

Water Commission Minutes
9/21/2020

Called to Order: 6:00 PM

Present by Zoom: Fran Huntoon, David Sander, Bard Hill, Katie Mather
Absent: Don Marin

Others Present by Zoom: Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Kendall Chamberlin, Water & Sewer; Kathy Daub-Stearns, Admin. Assist.; and the meeting was recorded for MMCTV Channel 15

1. Welcome by Bard. No comments.

2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda. None

Katie thanked Kendall for the Front Porch Forum post about the panel damage at the pump station.

3. Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present

a. Update on Bridge St. Infrastructure Project

Josh reported that there are a few items for the contractor to clean up and by the next meeting there should be a detailed cost for the job for the commission to review.

Discussion:

Bard asked about finish paving. Josh replied that the paving it is done adding that there is a water valve that needs to be raised up but other than that all the paving is done.

b. Superintendent's Report

Kendall reported that there was a sanitary survey done at the facility and that we were perfect. He said that during the survey time was spent on the tank and no issues were found adding that the inspector said the tank is structurally sound and there is no leakage where it had been patched.

Discussion:

- Bard said there was an email about coating the tank, Kendall said the coating would be for appearances only and if the board wants to spend the money, then it could be done.
- David asked if it is safe to think that we have 90+ years of tank life remaining. Kendall replied, yes, adding that the tank is set to be inspected inside and out next year.
- Katie asked what they do with all the water when it is inspected inside and out. Kendall replied the inspection is done by a diver who checks the seams and that the tank does not need to be drained.
- Bard thought that next year when the inspection is done we should get video of the tank. Kendall said a video is provided as part of the survey adding that the last time it was broadcast on MMCTV.

Kendall's report continued with information:

- that we are in the final stages of having the draft wastewater permit and should have a legal review done.
- that as far as the pump station panel goes, somebody tried getting into it so he posted on Front Porch Forum to try and get whoever did it to stop.

Discussion:

- David asked if it is time to look at a security system for situations like this saying that thankfully nothing happened this time.
- Bard said we should make it a future topic. Bard suggested installing alarms as well and asked Kendall to check what other facilities are doing.
- Katie asked if we have high voltage signs on the panel, Kendall replied that we do and more signs are being added. Kendall added that the person tried to open the hatch but was not successful.
- Fran said there is graffiti on the post of the bridge and will check to see if it is similar to what is on the box. Katie said under the bridge there is plenty of graffiti. Bard thought there is a long history of graffiti and the smoking of some products under the bridge.

Kendall's report continued with information:

- that Richmond is taking the most septage of any facility in the state. He said that Montpelier has held that crown for years.

Discussion:

Katie said, congratulations. She asked about the number of wipes at the facility. Kendall said they are at pre-COVID levels.

Kendall's report continued with information:

- that Aaron passed his grade 1 certification. Kendall thanked the board for the letter that was sent saying it helped get the testing scheduled.

Discussion:

- Katie asked if the Town is still having our septage tested for COVID. Kendall said once the testing went to being charged for, we stopped having the testing done.

Kendall's report continued with information:

- that things are pretty good right now.
- that having Bridge St finished makes a big difference.
- that by February 2021 we should get an application in to take advantage of funding to finish Bridge Street from the new pipe to the bridge and replace the last section of AC pipe.

Discussion:

- Bard asked if the project is shovel ready. Kendall replied that we have plans but need to apply for the grant. Bard said there has been a history for the last 10 years of getting the lines improved and making sure there are no dead ends. Kendall said that the reason is that at dead ends the water becomes stagnant and

can have odor issues so the Library and Town Center may notice it. Bard said the idea is to cue it up and have it bid ready when there is advantageous funding.

4. Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Order

Minutes:

David moved to approve the Minutes of 9/8/2020; Fran seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bard, David, and Fran voted affirmatively. Katie abstained. Motion passed.

Warrants:

David moved to approve the electronic warrant as presented, Fran seconded. Roll call vote: Katie, Fran, David, and Bard voted affirmatively. Motion passed.

5. Discuss Items for Next Agenda and Adjourn

Water tank coating and state review

Options for cameras and alarms

Bard asked when the water and sewer due dates are. Kendall said 9/30.

Update on payments from Connie

6. Adjourn

David moved to adjourn; Fran seconded. Roll call vote: Katie, Fran, Bard, and David voted affirmatively. The meeting adjourned at 6:33PM.