



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

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JaB

Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 07/15/2016

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

Meeting is being recorded by Chandler and Paul Sadek.

Improvements of water filtration site at South Main Street.

- DEP will conduct the sanitary survey in August and then we can make a plan to move forward on upgrading the filter site.

Meeting with City of Fall River

- Jonathan, counsel for Freetown, will have a meeting will be scheduled before August 5, 2016.
- To discuss new water contract between the Town of Freetown and the City of Fall River.
- Paul concerns with contract are:
 - The 10% increase in fee and they said they would not charge us for any type of flushing or bleeding of the water lines.
 - They are going to provide Freetown with the bleeders.
- Will also discuss the bills we receive which include base fees.
- Kenneth Rezendes let Paul Sadek know that if there is anything he can help with to let him know.

City of Fall River meters

- Meters are not working properly due to the radio read heads. Parts have been ordered.

Discussion of City of Fall River water bills with outstanding balances.

- Chandler has researched all charges, fees, interest from when the accounts were created to present day.
- City of Fall River credited our account in November 2014 with amount of interest charged since day one and Freetown has not been charged interest since.
- It is perceived that the balances are a running balance so Commissioners direct Chandler to process payments for all balances applicable to FY2016 which will clear up all three accounts and bring them to zero.
- Chandler will write up a schedule of bills payable and a purchase order.
- This will help the FWSC with contract negotiations.
- Brad Paiva makes a motion to pay bills; Paul Sedack 2nd; all in favor.

Brad Paiva makes motion to approve minutes from July 1, 2016. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor.

Keven Desmarais has been in contact with Waypoint and the GIS system has been ordered and is on the way.

Discussion of Open Meeting Law Training

- Town of Freetown has to provide training as part of the settlement due to the violation with Diane Lawless.
- Paul Sadeck has asked Ali Golz to coordinate training before August 7, 2016.

FYI Ashland Chemical had a water breach in their meter pit.

- They called Keven Demarais to shut the water off to their plant.
- It was on the backflow prevention system so they isolated it.
- They are running off their fire pond and are fixing the problem.

Keven Desmarais will order tools to keep in the FWSC office in case he is not available in an emergency. This allows the Commissioners to be able to jump in if needed.

Water Quality from Fall River

- Keven Desmarais lets the Commissioners know that the latest test of water from Fall River, and before our filter site, is a better quality than in past; the THM's are 52.
- Fall River had been doing work on their system so that could be the reason for such great numbers.
- John Friar says that he doesn't know why the numbers have gotten better but perhaps it is due to their lines being replaced.
- White Water will do future testing and we'll see if these great numbers continue.
- Bob Parker states that if we keep getting water with such great quality, we will be in good shape.
- Keven says that we get a 10-15% THM level on this side of the filter site.
- Brad Paiva feels that the FWSC be given a print out of Fall River's water infrastructure.

Chandler let's Commissioners know that Air Gas is moving forward with the installation of the Fire Suppression System.

Keven Desmarais presents the updated overlay from Ryan Trahan of Environmental Partners Group.

- Shows some of the available aquifers in Assonet at Town owned property to look into for tapping into our own well and being self-sufficient with regards to water supply for our customers.
- One of the best is near the present filter site. There is a well the bubbles up and out 24/7/365 but we cannot use this well because it is too close to the buffer zone. Perhaps we can get a waiver.
- Bob Parker asks Keven to get a sample of the water that comes up from this well.
- Paul Sadeck says that this idea has been visited in the past and it is costly.
- Will have to go to a vote by the Towns people and not all residents will see the need.

Chandler lets Commissioners know that he processed a credit for an account, The Pagani Family Trust, that had had an incorrect payment entry in early 2016 which has since rolled forward and not giving a correct balance. Paul makes a motion to abate [credit] the \$84.17 and \$9.69. Brad Paiva 2nd. All in favor.

Chandler asks for direction regarding customer, Steven Bernard, who has an outstanding balance.

- Customer entered into a payment agreement in 2015 and broke that agreement.
- According to the written terms of the Freetown Water & Sewer Commission's payment agreement (signed by Steven Bernard), we have the right to shut off the water.
- Chandler has sent a letter and has not received a response.
- Paul Sadeck directs Chandler to send 2nd letter, written within MA law and guidelines, letting the customer know that if payment is not made by a specified date the water will be shut off.

- Paul makes a motion to shut off water if customer does not respond to 2nd letter. Brad 2nd. All in favor.
- Chandler will draft letter, send to Counsel for review after clearing through Jack Healy, send to Commissioners for review. Once approved he will send by registered mail and regular mail.

Sign bills.

Next meeting will be Friday, July 29, 2016 at 9:30AM.

Bob Parker makes motion to adjourn meeting. Brad Paiva 2nd. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Chandler
Senior Clerk, Freetown Water & Sewer Commission