

Monday December 3rd, 2018

Town Center Meeting Room

Called to Order: 6:10pm

Bard Hill moved to approve a resolution ratifying actions taken at the October 1st and 15th, 2018 meetings of the Water and Sewer Commission meetings. Seconded by Christy Witters. All members were in favor. So moved.

Christy Witters moved to approve the minutes from November 5th, 2018. Seconded by Bard Hill. All members were in favor. So moved.

Christy Witters moved to approve the minutes from November 19th, 2018. Seconded by Bard Hill. All members were in favor. So moved.

Kendall Chamberlin provided an overview of the changes to Water Resources budget. He noted an increase in administrative expenses, but no increase in operating expenses. He also noted that many of the changes to line items were due to a difference in accounting, and that the overall budget only increased by \$353.00.

Christy Witters inquired about the salary line remaining the same. Kendall Chamberlin explained that one of the positions in the department has remained vacant and he does not expect a need for salary increase.

Bard Hill asked what Kendall was expecting to see in the coming year in terms of usage and new customers. Kendall Chamberlin said that they are projecting an increase in water usage and a few new customers based on expected new development.

Fran Huntoon asked if there was any reason to expect an increase in hydrant water sales. Kendall Chamberlin answered that he does not expect an increase, because Bolton Valley had been using a lot of this water, and no longer needs the supply.

David Sander asked if there were any further questions regarding water resources, seeing none, he asked Kendall to present the Wastewater budget. Kendall Chamberlin explained that the increase in the Wastewater budget was similar in nature to that of the Water Resources budget, noting that most of the changes pertained to a change in accounting.

Kendall Chamberlin and Bard Hill discussed that the increase resulted in roughly a 3% overall increase. Christy Witters asked about the cost of renewing the town's operating permit. Kendall Chamberlin explained that the permit renewal process does not begin until 2020, so we have to wait to see what that process will entail when it arrives. He said he believes it will include additional testing.

Kendall Chamberlin discussed the dryer project and said that he was hopeful for savings in that project and is predicting an increase in septage receiving because Montpelier's upgrades will prevent them from receiving septage. He also mentioned that Montpelier will not receive leachate and that Richmond cannot receive leachate.

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Bard Hill summarized the two budget changes with a 0% increase in the Water Resources budget and a 3% increase in the Wastewater budget for roughly a 2% increase combined, which is what the selectboard had requested of the department heads.

Kendall Chamberlin pointed out that there are planned upgrades for Bridge Street and East Main Street to keep in mind. Discussion ensued regarding the timeline for implementation and funding of these projects. Kendall Chamberlin and Josh Arneson explained that they are in the process of coordinating with the proper people and funding opportunities.

David Sander asked Kendall Chamberlin to provide the superintendent's report.

Kendall Chamberlin provided more information about the dryer project. He explained that they are installing a project in New Hampshire that he and the engineer plan to visit and monitor to see how it could work for Richmond.

Kendall Chamberlin provided a photo of work currently happening at Richmond Rescue where they ran into a problem on their private line. He explained that issues like these are why our department should be supervising installations.

Kendall Chamberlin told the commissioners that the district voted for biosolids to go to the grasslands facility. He explained that the landfill is better for biosolids that have contaminants that cannot go to grasslands.

Kendall Chamberlin discussed the recent upgrades to the well. He said the new equipment has a 10-year service life compared to the longer-lasting previous equipment and should go on a replacement schedule.

Christy Witters asked about the internship program. Kendall Chamberlin explained that the job is becoming much more technical and that there is a shortage of operators. He also said that certifications are not uniform across the country and should become more standardized.

Fran Huntoon pointed out that the signature line on the warrant included the wrong names. Jessica Draper noted that was an error in NEMRC and the wrong box must have been checked.

Bard Hill moved to adjourn. Seconded by Christy Witters. All were in favor. Adjourned 6:58pm.