



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
OPEN SESSION
WATER DEPT OFFICE - 22 ELM ST, MICHAEL J.
MACPHERSON MEETING ROOM & VIA ZOOM
FEBRUARY 14, 2023

4:00 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Loring called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. In attendance were Vice Chairman Erlandsen and Commissioner Kostka, Kristen Berger of Resilient CE, Superintendent Chris Veracka and Clerk Stacey Smith.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT BILL SCHEDULES:

MEETING MINUTES:

VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 31, 2023

Vice Chairman made the motion to accept the minutes of January 31, 2023. Chairman Loring seconded the motion and it was voted (2-0-1).

Commissioner Kostka abstained as he was not present at the January 31, 2023 meeting.

APPOINTMENTS:

KRISTEN BERGER, CEI INC ENGINEERING UPDATES

*CAPACITY ANALYSIS

*1-86 WELL CLEANING AND PUMP MAINTENANCE

*WTP PIPE MODIFICATIONS TO SUPPLY WATER TO 1-86 WELL WHEN OFF-LINE

*MAIN OFFICE SCADA UPDATES

*WTP PROJECT – REMAINING ITEMS TO COMPLETE

*WATER SYSTEM MAP UPDATES

Capacity Analysis Summary

Ms. Berger presented a capacity analysis summary. She stated she captured graphs and a summary from the previous presentation. She would like the commissioners to read through the materials and provide any comments and she will continue to work on the public presentation. Commissioner Kostka asked if there was any forum that we could share this information with the public other than the annual consumer confidence report. Superintendent Veracka suggested a one-page summary could be placed on the website. Discussion continued regarding handouts and presentations for Annual Town Meeting.

Ms. Berger said the materials could be placed on the website in advance of town meeting for residents to access.

Commissioner Kostka stated he read an article today in a local newspaper regarding the high water table. He fears it will make residents think we have plenty of water, when it's a source issue. Ms. Berger referenced Figure 2, Maximum Day Demand through 20-22', the increase may have been due to COVID and the number of people working from home. This figure also shows an increase in population which has already occurred. The existing demands justify acquiring another source. Ms. Smith asked if this water capacity analysis provided enough data to justify moratorium status should the Board of Water Commissioners decide to do so. Ms. Berger responded, yes, she thinks that's all the Board needs. Vice Chairman Erlandsen said the projections seemed to have been flawed when done back in 2017. Ms. Berger responded, yes, probably due to the unforeseen COVID-19 pandemic. She went on to say the 14% increase projected over 20 years, actually occurred in just 6 years. Discussion continued regarding the capacity analysis.

I-86 Well Cleaning

Ms. Berger stated the front end documents have been sent over to Ms. Smith and Superintendent Veracka. She would like those documents to be sent over to the Town Hall for review by the Town Administrator and Town Counsel. Ms. Berger said she is working on the technical documents. Due to the filter plant being downstream of the well, the well head will see more additional head loss through the filters, approximately 40 ft of additional head. The existing pump is designed for 164 tdh/570 gpm. Ms. Berger asked the pump rep if the pump could be modified to 204 tdh at the same rate of 507/gpm. Another idea was to add a stage. Currently there are four stages or they could change the impeller size; which has less impact on the horsepower needed. That sounded great whichever modification could be done. She stated the contract is based on a pump repair and a change of the impeller. Secondly, if the pump is pulled and it's beat up then a replacement will be made. She added, the horsepower is now 30 HP and the change would be to increase to 40 HP.

Discussion continued regarding a VFD change and the generator.

Water System Mapping

Ms. Berger stated she received the GIS files from CEI, Inc. Ms. Smith will get the town's GIS contact and pass it along to Ms. Berger. Discussion continued regarding what's needed regarding the map in the office. Superintendent Veracka stated he had received a few inquiries from the fire department inquiring about software to plot out the longitude and latitude of hydrants, mains, etc... Ms. Berger said she would look into that. Discussion continued regarding different software programs. She recommended the NEWWA Annual Conference held April 5-6, in Worcester Ma at the DCU Center, may be a good place to find that kind of software.

SCADA -Electrical Installations, Inc.

Ms. Berger stated the current SCADA was last updated between 2013-14. A new update was intended to be done under SCADA with Winston Builders with the new treatment plant construction. The work is totaled at \$5,250 and includes the updated the OIT screen, updated autodialer, installation and configuration of new software. Ms. Berger added, this was missed somehow when the close out for Winston was done. This can be added back in with a change order to accommodate the funding through the SRF. Commissioner Kostka made the motion to accommodate the funding for Electrical Installations to update the SCADA through a change order with Winston Builders. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

WTP Project Items

Ms. Berger stated the Town received the SRF funding of 25K on January 6, 2023. The most recent submittal on January 23, 2023 remains outstanding.

She stated the O&M Manuals were sent electronically to Superintendent Veracka for review. She said he provided some input and comments and those will be sent back to CEI for final editing.

Ms. Berger asked Superintendent Veracka if Winston Builders had replaced the emergency lighting. Superintendent Veracka stated he was unaware and he would have to check. He added, Winston typically doesn't notify the water department when they are out there, which can make it difficult to keep track of what is left to be done. Ms. Berger also said the heater is expected to come out later this week. Chairman Loring requested Ms. Berger notify Winston Builders and tell them to notify the KWD when they come on site so we are aware.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

DEHUMIDIFIER UPDATE AT TRACKLE POND TREATMENT PLANT

Superintendent Veracka stated he received two quotes for the dehumidifier. He was unable to obtain a third as companies either didn't respond or they didn't work with such large commercial units.

Northstar Refrigeration provided a quote of \$19,658. They provided the necessary information to draw up a contract. Superintendent Veracka stated all that is needed is a Board vote to move forward with the contract process.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to award the contract for the dehumidifier work at Trackle Pond to Northstar Refrigeration. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0). Ms. Smith added, the funding for this work will be from the capital project for the third filter at Trackle Pond. She has already spoken to the Town Accountant and received approval to use those funds. The monies remaining in that project

account are approximately 400K. She added, once the dehumidifier is paid for, the remaining funds could be reallocated to stabilization versus using water surplus revenue to fund stabilization; or the remaining funds could be reallocated towards the Main St Water Main Project. If that was done, it would bring the total for the Main St Water Main project to over 870K. Commissioner Kostka asked if that would prevent us from borrowing for the project. Ms. Smith responded, yes she believed that to be the case.

Resident Mark Guidoboni entered the meeting at 4:30pm.

Chairman Loring recommended holding off on that and keeping the town meeting articles as previously voted.

Ms. Berger asked Superintendent Veracka about the lower infiltration lagoon at Trackle Pond and if it was scraped or cleaned out. Superintendent Veracka said no, nothing has been done with that. Ms. Berger stated it's pretty overgrown and it looks like it may have lost another chafe. Superintendent Veracka said he would look into it.

UPDATE ON KELLEHER PROPERTY - RETURN RECEIPT FROM CERTIFIED LETTER RECEIVED 1/3/23 AND EMAIL FROM PAULA PELLETIER RECEIVED 1/10/23

Superintendent Veracka stated he received a response from the executor of the Kelleher Estate, Paula Pelletier. She received the letter and apologized for the delay in response. She recommended Superintendent Veracka reach out to her nephew, Greg McDowell, as he is aware of the discussions that took place between his mother and the Kingston Water Department. She did mention the estate is still in probate. Superintendent Veracka stated he would reach out to Greg for further conversation.

QUARTERLY METER READS ARE FINISHED

The quarterly reads for the March bill have been completed and the bill process is underway with the office staff.

Superintendent Veracka stated he had been in contact with Kevin Wrightington of Wrightington's Gas and spoke with him about his rates and the state bid list. Kevin said he would look into it but the company on the state bid list is much bigger than his and he feels he would be unable to compete. Vice Chairman Erlandsen did say the cost savings is dramatic. Chairman Loring stated it was clear at the last meeting that the Board didn't think Wrightington's would be able to compete and, as much as we would like to use local business, we have a responsibility to our ratepayers.

Chairman Loring wanted to touch back on the Kelleher Property. He said he interpreted Ms. Pelletier's email as just another way of not continuing the discussion with the estate about this landlocked piece of property. He added, we need to move forward in a positive manner with regards to town meeting and we need to obtain ownership of the property. Commissioner Kostka asked if it was too early to put forth an article about well development at town meeting. Chairman Loring said not until we acquire land for a well site. Commissioner Kostka stated his concern is that we would have to wait for another town meeting to move forward. Chairman Loring added, his concern is many people do not want another well site, in the belief, we can stop building growth in town. Discussion continued. Commissioner Kostka stated we have always been a forward-thinking board and we try to solve a problem before a problem occurs.

Ms. Smith asked if she could get clarification on a town meeting article. She wants to confirm the 200K from water surplus revenue to stabilization is still a go? Chairman Loring, stated yes and the Board agreed.

NEW BUSINESS:

ABATEMENT REQUEST - 15 OLD ORCHARD LANE RE: HIGH USAGE FROM CRACKED TOILET

Ms. Smith presented an abatement request from Mark Guidoboni of 15 Old Orchard Lane. He had received a high usage letter from the water department regarding his December bill. Upon further investigation, he discovered a cracked toilet and replaced it. He is requesting an abatement on the water usage. Chairman Loring stated this situation may be a bit different as it involves a cracked toilet and the water went through the meter. Chairman Loring stated we have not issued abatements for cracked toilets in the past as the water would be visibly apparent. Commissioner Erlandsen

stated he felt this was no different than previous requests from other residents. Commissioner Kostka made the motion to abate the bill and charge the total gallons consumed at the lowest tiered rate. Vice Chairman seconded the motion and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

UPDATE FROM CHAIRMAN LORING RE: MBTA TASK FORCE MEETING HELD EARLIER TODAY

No update. The Task Force did not have a quorum at today's meeting,

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NONE

WATER CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAST MEETING:

NONE

BUSINESS OF WATER QUALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

NONE

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2023 AT 4PM

ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION:

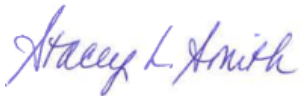
ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

The meeting ended at 4:48pm.

ZOOM INFORMATION

Respectfully submitted,



Stacey L. Smith
Clerk