90 going forward.
- Bob Parker, FW&SC Chair, states that it [water line extension] would benefit the water department bring in new customers which is a benefit to the Town too.
 - The Commission would work with the BOS with the project. Basically it is a Town project and the FW&SC is happy to help in any way needed.
- Paul Sadeck states the FW&SC hadn’t any plans to expand water in East Freetown due to the work being done with MassDEP at the Assonet line coming from Fall River, which is now on the right track.
- Paul Sadeck, when sitting on the BOS, recalls conversation about Chace Road, East Freetown site being the hub of the Town and it can’t be done with wells.
 - This [water line extension] is the ideal thing to do if the BOS choose to do it because tapping into a 12” main off of Braley would deliver sufficient water.
 - There is no treatment needed for the water coming from the New Bedford system.
 - The Commissioners will be behind the project and do everything they can to help the BOS get the project completed.
 - It’s a decision the BOS must make.

- Currently, the Police Headquarters and the Council On Aging share a well. There was an crisis a few years ago and the COA was being used during the emergency. The draw on the well water resulted in Police Headquarters not having any water.
- If this project can be done without borrowing it would benefit the whole Town because more buildings, aside from the new Police Headquarters, will eventually be built on the [50 acre] site.
- David DeManche, Town Administrator, can get all the figures regarding cost and time for the project from our engineers at Environmental Partners Group.
- Brad Paiva feels it's a BOS decision [to do the project] and agrees with Bob Parker.
- Brad Paiva explains that bringing the water line up Memorial Drive would allow for future expansion in either direction on Bullock Road.
 - Fire insurance for property owners would decrease if there were fire hydrants at both ends of Memorial Drive (Chace Road and Bullock Road).
 - Highway Surveyor has plans to repave Chace Road so now it the time to get this project into motion, before it is repaved.
- Rob Jose says a stub could be installed at Chace Road for further expansion down to Slab Bridge. Paul Sadeck agrees.
 - Also, a stub on Memorial would allow taps to the school, current police headquarters, as well as the COA building.
 - A cistern is currently being used for fire suppression and this cistern has a 30 year life cycle and it is at 27 years now. A great deal of money would need to be spent when the school needs a new cistern so this may be the time to have the school included in this project.
- Keven Desmarais states that typically you'd want to use a bit of foresight and install a 1" and 2" stub for domestic water line and fire suppression water line when everything is engineered and designed, depending on the potential use for land along Chace Road.
- Charlie Sullivan states that it (extending the water line) has great merit.
 - He would like to look into getting stable facts pertaining to cost how quickly it can be completed.
 - Once the BOS receives this info they will have a better idea of how to pursue the project.
 - Eventually it's going to have to be done anyway.
 - The school in going to need a new cistern and the current proposed design for the police station has a cistern. This is redundant and lacks real good sense.
 - Willing to look into it but the bottom line is the cost.
 - Land would be limited if wells are installed [as opposed to municipal water].
- Rob Jose says it's his opinion that everyone is on the same page and makes motion to move forward with exploration of the project. Charlie Sullivan 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line that tapers off to the right.

Steven Chandler

Senior Clerk

Freetown Water & Sewer Commission