



# WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK  
2017 JAN 17 AM 9:30 JqB

## Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 1/4/2016

10:05 AM Meeting called to order by Bob Parker  
Members present: Bob Parker; Brad Paiva; Paul Sadeck  
Staff present: Steven Chandler and Keven Desmarais

Meeting being recorded by Steven Chandler and Paul Sadeck

### Resident attending meeting

- John Carvalho, 14 Chipaway Road, has concerns about his water that is dirty and feels that the water coming from the pump station is causing a problem.
- Keven Desmarais was at residence this morning flushing out the line and after 5-10 minutes the water come out clear.
  - Keven has a call into Charlie from New Bedford to see if they are doing any work on the line or adding any chemicals. Flow is good.
  - Took a sample to send off for testing.
  - Keven shows water coming from pump station is clear.
  - Keven feels that the service line may have been installed incorrectly years ago and there is sediment getting into the line. The pipe should have been tapped and installed above the center line of the main pipe so that sediment does not flow into the John's water line.
  - Will go back in two weeks to check water again. If water is dirty again, Keven will set up a monthly schedule to flush the line.
- John switched the interior plumbing to PVC throughout the house a couple years ago.
- John shows Commissioners a faucet that came out of the bathroom and has a great deal of calcium build up. He states that the faucet was installed 2-3 years ago, could be longer.
- The filter was changed today and every month and takes care of filtering water to be clear.
- The FW&SC will replace the filters each month and flush line at no cost to the resident.

### DEP Sanitary Survey Visit

- We have heard from James McLaughlin of White Water regarding the visit with Courtland Ridings from DEP. Chandler read the email from him. He was giving suggestions in response to Courtland Ridings conversation with him about the 5 properties that require an individual filter because they do not received filtered water from Fall River. He suggested putting in meter pits at each property.
  - One customer would not give Keven Desmarais access until recently. Keven could not get the filter unscrewed from the system because the customer by-passed the filter and it has not been removed in about 8 years.
  - Paul Sadeck makes a motion to hire a licensed plumber to correct the problem, replace and reconnect the filter. Bob Parker 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

### **Improvements to Filter Site**

- Keven and Chandler will touch base with EPG.

### **City of New Bedford Water**

- Bob Parker will call and set up an appointment and let the other Commissioners know which day works.
- Discussion will be regarding the water agreement and also the possibility of creating a sewer agreement.

### **Updates on the following:**

- **Fall River Water & Sewer Agreement**
  - Paul Sadeck states that the City Counsel of Fall River has accepted and signed the agreement last. It has been sent to the Mayor of Fall River for his approval and signature.
- **Excel Recycling**
  - Water connection is complete and plan to do the pressure test next week. Keven will be present and take photos of the pressure test. Once that has been done they will chlorination done.
  - An as built has been requested and will be added to file. A copy of the testing will be added to the Excel file.
  - Bob Parker says that Keven should use the GPS unit to identify the water line and have it on file.

### **FW&SC budget for FY2018**

- A scheduled department head meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2017 at 8:30AM.
- Bob Parker, FW&SC Chairman, will attend.

### **Water Line Maintenance**

- Keven Desmarais and Chandler had been discussing meters and their longevity. There are many that were installed when the water lines were initially created and will need to be replaced. A large portion of water lines were installed in 2004-2005 which means that the meters are now 12-13 years old. Typically meters last between 10-15 years and in 2016 Keven replaced quite a few meters.
- Part of DEP's requirements of the FW&SC is to have a meter replacement program. To date we have been replacing meters as they fail and there would be a benefit to being proactive and creating a plan to replace meters before they fail. This type of plan would serve the customers, the FW&SC, and the DEP.
- Keven Desmarais recommends that \$10,000 (\$200 per meter = 50 meters) is set aside in the budget each year for meter replacement. The new meters work with a radio read system which we currently use for about 170 customers. Having all meters switched over to the radio system will help the FW&SC be more efficient with getting read information and quarterly billing.
- South Main Street shall be the first proactive target area. Any meters that fail throughout the year in any other area shall be replaced as needed.
- A line item will be created during the planning of the FY2018 budget.

### **Review and Sign Invoices.**

### **Approve Minutes**

- Brad Paiva makes a motion to accept and approve the minutes from the December 21, 2016 meeting. Paul Sadeck 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

**Meeting adjourned**

- Paul makes motion to adjourn. Brad 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

**Next meeting to be announced.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S. Chandler', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Steven Chandler

Senior Clerk, Freetown Water & Sewer Commission