Minutes of Commissioners Meeting

May 7, 2018

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Chairman, Mark Moschetti Member, Thomas Jeleniewski Member, Robert Dennis

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were Chairman, Mark Moschetti, Tom Jeleniewski and Robert Dennis. Also present were Superintendent, Kent Songer and Administrative Assistant, Carol Osborne.

The minutes from the April 2, 2018 meeting were reviewed and signed.

Discussion was held on collections and at what location future collections will be received. Mr. Jeleniewski requested that everyone be in attendance at the selectmen meeting on May 14, 2018 as they will be deciding Carol’s benefit issues. It will be decided if her benefits can be pro-rated working 36 hours as if she worked 40. They also will be voting on restoring her retroactive benefits for the past fiscal year.

Mr. Jeleniewski also discussed Article #16 on the town meeting warrant and questioned the amount of money and what it was for. Kent said he would check into this article and let Tom know before the meeting. He also had questions about Article #17 and Kent and Mark answered his questions. Discussion was also held with Kent explaining that there has been an actuarial study planned to figure what our actual unfunded liability is so we can start to take care of it. More discussion was held on the warrant articles for the town meeting and the commissioners and Kent expressed their concerns regarding the articles.

A request was brought to the Commissioners for 36 Prospect Street because they had a water leak. They always have had a minimum bill in the past and this bill was more than doubled. On a motion by Mark and seconded by Tom, it was voted to adjust their bill to a minimum bill.

A second request was made by a customer for an adjustment because of a leak due to a frozen valve breaking and water going across his garage floor. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Tom, it was voted to make an adjustment of $65.88 to his bill as requested.

Kent explained how the grant for the Pleasant Street Pump Station worked and told the Commissioners that we should use as much of the grant money as possible, so we do not lose any of it. Kent explained why we have a large contingency of $200,000.00. He requested approval from the Commissioners so the contractor can move forward with the first additive alternative which is to replace 330,000 feet of gravity sewer pipe from behind Back Bay. He explained that basically this is the trunk line that collects from Fessenden Street down. Discussion was held on how this is necessary and what we have there now is obsolete. Kent explained a second additive alternative of cleaning the force main he hopes the Commissioners will approve before this project is finished. Discussion was held on costs and money we have to spend. Kent is trying to be on top of things so we don’t lose any money from the grant. Mr. Moschetti made a motion to approve additive alternate #1 & #2 for the project. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

Mr. Jeleniewski asked what was happening on getting the infiltration study done. Kent still has not heard anything back yet.

Mr. Moschetti asked how the progress was going at the Pleasant Street Project. Kent felt that they might not be done on time and the contractor might ask for an extension. He doesn’t think it should be too long (maybe a month or two) and they should be deciding who is doing the concrete work soon. Kent explained the process of what needs to be done and feels it will be okay. He wants to put in writing that if we have another failure it will not be up to the Sewer Department to meet the expenses. Kent also believes the project will be a very sound project when finished.

More discussion was held on Carol’s hours and retroactive pay. Mr. Jeleniweski stated he had all the doctor’s notes stating her requirements for treatment. Mr. Moschetti stated he felt nothing else should be done about changing billing and collections until Carol’s hours and pay are taken care of.

Discussion was held on the Sewer budget and transfers made of the Unibank payment money by the treasurer. Discussion was held on money owed on liens and it was stated how much smaller the total is than in the past. Carol told Mr. Jeleniewski the books are reconciled through April. Mr. Moschetti asked if any big invoices need to be paid. Carol stated the only thing she could think of was health insurance to the Town. She also said she was still waiting for lien payments from the treasurer from the last tax payments. Discussion was held with Carol on her figures and she explained and answered questions the Commissioners had on the budget. Mr. Moschetti and Kent felt we should be in good shape at the end of the fiscal year.

Kent told the Commissioners the dozer was being repaired and costing the department a lot of money in repairs. He just wanted to mention that maybe it was time to think of replacing it. There is one he is interested in at Brookside Equipment and suggested Mr. Moschetti go look at it. Discussion was held on the procedure to purchase another one.

The sewer car is listed on munici-bids and posted to sell. Kent is going to look into getting another title for the sewer truck since the selectmen’s office can’t locate the title for the truck.

Discussion was held on the trouble we have been having at the Patriots Road Pump Station. The flapper valves were replaced and the pump still wouldn’t work. The pump is 17 years old and Kent had the guys contact Hayes Pump and purchased and change the impella. Chuck and Tim changed it out and it is now working again. Kent told the Commissioners it was astounding how worn the old one was. Discussion was then held on the pumps at the different stations and the maintenance at the stations for now and possible changes in the future.

There being no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 5:36 PM.

Submitted by Kathleen Webster from a recording