



Approved: JM 6/2/22
6-21-22 (date)

TOWN OF PAXTON
Water Commissioners
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Place: John Bauer Senior Center, 17 West Street, Paxton, MA

Present: John Malone (JM), Chair
David Trulson (DT), Vice Chair
Rodney Jenkins (RJ), Clerk
Travis Thibault (TT), Director of Public Works
Tiffany Sidhom, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Motion (RJ) seconded (DT) to accept the regular meeting minutes from the April 14, 2022 meeting.

Reorganization for FY2023

Motion (RJ) seconded (DT) to reorganize the Board of Water Commissioners for FY2023 as follows: John F. Malone, Chairman; David L. Trulson, Vice Chairman; Rodney S. Jenkins, Clerk. Unanimous, all in favor.

Approval of April 2022 Billings Rendered

The Board reviewed and signed the April 2022 Billings Rendered.

2021 Consumer Confidence Report

The 2021 Consumer Confidence Report was finalized and submitted to DEP as of May 13, 2022 and has been posted throughout Paxton. Highlights of the report include the results of asbestos and lead and copper sampling (all of which were within allowable limits) as well the completion of the rehabilitation of the Asnebumskit water storage tank.

Update on West Street Water Main Engineering

The Board reviewed the Progress Report from Tata & Howard for the West Street Water Main engineering, a copy of which is available at the Water Department office.

Energy Assessment from GDS Associates, Inc.

The Board reviewed the energy assessment from GDS Associates, Inc., a copy of which is available at the Water Department office. Said report estimates that it will cost \$24,138 to update lighting and the VFDs at the pump station which would result in a projected energy cost savings of \$1,866 per year. With this information, (TT) will apply for the DEP's GAP III energy grant (when it opens) to try to get funding for these improvements.

Union Contract

The Union Contract was ratified by both the Water Department/DPW Union and the Board of Selectmen. There were three notable changes to the previous contract: adding Juneteenth as a holiday, the addition of longevity bonuses for years worked, and negotiated raise percentages for the next three fiscal years.

FY22 Financials and Consumption Data

The Board reviewed the FY22 financials to date. (TT) stated that the unaccounted for water percentage is very high right now (31%) and he believes that there is a leak somewhere in the system. (TT) has reached out to Mass Rural Water to do leak detection.

Director Updates and Reports

The Asnebumskit water tank will need to be taken offline next year to do an interior inspection. Over the next year, an insertion valve will need to be installed so that a hydrant can be installed. This could potentially cost upwards of \$10,000.

There are currently 1,010 new Badger water meters installed. Roughly 300 more still need to be installed. PMLD estimates being done installing their new meters in the next 6 months; any water meters that have not been upgraded may need to be read manually by the Water Department.

Highway and Water Department employees cleaned up brush on both sides of the Asnebumskit dam as well as the spillway. The next dam inspection should be this month or next. There are beavers on lower side of Streeter Pond.

The Water Department is about halfway through Spring hydrant flushing.

The new SCADA system has been up and running for about two months. There have been no issues and the system seems to be working well.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for June 21, 2022.

Motion (RJ) seconded (DT) to adjourn at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Sidhom, Administrative Assistant