

Water Commission Minutes

8-5-2019

Called to Order: 5:32pm

Present: Fran Huntoon, David Sander, Christy Witters, Bard Hill, Don Morin, Josh Arneson, Kendall Chamberlin, Jessica Draper, Connie Bona

Public Comment: NA

Changes to the Agenda: NA

Camels Hump Extension: Kendall provided an update that the town portion should be complete by tomorrow. There were some delays because of bacterial testing. Bard asked if there were any suspected reasons. Kendall said that Richmond keeps a low Chlorine level and that sometimes residual matter in pipes can be washing as they're flushed, but they were passing tests as of today. Discussion ensued about hydrant plugs and whether or not the contractor intends to complete the unplugging process and the potential cost for the work to be done by someone else.

Bridge Street Crossing: Kendall provided a cost spreadsheet regarding the project, and possible costs for including the rest of the Bridge Street water line upgrade. He explained that the final amount of forgiveness on the loan for the crossing would be 63%. He explained that the 2019 pot of loan funds has 25% forgiveness. He said that he is proposing to go for the full project to be eligible for the higher forgiveness. He also explained that there is bond authority for up to \$400,000. Connie explained that in addition to a Bond vote for more funding to do the full Bridge St, we would also need a Bond Anticipation Note, so the department can have enough cash to pay for project costs up front. The revolving loans are not money upfront, they are reimbursed. Connie also mentioned the highway department component and Kendall explained that there is not enough time to coordinate the highway portion with the water portion of Bridge Street upgrades. Don Morin asked the difference in the two years of funding, and Connie and Kendall clarified the percentage forgiveness. Don also expressed concern about future expenses and wanting to make sure that those costs are met. Connie also noted that Ashley Luct with the state cautioned the town about taking on a larger project and not being able to meet the deadlines by adding weight to the amount of deliverables for the application. Don asked Josh what his opinion was. Josh said he needed more information to see how feasible the other components are. Discussion ensued about coordination with the highway department. Kendall explained that he feels the cost savings at this time justifies the extra cost of digging it up again later. Fran asked what the

reality would be for the ratepayers. It was determined that more numbers were needed before a decision could be made.

NBRC Grant: Josh said the grant was not awarded. He also said they would be discussing potential sewer-only extension to the Gateway with the property owners.

Fire foam: We do not use fire fighting foam because it is expensive.

Superintendent: Kendall said that PFAS and PFOA testing is coming up and fingers are crossed that we will test well. He also said that a few resumes have come in for the open position. Kendall showed the commissioners their new mapping system for the water and wastewater infrastructure. Don asked to discuss part of Josh's memo. Bard asked to table it until the next meeting.

Minutes were tabled until the next meeting. Christy reviewed warrants and said they were all set.

Bard offered to discuss the CHMS line, goals, the Bridge St project, and discuss Don's meeting with Kendall at the next meeting.

Fran moved to adjourn. Christy seconded. All were in favor, adjourned 6:29pm.