

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
APRIL 11, 2011
5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Niles Busler and Fran McNamara. Jack Caten was absent.

GUEST PRESENT: Supt Paul Rafuse, Laura Shifrin, Richard Tuunanen,, Jennifer Bassett, Michael MacEachern, James Blanchard and Brenda Boudreau-clerk.

Niles opened the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

The Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of March 14, 2011.

The Board reviewed the payroll warrants totaling \$16,233.87

The Board reviewed and signed the warrants totaling \$10,425.56.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Paul discussed the idea of discontinuing the practice of prorating the unit charge for a change of ownership account. Niles suggested that we charge the entire \$37.50 and let the attorneys prorate it at closing. Niles stated that we assess unit charges on a quarterly basis. **The Board would like to see it added to the Rules and Regulations at which time they would vote to adopt the change.**
2. Paul discussed with the Board the need to have body work done to the dump truck. Paul explained that there was very little mileage on the truck itself and it was a good running truck. However, the body was rusting out and Paul would like to get some quotes on what it would cost to have it fixed. The Board suggested getting some quotes to replace the body rather than repairing the old one. **Paul will get some quotes.**
3. Niles reported on the outcome of the meeting with the Finance Committee. Niles stated that the finance committee was not in favor of the proposed raises in FY12 budget. He explained to the committee that we all deserve the proposed raises and stands firm on the issue. They also addressed the issue of us paying for accounting services provided to us from the Town Accountant, Paul stated that he has no problem paying for her services as long as we get reimbursed for our hydrant fees of approximately \$14,000.00 per year that the town just stopped paying for several years ago. The Finance Committee wants someone to look into that issue.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Paul reviewed the DEP guidelines for the water use restriction laws. After reviewing the model Niles commented that he thought it wasn't simple enough, but Paul stated that it would only be used if the DEP declares a mandatory water ban. The Board wants Paul to set his guidelines by the minimum requirements by law and rework the materials to reflect the changes. Also to keep the backflow portion to refer back to our by-laws or our Rules and Regulations.

2. The Board had a lengthy discussion on plans to create a Water District. Niles suggested putting the Water District on the fall town meeting. He also suggested having all legislation in place and a list of reasons to have a water district. Niles stated that we are making progress and Paul needs to get the house numbers so we can define the water district to the water takers. **Paul and Fran would like to get counsels opinion on defining the district.**
3. Paul discussed with the Board implementing a radio read reading system. Paul believes the cheapest way to go to radio read is by implementing the touch couplets that would be installed over the touchpads. Niles is concerned that there isn't enough money and suggests that Paul speak to Kim and let them know how to proceed. **The Board wants Paul to put together a three year proposal with Rich Stone to review.**
4. Paul discussed the condition of Witches Brook well # 1. Paul discussed the quote to have someone scope out the well with a cameras to gather more information regarding the ongoing problems with the water quality there.
It was tabled
5. Paul reported on the progress of the SCADA system. Paul has a meeting tomorrow to further define what is needed to build a SCADA system. Paul reported on the update of the DEP requirements to install day tanks at our pump stations DEP is still requesting that a plan with a sketch and description be in place.
6. Laura Shifrin asked the Board to reconsider their decision to continue charging \$75.00 unit charge to each unit at Country Estates. Laura feels as though she is being overcharged because there is only on meter for each building yet there are up to 24 units that are being charged the \$75.00 fee. Laura pleaded with the Board for a "fair and equitable" solution. Fran and Niles explained that they did try to find a way to satisfy everyone, but every way they tried it was unfair to another group. **The Board kept their original decision to charge \$75.00 per unit.**

The Board will set the May meeting at the April 28th warrant signing meeting

Niles adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Boudreau, clerk