



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
OPEN SESSION
WATER DEPT OFFICE - 22 ELM ST, MICHAEL J.
MACPHERSON MEETING ROOM & VIA ZOOM
APRIL 23, 2024

4:00 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Richard W Loring Jr called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

In attendance were Vice Chairman Erlandsen, Commissioner Kostka, Superintendent Chris Veracka, Kristen Berger of Resilient CE and Clerk, Stacey Smith.

Attending via ZOOM was resident Mark Guidoboni.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT BILL SCHEDULES:

MEETING MINUTES:

VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 9, 2024

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to approve the minutes of April 9, 2024. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

APPOINTMENTS:

KRISTEN BERGER, RESILIENT CE RE: ENGINEERING UPDATES

MAIN ST WATER MAIN PROJECT

Ms. Berger told the Board the project is currently out to bid. She updated the plan holders list. At this point, there were quite a few contractors on the list. Those bids will be coming next Wednesday.

She stated another round of comments had come back from Mass DOT. She said small item details were requested. She went ahead and made those changes as nothing impacted the bid itself. There were no quantities that changed. Most of the requested changes had to do with the traffic plan. Ms. Berger made the requested revisions and uploaded them yesterday. The final permit is expected the week of May 20th.

WMA GRANT - WATER RATE AND STORAGE/USE STUDY

Ms. Berger told the Board she met with both Chris and Stacey, prior to this meeting, regarding the grant project. She updated them on a cost comparison with the water tank and discussed land ownership and community opinion etc...

She will be making a presentation in the future to discuss her findings.

The mid-project reporting was completed. The first payment has already been received by the Town. She stated the project is moving forward in a positive direction.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

GRASSY HOLE/I-86 PIPE ISSUES - WINSTON BUILDERS RESOLUTION

Superintendent Veracka stated Ms. Berger reached out to Winston Builders. Paul was very responsive and reached out within a day or two. He brought out equipment to assist with the issue. He stated he was surprised the pipes had been left like that. Between the equipment he brought out and some labor on our part, the fasteners were tightened, and the issue has been resolved. Superintendent Veracka stated he wanted to give a thank you to Winston Builders for their quick response.

MIKE WILLIAMS, NEW FOREMAN SCHEDULED TO START APRIL 29, 2024

UPDATE ON SHUT OFF PROGRAM - 4 WEEKS INTO THE PROGRAM AND OVER 100K HAS BEEN COLLECTED. THE COLLECTION RATE HAS AVERAGED 94% OVER THE COURSE OF THE LAST 5 WEEKS.
ONLY 1 HOME HAS BEEN SHUT OFF. PAYMENT WAS IMMEDIATELY RECEIVED AND WATER WAS RESTORED WITHIN AN HOUR.
THE PROCESS HAS IMPROVED AND IS RUNNING WITH THE FULL COOPERATION OF THE COLLECTORS OFFICE.

NEW BUSINESS:

LETTER FROM MASS DEP DATED 4/12/24 RE: WMA REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PWS DURING DROUGHT

Discussion took place regarding the water ban/restriction. Last year the water restriction was based on the calendar year beginning May 1 and ending September 30th, and it was on an even/odd schedule with outdoor watering allowed before 9am and after 5pm.

Vice Chairman Erlandsen asked if Kingston has a private well by-law including those private well owners to oblige to a water restriction. Ms. Berger stated no, wells are under the purview of the Board of Health. Discussion continued regarding private wells and the inability of public water suppliers to enforce the water restriction.

Commissioner Kostka moved to implement the water restriction based on the calendar year schedule beginning May 1st and ending September 30, 2024. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

AMENDED (ADDED AFTER INITIAL MEETING POSTING)

LETTER DATED 4/17/24 FROM FRED TONSBURG, INDIAN POND COUNTRY CLUB, INC. SR

RE: REQUEST FOR WATER SERVICE TO PROPOSED MAINTENANCE BUILDING

Superintendent Veracka presented the request from Fred Tonsberg regarding a new water service to a proposed maintenance building at Indian Pond Country Club. Commissioner Kostka stated if this is a request for a new service, then it falls under the moratorium and there is no exception.

Vice Chairman Erlandsen made the motion to draft a memo notifying the owner and the ZBA that the Board is unable to grant a new water service due to the moratorium. Commissioner Kostka seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

KELLEHER PROPERTY UPDATE (IF ANY)

Superintendent Veracka stated he spoke with Greg McDowell. He had no further updates from the estate. Chairman Loring advised Superintendent Veracka to notify Mr. McDowell that the Board will be presenting an eminent domain article at the annual town meeting in May. Only the appraised value of the property would be paid should eminent domain be approved.

Commissioner Kostka stated there is always an option to not move the article at the town meeting if an agreement can be made ahead of time.

AMENDED #2 (ADDED AFTER POSTING OF AMENDED AGENDA)

FORMAL/FINAL VOTE ON TOWN MEETING ARTICLES REGARDING WATER TANK MAINTENANCE, BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND EMINENT DOMAIN

Ms. Smith told the Board that Keith Hickey, Town Administrator, had asked for formal votes of the water articles to close the warrant at this evening's Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Ms Smith presented the articles to the Board and asked for their acceptance. Vice Chairman Erlandsen volunteered to read each motion.

The first article is to fund the water tank maintenance, totaling \$297,855.64. This article combines three unexpended special articles and \$57,660 from water retained earnings.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to accept the article as written. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

The second article presented is to fund water department building repairs, totaling \$40,000. This article is funded by a portion of the water retained earnings.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to accept the article as written. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

Ms. Smith presented the final article and that was the appropriation for authority to use eminent domain.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to accept the article as written. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

WATER CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAST MEETING:

LETTER TO ATTY ROBERT KRAUS DATED 4/16/24 REGARDING 32 MAIN ST

Provided in meeting packets for informational purpose. No discussion took place.

BUSINESS OF WATER QUALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

NONE

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

MAY 14, 2024 AT 4PM

ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION:

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 adjourned at 4:23 pm.

ZOOM INFORMATION

TOPIC: BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

TIME: THIS IS A RECURRING MEETING MEET ANYTIME

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/89052013207?PWD=AWNZOWIYK01WCGZJR2VEBFJNDVLSQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89052013207?pwd=AWNZOWIYK01WCGZJR2VEBFJNDVLSQT09)

MEETING ID: 890 5201 3207

PASSCODE: 444915

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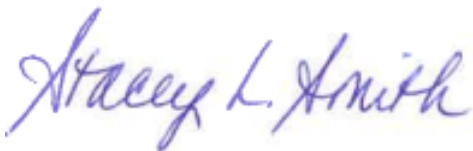
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Respectfully submitted,



Stacey L. Smith
Clerk