



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
OPEN SESSION
WATER DEPT OFFICE - 22 ELM ST, MICHAEL J.
MACPHERSON MEETING ROOM & VIA ZOOM
JULY 30, 2024

3:30 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Richard W. Loring Jr called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

In attendance were Commissioner Robert Kostka, Superintendent Chris Veracka, Kristen Berger of Resilient CE and clerk Stacey Smith.

Attending via ZOOM was Vice Chairman Robert Erlandsen.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT BILL SCHEDULES:

MEETING MINUTES:

VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 2, 2024 AND JULY 16, 2024

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to approve the minutes of July 2 and July 16, 2024, as presented.

Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

APPOINTMENTS:

KRISTEN BERGER, RESILIENT CE RE: ENGINEERING UPDATES

MAIN STREET WATER MAIN PROJECT UPDATES

Ms. Berger stated there is a lot going on with the Main Street Water Main project. She stated the crews started at the highway ramps and made it just past Hilltop but had to stop due to the actual location of water main. The main jets out into the center of the road and wasn't where it was shown on the plan. CC Construction then decided to go tie in at Brook Street and work back up the hill. They will install a tap and sleeve at Brook Street to Riverview, then they can pressurize, sanitize and connect services. Ms. Berger stated this will keep the work in the northbound lane. There was a push back on working in the middle of the road; as such there will be no full road closure. They will activate the tie in from Brook to Riverview and connect services. There is a detour in place with one lane open in the northbound lane. South-bound traffic is detoured and appears to be working well.

Ms. Berger stated they have had good luck with the police details. Up until now, the contractor has been doubling up on flaggers, in case police details couldn't be obtained, to ensure traffic control. That doesn't appear to be necessary anymore. There has been a good faith effort by Kingston Police Department to fill the details. Ms. Berger calculated the additional expense of the flaggers (3/day) through today, and it's just under 25K. She added with the police details it could be in excess of 50K.

She stated they will be saving some costs by eliminating a gate and a shut down of the main. The contractor needed to purchase additional fittings. On the north side of the Jones River, the contractor will do a tap/sleeve valve. That will be angled but not impossible to access. This will save time and money on the project.

At 4:37 pm, resident Mark Guidoboni entered the meeting.

Discussion continued regarding specifics to project details. Ms. Berger stated the temporary paving was underestimated and has been flagged. She stated Mass DOT requires, in between when the road is milled and before paving, a complete overlay from the curb to the center of the road. Then seventy-two hours has to occur between the milling and the paving. She said with trench repair, 7 inches of paving is required and then 2 inches of milling and paving on the road.

Seventy-two hours is not enough time to do this. She is reaching out to Mass DOT for some reconsideration. Chairman Loring stated, they're not milling on the highway. Seventy-two hours seems unrealistic. Commissioner Kostka asked if there was anyone to reason with. He stated we could reach out to our elected officials, if necessary. Discussion continued regarding the contingency plan and the budget.

Ms. Berger stated they have installed nearly 1200 ft of water main and are nearing the halfway point on the project. They will install hydrants, pressure test, disinfect and tie in the services from Brook St to Riverview. After that, they will install the main from Riverview to Hilltop and install the services on the north side.

She has received a proposed change order from CC Construction regarding the flaggers through July 19, 2024. There may be another change order coming regarding the test pits. CC Construction claims test pits are designed to locate services that are on the plan. However, test pits are to see where things are that may not necessarily be on the plan. With the Board's permission, she would like to push back on this with CC Construction as all the test pits were not utilized. Discussion continued regarding the work schedule and the progress made by CC Construction.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

WELL SITE DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Berger reviewed the work done in 2018 on the former Kelleher property. She distributed the map of the test wells that were dug. Test well work was done in 2018. On the southern end of the property, two specific sites were favored, site 4-A and 7-A, shown on the map. She added, there is still room to the north to fit another Zone 1. They performed test wells at the lower point of the property. Commissioner Kostka asked if the contours were too extreme. Ms. Berger stated it's not steeply graded and there is a flat area around where each of the wells are located. Chairman Loring stated it's important we focus on one well for purposes now. However, it makes sense to look at possible future use if a second well is necessary in proximity to the treatment plant.

Ms. Berger said regarding the new well, she recommends an RFQ (request for quote) go out to a design firm. This project is more than she's comfortable taking on. She stated she doesn't have an architect that she feels comfortable with or trusts and an architect is a big part of this project. Additionally, she works with Northeast GeoScience, which consists of a two-man firm and, unfortunately, one of them passed away a little over a week ago. She added, this project has a lot of moving parts that will require more than one engineer and one hydrogeologist. Chairman Loring asked if we had to put out an RFQ for a designer and hydrogeologist. Ms. Berger stated no, one firm can probably do both, as many firms have hydrogeologists on staff.

Chairman Kostka made the motion to put out an RFQ for design for the new well and pump station on the former Kelleher property. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0). Ms. Berger stated she can help draft the RFQ and feels this is the best way to move forward expeditiously.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

DEHUMIDIFIER FAILURE UPDATE- GRASSY HOLE

Superintendent Veracka stated the dehumidifier at Grassy Hole/I-86 had a compressor failure. The part is covered under warranty. He has spoken with Winston Builders and Desert Aire, the manufacturer, has an extended lead time of 7–9 weeks on acquiring a new compressor.

North Star Refrigeration has a lead time of 3–5 days. Superintendent Veracka is waiting to hear from the installer to work on a resolution.

ROUNTREE HYUNDAI, PLYMOUTH - IRRIGATION WELL

Superintendent Veracka stated he was contacted by Mr. Rountree of Rountree Hyundai in Plymouth. He would like to install an irrigation well on the property, but he understands a portion of the property is within Kingston's Zone 2. The well is to be located outside the service station which is outside the Zone 2. Mr. Rountree was seeking a letter from the Board to allow the installation of the irrigation well. Superintendent Veracka confirmed the well will be in Plymouth as well as the entire project. He added, monitoring wells are beside the building. Commissioner Kostka moved to approve the irrigation well. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

40B PROJECT, WAPPING RD - FIRE PROTECTION

Superintendent Veracka stated he had just received a revised plan for the 40B project located on Wapping Road. He needs time to review. Chairman Loring suggested tabling this matter for the next meeting to allow review of the materials. Superintendent Veracka stated the plan is looking to install a water main only for fire protection. Chairman Loring stated we have done this previously off of Parting Ways Rd, and it proved to be useless and created a significant problem. Commissioner Kostka agreed. Superintendent Veracka agrees it's not feasible and will respond as such. He added, the Conservation Agent reached out regarding the proposed community septic system which would be adjacent to water department-owned property. He said he will need to review the plans further and will present his findings at the next meeting. Chairman Loring stated if a community septic system is upstream of water department property, which will add additional nitrate loading, it may be ill-advised to do so.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL AT TOWN HALL - IRRIGATION CONCERNS

Superintendent Veracka stated the Veteran's Memorial Committee took the position to truck in off site well water. He was concerned about the tie in to the municipal water at Town Hall and possible cross connections. Superintendent Veracka stated he watched the contractor cut and cap the line after the backflow before connecting to the truck.

Chairman Loring stated he's glad the Veterans Memorial is finished. The sprinklers are running off the water tank in the parking lot. He stated he's concerned about the longtime viability of the sod/plantings at the end of July with the forecasted weather. He said it's unfortunate it's happening now.

Discussion continued regarding well users placing signs on their property. Chairman Loring stated Stop n Shop was running their irrigation at 2:30pm and if it's off a well, there needs to be signage.

On a separate note, Vice Chairman Erlandsen stated he sat in on a recent OCPC Regional Planning Zoom meeting with Superintendent Veracka and OCPC. He stated the purpose of this program to consider sharing water with other communities. He added, he doesn't believe that is in the best interest of the Kingston Water Department. Vice Chairman Erlandsen said he does not see voluntary compliance in doing this. Superintendent Veracka stated he agreed this group is looking to regionalize water on the South Shore. However, other communities struggle with difficulties in water quality and esthetics, let alone pressure issues. Commissioner Kostka stated long before he was a commissioner, Kingston has always looked ahead to issues coming down the road and been proactive. In fact, he said, we've lost grant opportunities in the past because we were not in 'high need'. Discussion continued regarding OCPC goals and the difficulties going forward in regionalization.

Ms. Smith referenced the scoring objective OCPC has asked KWD to complete. He feels this is the wrong approach as the scoring is subjective and irrelevant. Commissioner Kostka stated there is no direct value and this could be a net negative to the Town of Kingston. Discussion continued regarding the difference with MWRA versus individual towns and city systems on the South Shore. Vice Chairman Erlandsen mentioned the desalination plant in Brockton and Ms. Berger stated it's an uphill battle with the Interbasin Transfer Act.

NEW BUSINESS:

WATER CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAST MEETING:

NONE

BUSINESS OF WATER QUALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

NONE

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

AUGUST 13, 2024 AT 3:30PM

Chairman Loring stated he would not be at the meeting on August 27th as he will be out of town. Ms. Smith confirmed that both Vice Chairman Erlandsen and Commissioner Kostka will be available.

It was agreed the next two meetings held on August 13th and August 27th would be held at 3:30pm and in September,

meetings would go back to 4pm.

ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION:

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

ZOOM INFORMATION

TOPIC: BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

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

MEETING ID: 890 5201 3207

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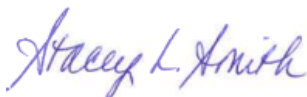
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Respectfully submitted,



Stacey L. Smith

Clerk