

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Warner Village Water District Commissioners  
At 9:00 A.M. on  
January 25, 2016 at the Treatment Plant

Present: Peter Newman, Peter Savlen, and Dan Lavoie, Commissioners; Ray Martin, Administrator; Jim McLaughlin, Clerk; and Chuck Come, Superintendent.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the Commissioners' regular meeting held on January 11, 2016 were approved as submitted.

**North Village Road Wells**

Ray has not received any new information from the PUC.

**2016 Budget**

Ray advised that the final total budget figure for 2016 was \$412,183, a slight change from the previous total, resulting from adjustments in salaries agreed to at the last meeting. Ray has submitted the budget to the Town Budget Committee but has not received any comment yet. The Budget Committee's meeting on February 4 will consider the District's 2016 budget.

**Superintendent's Report**

Chuck discussed the hydrant situation at Violette's house on West Main Street. He has not been able to locate a shutoff for this hydrant, but has determined that it is operable. After flushing it this fall, it continued to leak, presumably a result of debris in the threads. This was fixed and the hydrant is serviceable.

Chuck maintains that the District and Town should budget money to replace/repair 2-3 hydrants each year. He suggested a figure of \$8,000 per year. Discussed how this might be achieved since the Town has the burden of hydrant maintenance. It was concluded that the Commissioners meet with the Selectmen soon to address this issue. Ray will coordinate with Jim Bingham.

Chuck reported on problems at the McDonalds pump station and an examination of this facility he and Joe Damour made recently. Discussed the type of vacuum pump at the station and its susceptibility to failure. Peter S. suggested an alternative set up.

Discussed Pump #3 and its problems. Chuck is planning to install a water seal system.

Chuck advised that the Town has offered the old generator that served the Police Station to the District. Discussed potential use as a source of power for McDonalds pump station in case of an electrical outage. Ray will check on the details of the Town's offer. Chuck said he could most likely repair whatever was wrong with the generator.

**Administrator's Report**

Ray reviewed the financial numbers associated with the solar array project: Total cost: \$360,000; CDBG grant (proposed): \$70,000; State grant: \$69,000; RD loan: \$221,000, with an annual repayment of \$14,000. The Eversource accessibility charge would be \$1,200 per year.

Ray said that a public hearing on the District's solar array is scheduled for February 3; with a second public hearing on March 3.

A question was raised as to the state of the power transformer that would tie the solar array into the grid. There was general consensus that one part of the Clarifier project was the upgrade of the electrical feed into the plant by PSNH and so this element of the project should not be a cost to the District. Ray has asked for a verification of this from Eversource.

Ray reported that EPA has issued new, more stringent limits for levels of phosphorus and copper being discharged into the Warner River under the District's NPDES permit. The new standard is approximately ten times lower than the drinking water standard! Ray said these regulations are in effect now, and at some point the State will be insisting the District have a plan to reduce the levels of phosphorus and copper being discharged. In consultation with Joe Damour, and some information from Underwood Engineering, a course of action has been recommended that would involve discharging the plant's effluent into the ground on District property. A portion of the property to the northwest would seem to be suitable, since it is lower than the contact tank and wouldn't require a pump. The effluent would then NOT be discharged directly into the river, but into the aquifer and ultimately to the river after it has been filtered by its passage through the overburden. Chuck pointed out that this approach has a number of added benefits, including eliminating the need for adding chlorine and bisulfite to the plant's effluent, saving considerable money spent on chemicals, dosing equipment and related costs and staff time. The approach also calls into question whether the District needs a discharge permit at all. The Commissioners agreed to pursue this strategy and requested staff to prepare a plan of action.

Ray reported a balance of \$18,200 left unspent in the Rural Development grant to the District. He said that RD has okayed using \$8,200 of these funds for the purchase and installation of sludge blanket monitors and alarms in each clarifier. Chuck said he planned to use some of these funds to address other alarm problems at the plant as well. RD has also approved the remainder of these funds for use to help defray the cost of the new plow truck to be purchased this year. Ray asked for approval to apply for Rural Development funds associated with the solar array project. The Commissioners approved signing the application documents.

Peter Savlen agreed to stand for the 3-year Commissioner position at the annual meeting in March.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

The next Commissioners meeting – Monday, February 8, 2016 at 9:00 A.M.

Recorded by Jim McLaughlin, Clerk