

Water Commission Minutes
7/6/2021

Members Present in person: Bard Hill, Cody Quattrocci, David Sander

Members by Zoom: Fran Huntoon, June Heston

Absent:

Staff Present in person: Josh Arneson, Town Manager;

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

Others Present in person: Mary Houle

Others Present by Zoom: Rod West,
the meeting was recorded for MMCTV Channel 15

Called to Order: 6:09 PM

1. Welcome by Bard

2. Comments from the public: none

3. Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present

a. Welcome to newly appointed Water and Sewer Commission Members, reorganization, and discussion of recruiting a Water and Sewer Customer to serve on the Commission

Bard welcomed June and thanked Fran for continuing her service. He then reported:

- that there is a history of shifting the positions of Chair and Vice Chair to keep things fresh
- that nominations for board Chair were open

Discussion included:

- that Cody suggested that he not be the Chair due to his lack of experience.
- that Bard asked if anyone was interested in serving as Chair adding that it is not as difficult or time consuming as being Selectboard Chair.
- that David asked if Bard were interested in continuing as Chair. Bard said that there should be change.
- that June asked if Fran was interested, she said she would prefer not to jump into that position again.
- that June said since her position is temporary, she did not think she should be Chair
- that David said he would not say no.

Bard moved to appoint David Sander the Water and Sewer Commission Chair; June seconded. Roll call vote: June, Cody, Fran, and Bard voted affirmatively. David abstained. Motion passed.

Bard turned control of the meeting over to David.

Discussion continued:

- that Fran agreed to be Vice Chair

Bard moved to appoint Fran Huntoon the Water and Sewer Commission Vice Chair; Cody seconded. Roll call vote: Bard, Cody, June, and David voted affirmatively. Fran abstained. Motion passed.

Discussion included:

- that several notices on Front Porch Forum have not produced interest from a user to join the board
- that a statement could be put in the next bill going out on the 10th to garner interest
- that Kendall would write the memo going out with Josh
- that Fran said we are limited by having a property owner or renter and thought some people are not able to serve and that we should explore changing the charter. David said the definition of "user" makes a difference. Josh said it has to be a property owner. Bard said charter changes are lengthy and require legislative approval.

b. Update on status of Bridge St. Waterline Replacement Project: Church St. to Volunteers' Green

David reported:

- that the bid has gone out
- that the schedule timeline was presented with Selectboard approval expected at the 8/16/2021 meeting

Discussion included:

- that the closing of Bridge St. should not interfere with the outlined schedule
- that Kendall said the 75% grant meant the users would repay \$100,000 for a \$400,000 project. He asked the board to consider what they would do if the bids received were over \$400,000.

c. Consideration of recommending that the Selectboard approve the loan for the Bridge St. Waterline Replacement Project: Church St. to Volunteers' Green

David reported:

- that Selectboard approval was needed because the loan is backed by the town but that it was the users that actually repay the loan.

Bard moved to recommend that the Selectboard approve the Vermont State Revolving Fund Loan RF3-444-3.0 in the amount of \$400,000 for the Bridge St. Waterline Replacement Project; Cody seconded. Roll call vote: David, Fran, Cody, June, and Bard voted affirmatively.

d. Consideration of recommending that the Selectboard approve the loan for the Preliminary Engineering Report for the Gateway Sewer Expansion Project

David reported:

- that there would be more information available on this topic once the Preliminary Engineering Report was completed.

Bard moved to recommend approving the Vermont State Revolving Fund Loan RF1-290-1.0 in the amount of \$13,600 for the Preliminary Engineering Report for the Gateway Sewer Expansion Project; Cody seconded. Roll call vote: David, Fran, Cody, June, and Bard voted affirmatively.

e. Review of Gateway Sewer Expansion project timeline

Discussion included:

- that the timeline is very detailed
- that what the cost will be to users was still pending
- that the preliminary engineering report was due shortly
- that discussions with the Mobil Station owner and the Reap's has been ongoing
- that the map was updated in part but is not completed
- that once costs are known there would be more input from potential users

f. Superintendent's Report

Kendall reported:

- that one of the mixers was down for repair
- that the phosphorus project will be a year- long event
- that staff have been working to confirm curb stops on the map
- that Richmond was one (1) of two (2) places selected for the Women Works program that is three (3) weeks in Aug
- that he has been keeping track of what the ARPA money can be used for and determined that most water and wastewater projects qualify

4. Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders

Minutes

Bard moved to approve the Minutes of 6/21/2021; Cody seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bard, Cody, Fran, and David voted affirmatively; June abstained. Motion passed.

Purchase Orders

Bard moved to approve PO 4150 to Peoples United Bank for the Water Tank Loan payment in an amount not to exceed \$37,704.86; Cody seconded. Roll Call Vote: Fran, Cody, Bard, June, and David voted affirmatively; Motion passed.

Warrant

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

5. Discuss Items for Next Agenda and Adjourn

follow up sewer expansion timeline

update on open seat

Mary Houle commented that the meeting looked like it was a Selectboard meeting not a Water and Sewer Commission meeting with so many Selectboard members on the board.

Adjourn

Bard moved to adjourn; Cody seconded. Roll call vote: David, Fran, Cody, June, and Bard voted affirmatively. The meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.