

WATER COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

January 24, 2006

6:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fran McNamara and Robert Morehouse. Sam Briguglio was absent.

GUEST PRESENT: Supt. Paul Rafuse and Brenda Boudreau-clerk.

Fran McNamara opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

1. There was a lengthy discussion about the FYO7 budget. Paul began by informing the Board that he had spoken to Kim Fales, Town Accountant as to FYO6 budget and why the intermunicipal agreement has failed to show on the Water Departments budget as an expense. Kim stated that she investigated the matter and informed Paul that the intermunicipal agreement is basically a transfer and has increased from \$50,000 to \$56,000. Kim suggests that we pay the agreement monthly. Kim also stated the DOR now says it's best practice is not to have it listed in the operating budget but in a special article or account to withdraw it monthly. That is really the only increase in the operating budget.

Fran wants us to bring up the issue of hydrants again this year. The town has not paid for the hydrant fees in four years due to budget constraints and has overlooked their financial obligation to the Water Department. The hydrant fees are also part of the intermunicipal agreement signed by the Board of Selectmen, and Paul and Fran feel that they should meet with the board to discuss this matter. Paul feels that we should continue to repair the hydrant at the going rate. However, plowing and flagging them could be done by another town department if payment isn't met.

Paul discussed employee pay increases and had originally decided to figure in a 5% raise increase across the board. Fran would like to see the office help get at least an additional dollar per hour because he feels that the office help is significantly under paid. Everyone else will remain at the 5% increase.

The Board reviewed the FYO7 budget, and Fran signed it for submittal.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Paul presented the board with a worksheet that outlined the potential user rate increase that should be implemented in order to begin paying down the (SRF) loan that will become due sometime this year. After careful review the Board thought that \$1.95 per 100cf and an increase of \$3.00 per month in the unit charges.

The Board tabled their decision until Paul could present them with information on a block rate.

The Board also reviewed and revised the current rate fees as follows:

Connection Charges 1"	\$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00
11/2"	\$1,800.00 to \$3,000.00

2"	\$2,400.00 to \$3,600.00
3" or over	to \$5,000.00
Turn on fee	\$25.00 to 35.00
Fire flow test	\$100.00/Nozzle to \$200.00/Nozzle
Main or sprinkler connections (Other than irrigation)	\$3,600.00 to \$5,000.00
Sprinkler Charges	\$25.00/per inch to \$35.00/per inch
Labor Charges	\$35.00/hr per man to \$50.00/hr per man
Labor charges (overtime)	\$75.00/hr per man
Meter Tampering	\$250.00/per offense plus water usage averaged and repairs labor

DECISION: The board voted unanimously to accept the increases for the rates & fees schedule effective July 1, 2006.

2. Paul presented the board with a bid package for review for the pipe for Harbor Trace.
3. Paul discussed/reviewed the memo from Greg Barnes, Town Administrator requesting the Water Department personnel cell phone numbers. The board would like to know the reason for such a request. The board also had concerns as to why payment had not been made to Wilson Brothers for \$143.42 for the emergency repair on December 9, 2005. Paul explained that Kim had refused payment because we failed to secure three bids for the work in question. DECISION: The board voted unanimously to send a letter to Kim Fales, Town Accountant demanding payment due to the emergency situation.

The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, February 14, 2006.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Boudreau, clerk