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TOWN OF KINGSTON
Office of the Sewer Commission/Wastewater
Department 26 Evergreen Street
Kingston, MA 02364

Elaine A. Fiore Chair
Thomas W. Taylor, II.
William E. Watson, Vice Chair

Minutes
March 21, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Sewer Commissioners was held in Room 203. Members in attendance were Elaine Fiore, William Watson, Superintendent Robert Monaghan and Asst. Superintendent Dave Walsh, CDM Smith, Tom Casey (by phone)

Ms. Fiore called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

- **Meeting Minutes:**
 - 1/17/23 and 2/3/23- not available
- **Commitments:** 23-24,23-29,23-23,23-33,23-34,23-35,23-38,23-39,23-40,23-42
Signed
- **Appointments:** Tom Casey - CDM Smith

Ms. Fiore talked about the contract extension for CDM Smith through June 2023 in the amount of \$225,000.

Upon a MOTION made by Mr. Watson and SECONDED by Ms. Fiore, it was unanimously VOTED to accept approve \$225,000 to extend CDM Smith's contract to June 2023.

Ms. Fiore asked Mr. Casey to explain the change order presented for approval. Mr. Casey stated the change order includes changes under \$5,000, that have been previously approved by Superintendent Monaghan or changes approved at earlier meetings by the Sewer Commission. Three new items with the Time and Materials from the past year consolidated into this change order for \$72,000.

Ms. Fiore asked if the current change order is everything we are aware of for January and February. Mr. Casey stated most of them are up to February with one older one still being negotiated. He explained there are daily meetings with Methuen Construction to limit the number of change orders and keep the costs down. There are a few items currently being negotiated. Mr. Casey explained the total change orders to date is less than 1% of the total contract costs or approximately \$144,000.

Upon a MOTION made by Mr. Watson and SECONDED by Ms. Fiore, it was unanimously VOTED to approve \$121,442.73 for Change Order 6



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- **New Business:**
- **Plant Upgrade:**

Superintendent Monaghan stated the local Representative came to inspect the issue with the diffusers. The Inspection reported significant work needing to be done. There is an option of rebuilding the diffusers or buying new diffusers. Superintendent Monaghan said the diffusers are all formed in one solid piece. Now a different application is used and the parts cannot be retro fitted. He stated a repair would require a lot of splicing and in the long run it doesn't work well. The diffusers are 11 years old and need to be replaced. There is piping work that can be done at the same time.

It was discussed if this was time sensitive and if a vote should be taken now to authorize the replacement of the diffusers in both tanks. Superintendent Monaghan is waiting for quotes and a time frame for equipment delivery. The Representative thought it might take up to 12 weeks for the equipment. Mr. Watson suggested waiting until we had more information.

Superintendent Monaghan said there are a lot of people working at the plant. Its "organized chaos." He mentioned the contractors are working until 5:30PM Monday – Thursday to move things along.

Superintendent Monaghan mentioned he met with Finance Com last Thursday on the budget. He stated the Finance Committee had reduced the Personnel Line items by 25% because of the pending retirement of the Superintendent. The assumption made by them was that all the positions would be filled internally. Not saying this is not going to happen, but for the difference of \$25,000 if we don't utilize the full amount on salaries the difference will become free cash. Mr. Watson said it was better to have the funds available now rather than having to ask for it later.

Mrs. Fiore stated she sent an email requesting the funds be increased to reflect the amount originally submitted.

Davis Property:

No updates at this time

Town Meeting:

Ms. Fiore mentioned Town meeting is April 29th and we have 2 Articles submitted. One article contains both the operating budget as well as the use of our free cash. The 2nd article is to receive authorization to borrow from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) for the leaching fields.



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Kingston Collection:

Ms. Fiore reported the lot that has the decommissioned private wastewater treatment plant at the Mall has been sold. An ANR was done for the approximate 2 acres of land. Last year the Commission provided a letter for Kingston Collections stating the private wastewater treatment plant was not included in the sewer capacity or included in the betterment assessment. Kingston Collections asked for an updated letter. Ms. Fiore stated she added a new line that if the current buyer wanted any additional capacity for that lot to contact us. Mr. Watson and Ms. Fiore signed the letter

Superintendent Monaghan announced his retirement as of .April 28, 2023

Upon a MOTION made by Ms. Fiore and SECONDED by Mr. Watson, it was unanimously VOTED to accept to accept Superintendent Monaghan's retirement as of .April 28, 2023.

Adjourn to Executive Session 4:55PM Upon a MOTION made by Ms. Fiore and SECONDED by Mr. Watson, it was unanimously VOTED to recess To Executive Session, not to return to open session. For the purpose to conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel.

Elaine Fiore
Sewer Commissioner - Chair