



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

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Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 5.10.2023

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK
2023 MAY 31 AM 8:22

Meeting held at Town Hall, Assonet, MA

9:30AM	Meeting called to order by Bob Parker
Members present:	Bob Parker, Chairman; Paul Sadeck; Mark Rosofsky
Staff present:	Steven Chandler . recording meeting
Staff not present:	David Thibodeau

Equipment . Excavator

- Quotes were received for two types of excavators.
- Deb Pettay states the Board of Selectmen approved \$35,000 of ARPA funding to be used for this. The remaining approx \$2,500 will need to come from the FW&SC budget.
- If curb stops need to be replaced before the excavator can be purchased, contact Chuck Macomber.
- David Thibodeau states that operating an excavator is not in his job description. He will have to get licensed and wants to receive an increase in pay to operate it.
- Salaries must be negotiated as part of Union contract. Commissioners will have to come up with MOA for next contract. Or, add a stipend to budget to pay David.
- Mark Rosofsky makes a motion to purchase the small John Deere excavator. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Insurance Document

- Town Administration needed the signed document Commission approved insurance that needed to be submitted last week.

Senior Work Off Program

- Paul Sadeck spoke to someone about the senior work off program but they were not interested.
- Chandler reached out to the COA director and Lu-Ann Souza and they will see if they have someone interested.

Water Infrastructure

- Nothing more to discuss at this time.

FY2023 Budget . Expenses

- Paul Sadeck summarized the expenditures based on report from Accounting.
- May have to request a Reserve Fund transfer.

Articles for Town Meetings

- Reviewed Articles for Warrant for upcoming Town meetings with Deb Pettey.
- For the Annual Town Meeting...
 - Paul Sadeck makes a motion to adopt Article 9. Mark Rosofsky 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - Paul Sadeck makes a motion to adopt Article 3. Mark Rosofsky 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meter Replacement Project

- Various locations need to have curb stops dug up and repaired before meters can be upgraded.
- Steve Vaccaro let Paul Sadeck know there are 36 accounts that still need to be replaced in Assonet due to curb stops that need to be repaired or they have not responded to letters.
- Commissioners need to get a final dollar amount for any unforeseen costs to Deb Pettey so she can possibly put in for more ARPA funding if needed.
- Issue getting adaptors; they are on backorder. This prohibits installer from downsizing meter sizes in some locations as planned in order to save money.
 - David Thibodeau is making the judgment call to put upgrade on meters that need to be downsized until the adaptors come in.
- Steve Vaccaro of Baystate Winsupply was supposed to be here today but he never put meeting in calendar.
- Alison of Vadar Systems is still waiting to hear from Steve Vaccaro regarding transfer file.
 - May have to delay transfer until after July 1st.
 - Steve says everything has to get matched up and realigned. He will contact Alison.
- Commission directed Chandler to draft a letter to customer who insists on keeping a very large meter for residential use.

Chipaway Pump Station . Generator

- Propane needs to be plumbed and electric to be installed.
- Project will be funded using ARPA and appropriated funds will go into FW&SC budget to be reallocated to other infrastructure needs.
- Mark Rosofsky makes a motion to approve the Propane Plus quote after Chairman, Bob Parker, calls them to have quote amended to include the first fill of propane for both tanks. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Hydrant Repair and Replacement

- Chandler confirmed that hydrants have been replaced.

Permanent Bleeder Project

- Deb Pettey is concerned with bleeders flowing directly into the Bay.
- Discussion of involving Environmental Partners (EP) to do a study. Paul Sadeck makes a motion to have someone contact EP to come look at the pits. Mark Rosofsky 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Deb will reach out to EP via email and have them contact FW&SC.
- Chandler will ask Jim Rezendes for as-builts for bleeder pits.

Approve Minutes

- Mark Rosofsky makes a motion to adopt minutes from 4.6.22. Paul Sadeck 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried. Chandler asked Paul Sadeck to send him a copy with Draft removed.

Sign Bills

- Bob Parker and Mark Rosofsky signed bills.

Paul Sadeck motion to adjourn at 12:03PM. Mark Rosofsky 2nd. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Steven Chandler

Senior Clerk

Freetown Water & Sewer Commission