



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 11/29/2018

Meeting held at Council on Aging, 227 Chace Road, East Freetown, MA

6:30PM Meeting called to order by Bob Parker
Members present: Bob Parker; Paul Sadeck; Brad Paiva
Staff present: Keven Desmarais; Steven Chandler
Meeting recorded by: Paul Sadeck

RECEIVED
FREETOWN TOWN CLERK
2018 DEC 14 AM 8:24
J. Brown

Land at Ashland/ISP

- There is some discrepancy with regards to final report from Penney Engineering, Inc. for the land at Ashland. Ralph Penney is looking for payment but has yet to furnish the Town of Freetown with the updated/corrected final report.
- Ralph Penney conducted a 21E Assessment on the land and in his initial report made assumptions and mischaracterized certain items.
 - A meeting was held at Ashland with Mr. Penney; Bob Parker, Commission Chair; Keven Desmarais; and Eric Morin of Ashland to discuss the report and ask for corrections.
 - Mr. Penney agreed to correct the mischaracterizations as “no big deal, I’ll just change it” and would issue a revised report.
 - There was not mention of additional charges or fees to revise the report that Mr. Penney agreed to correct.
 - Keven Desmarais was under the impression that when Mr. Penney returned from boat trip he would make the agreed changes “no problem” and resubmit the report to the Town.
 - Bob Parker states that Mr. Penney took back all of the bound copies of the report (because he didn’t want incorrect versions floating around) and he was going to simply replace the few inaccurate pages with corrected pages and send reports back out.
- An invoice was issued on October 1, 2018 and the decision was made not to pay it until the corrections were made and the report was sent to Town Administration.
- On October 26, 2018 Mr. Penney emailed Bob Parker stating that in accordance with the terms and conditions of the May 29, 2018 agreement, Penney Engineering shall terminate all work on the assessment of the ISP property if payment of invoice is not received within 10-days of the notice.
- Bob Parker attempted to contact Mr. Penney to discuss the letter and request (11) times between November 5th and November 26th with the final call resulting in Mr. Penney exclaiming he would see Mr. Parker in court and hanging up abruptly.

- On November 28th David DeManche, Town Administrator, tried calling Mr. Penney but got voicemail and left a message. He followed up with an email to which Mr. Penney responded with, “see you in court.” Mr. Penney emailed back offering a settlement...the Town “pay his past due invoice and an additional \$200.00, and I will compile the report in its current form and electronically send it to the Town.” Mr. Penney will also send (1) bound copy and waive interest on past due amount.
- David DeManche told Mr. Penney he will refer the whole thing to Town Counsel for resolution.
- Paul Sadeck makes a motion to have David DeManche consult with Mr. Penney to clarify and explain what report the Town is getting, and, explain what the \$200.00 [requested as part of a “settlement”], and, if he [Mr. Penney] is going to give the report based on the bill, and if the \$200.00 is for additional adjustments if a land survey done that has to be included, Paul Sadeck will agree to pay the \$919.00 invoice and the additional \$200.00. If this is not the case then no go and the FW&SC will refer the whole thing to Town Counsel. Brad Paiva 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Bleeders

- Keven Desmarais states they have all been shut off for the season. Results from recent testing was fantastic and well below limits.
- Bob Parker asks about permanent bleeders and directs Keven to research locations and materials needed to set them up, if needed, after ACO 2019 deadline.
- Schedule another pressure test at Innovation Way overpass.

GPS

- Keven Desmarais hasn’t had the time to work on this project but will work on it in the coming weeks.
- Bob Parker states that if the list of completed GPS locations doesn’t start to get longer there will be work assigned on Sundays.

MassDEP

- Nothing to report.

Sewer Meter at Town Line

- Chandler has been coordinating with Marc Curry of WhiteWater, Inc. Prevailing Wage Schedule has been sent over to Marc, the meter has been ordered and will take 4-5 weeks to arrive to Marc and once he has an exact delivery date he will schedule the work to be done.

New Bedford Water Agreement

- Bob Parker says he needs to call.

Regular Business

- Abatement
 - Abate water used for Freetown Fire Station 2 at County Road.
 - Paul Sadeck makes a motion to approve. Brad Paiva 2nd. All in favor.
Motion carried.
- Refund
 - Refund over payment of \$47.05 to ENGIE Insight for Macs Convenience due to this being a backflow account and only tested annually and doesn't make sense to let that balance sit for a year.
 - Brad Paiva makes a motion to approve. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor.
Motion carried.
- Approve minutes:
 - Brad Paiva makes a motion to approve minutes from 10.23.18. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Bills were signed in the office prior to today's meeting.
- Brad Paiva makes motion to adjourn at 8:05PM. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Chandler
Senior Clerk
Freetown Water & Sewer Commission