

Water Commission Minutes
3-2-2020

SPECIAL LOCATION: Camels Hump Middle School Gymnasium in Richmond, VT

Called to Order: 6 PM

Members Present: David Sander, Fran Huntoon, Christy Witters, Bard Hill, Don Morin

Absent:

Others Present: Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Kendall Chamberlin, Water & Sewer Superintendent; Kathy Daub-Stearns, Admin. Assist.; and Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15; others present: G.C. Morris

1. Welcome by Bard. No comments.

2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda.

None.

3. Other Business

a) Consideration of approving a contractor for the Bridge St. infrastructure project

Josh reported that there were four bids submitted for the Bridge St. infrastructure project. The low bid came from J Hutchins and after review by the State & Green Mountain Engineering it has been recommended that J Hutchins be awarded the contract.

David moved to approve J Hutchins as contractor for the Bridge St. infrastructure project, Fran seconded. All agreed.

b) Update on Bridge St. infrastructure project

Now that a contractor has been selected a public meeting can be set up to allow businesses and residents to have more detailed questions answered. Discussion included information that the J Hutchins bid was \$400 less than the estimate set by the engineers; that 77% of the project will be attributed to water and 23% attributed to storm water unless it is clear that items are designated for one or the other.

c) Update regarding agreement for sewer service expansion for 91 Willis Farm Rd.

Josh reported that there was a meeting with the Reaps that produced an updated outline that the lawyers are reviewing with a formal agreement being drafted for consideration by the Commission. Discussion included whether the Town should be billing each customer that connects to the proposed system or if the Reaps should receive one bill for all hookups on the proposed system. The answer could be determined by whether the proposed system remains private or becomes part of the public system. It was noted that any commercial entity would need to apply for a permit prior to hooking into the system either way. It was decided to continue the discussion at the 3/16/2020 meeting.

d) Discussion of Sewer Ordinance

The discussion centered on the property owner's responsibility for the repair of lines in the right-of-way to the mains. Kendall reported that the property owner has control over their own line to the sewer main and that this is stated in the sewer ordinance.

e) Budget review

Josh presented the YTD budget numbers for water & waste water. He noted that the accounting is separate but that there are year-end adjustments that will be made for salary, health, and other expenses and that generally, the division is 70% water/ 30% waste water.

f) Superintendent's Report

Kendall reported:

-he is in possession of the new truck, a 2007 Ranger that still needs to be equipped with a communication radio etc. When ready he will put old truck out to bid.

-that Aaron has drafted a letter that other municipalities are signing requesting that the first PFAS tests done last year be counted as the first test under new proposed Legislation. The Commission would like to review the letter with the possibility of adding their signatures in support.

-that preventative maintenance is being done the plant and they are preparing for the Bridge St. infrastructure work. Kendall reported that he and Pete are in agreement that when the work is being done on Bridge St. the Town should extend the pipe another 20' making the next update less expensive. He will come back with a plan for the Commission to review.

4. Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders

a) Dave moved to approve the Minutes of 2/3/2020, Fran seconded. Don abstained; the remaining members agreed.

Don moved to approve the Minutes of 2/18/2020, Christy seconded. David abstained; the remaining members agreed.

b) Warrants were approved.

Christy moved to increase PO# 3550 to CSWD for the shipment of dewatered sludge from \$60,000. to an amount not to exceed \$120,000., David seconded. All agreed.

5. Discuss Items for Next Agenda and Adjourn

Bridge St. infrastructure update

Reaps expansion on Willis Farm Rd.

Tyler's six months review – Rural Water wants to come and tell Commission how well he's doing in April

The Commission thanked Christy Witters for her work on the Commission as this was her last meeting.

Dave moved to adjourn, Fran seconded. All agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM