

Water Commission Minutes
12/6/2021

Members Present in person: Jay Furr

Members by Zoom: Bard Hill, David Sander, Fran Huntoon, Greg Tucker

Absent: none

Staff Present in person: Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Linda Parent, Town Clerk

Staff Present by Zoom: Kathy Daub-Stearns, Admin. Assist.; Kendall Chamberlain, Water & Sewer Superintendent

Others Present in person: the meeting was recorded for MMCTV Channel 15

Others Present by Zoom: Katie Loesel, Luke Cady, Meg & Shawn Freebern

Called to Order: 6:00 PM

1. Welcome by David

Public Comment-

Meg Freebern, from Governor Peck Road said she did not want to be part of the new district boundaries and had twenty (20) signatures from her neighbors that do not want to join the district either. She said she wanted to let the Commission know that she intended to ask for an amendment to the district at the vote meeting. She then read the proposed amendment. Jill Danilich confirmed that she was not interested in joining the new district. Luke Cady said he was not interested in joining the new district. David thanked Meg F. for coming forward with the information because it would provide time to find out if legally the amendment could be made.

2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda- none

3. Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present

a. Reminder of December 7 vote to expand Water and Sewer District

David reminded everyone that it was required by statute that the vote would be in person at the CHMS.

Discussion:

- that Josh said he would email the town lawyer about the proposed resolution. David was worried that changing the resolution may mean re-warning the vote. Bard said there could be three (3) outcomes, vote as is, if it fails then possibly come back with a smaller area, if legally permissible then vote to approve amended resolution which would pass or fail, then based on the vote those in the district would vote, hopefully it would be known if it is possible by the meeting time tomorrow. Meg said as a group they are not opposed to the extension on Route 2, they were talking just about Gov. Peck. She said they respected the work of the Commission.

- that Josh said he received a call from a mobile home park resident who shared a letter he received that lead him to believe there was a fee to vote. Josh will make a FPF notice saying there is no fee to vote, and it looked like two different sets of information was being given on the same notice. Bard noted that further clarification might be needed because the voting information pertained to the association membership, not the expansion vote.

b. Consideration of changing the septage fee

David reported:

- that the fee had been set at .0575 a few months ago and Kendall brought this back for further increase.

Kendall reported:

- that increases in costs of polymer would be covered if septage fee to haulers was increased to .06

Discussion:

- that David asked what haulers thought before, Kendall said they understand, Kendall said Jan 1, go to .06 then increase it more later if needed. Bard said Montpelier is .065 and labor and other costs may go up and another increase needed.

Bard moved to increase the rate to .06 effective 1/1/2022; Fran seconded.

Roll call vote: Fran, Bard, Jay, Greg, Bard and David voted affirmatively. Motion passed.

c. Update on costs associated with adjustments for manholes and water valves for the Rt. 2 repaving project

Discussion included:

- that David asked if this was the entire section of Route 2, Kendall said yes, he said there is a new law about town's paying the cost. He said the town engineer would be involved from the start and the state does not have the same specifications as the town. The cost should be roughly \$30k.
- that David asked if previously the state was going to cover the costs. Kendall said that there was no mention of it previously, but they have been very clear about it now.
- that no action was need this was informational. Bard thought it should be dealt with in the budget cycle.

d. Superintendent's Report

Kendall reported:

- that the Bridge St. water line was operational, and the paving was done. Final cleanup would take place in the spring
- that everything was going well at the plant
- that there are long lead times for parts
- that preliminary review of the Whistle Stop project was taking place

4. Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders

Jay moved to approve the Minutes of 11/15/2021; Bard seconded. Roll Call Vote: Fran, Bard, Jay, Greg and David voted affirmatively. Motion passed.

Purchase Orders

Bard moved to approve PO 4294 to J Hutchins for the waterline replacement project in an amount not to exceed \$281,110.50.; Jay seconded. Roll Call Vote: Fran, Jay, Jay, Bard, Greg, and David voted affirmatively. Motion passed.

Discussion:

- Josh said the 10% contingency is put in for any unanticipated changes. He thought the total amount would not be much more than the quoted amount. 5% held for spring clean up

Warrants

Jay moved to approve the warrant as presented; Bard seconded. Roll Call Vote: Fran, Bard, Jay, Greg, and David voted affirmatively. Motion passed.

Josh will send warrant out by Docusign for signatures.

5. Discuss Items for Next Agenda and Adjourn

Post vote discussion

Review next year's calendar

Adjourn

Jay moved to adjourn; Bard seconded. Roll Call Vote: Fran, Bard, Jay, Greg, and David voted affirmatively. Motion passed.

Meeting ended at 6:35PM