

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Warner Village Water District Commissioners
At 9:00 A.M. on
February 8, 2016 at the Treatment Plant

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Commissioners' regular meeting held on January 25, 2016 were approved as submitted.

North Village Road Wells

Nothing to report from the PUC.

2016 Budget

Ray reported on two meetings last week that concern the District's 2016 budget. On Wednesday, there was a public hearing on the proposed solar arrays at both Town and District locations. On Thursday, the Budget Committee reviewed the District's 2016 operating budget and approved it as submitted.

Ray said he has completed the necessary DRA reports for the budget. The annual meeting is set for March 15. The Commissioners signed the warrant for that meeting. Ray said he would post the warrant within 20 days of the meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Chuck discussed the outdoor lighting situation at the plant. He needs to have someone with a cherry picker help him install new bulbs in some of the fixtures. Ray said he would contact Ed Monaghan, who works for TDS about helping out with this task. Discussed installing several motion-detection flood lights as a deterrent to people scaling the fence and doing damage or theft of plant property. The Commissioners suggested that Chuck leave the lights on when he leaves at the end of the day.

Peter S. advised that the State DOT had done some work to grid down one of the newly installed manhole covers on Main Street to prevent snow plows from catching on it. Chuck will investigate what was done, since NHDOT never contacted him about a problem with the manhole.

Chuck advised that the Denny Hill tank report has been received and no problems with water quality had been found. He has put the tank back on line and corrected its operational effectiveness by flushing a hydrant near the Fire Station. Entrained air pockets appear to have been the problem of Denny Hill not filling and releasing water as designed. The tank is now cycling in concert with the Latting Lane tank.

Chuck also reported that Well #1 is back on line and pumping water at a rate of 200 GPM. He reported that Pump #2 should be returned in a week or two.

Concerning the possibility of installing a groundwater discharge system, Chuck said that Steve Broadbent from Weston Engineering visited the plant and is scheduled to return on February 22 to provide more information on the feasibility of this approach for the District. He will have checked soils and surficial geologic information to determine the extent of such an injection system at the plant property. The piping that would discharge effluent must be at least 8 feet above the water table. If successful, the District would be relieved of the requirements of the NPDES permit as well as the chemicals now being used to treat the effluent before it is discharged into the river. Substantial savings can be anticipated in several areas: unneeded chlorine and bisulfite chemicals would not have to be purchased; pumps and delivery systems would not have to be operated; and the cost of testing effluent would be eliminated.

This approach would not be put into practice until next fiscal year, but having a plan will put the District in a favorable position in NHDES' view.

Chuck reported on the planned installation of call boxes at the two clarifiers to be paid for out of RD grant funds.

He reported that Kay Steen's freeze-up problem has been fixed by a continuous bleeder setup that requires no human intervention. It was recommended that Chuck put a tag on the bleeder warning anyone not to tamper with it.

Administrator's Report

Discussed the solar array project. Ray

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.

Ray said a representative of Eversource came and viewed the dead pine tree across the road that is in danger of being knocked down by high wind. He agreed that the company would take the tree down and that he would contact the State, since the tree is on NHDOT property.

Ray advised that when he analyzed the most recent gas bill from the State, he found that the cost was \$2.75 per gallon. On checking into this, he was told that the State had entered into a two-year agreement with its fuel supplier to fix the price at that amount. Ray reported that he has obtained a credit card for Chuck to use at one of the local gas stations to purchase gas there. The price today is \$1.65, with an additional saving of the federal excise tax of \$.18 a gallon. This will help the budget this year.

Ray advised that Chuck uses his personal cell phone to transact District business and suggested he be reimbursed an amount up to \$100 per month for this use. The Commissioners approved this proposal. Ray said that Chuck would submit his phone bill to him each month.

On the question of getting TDS to provide fiber to the plant, Ray said the company is concentrating on residential hookups at the present time. Eventually, they will get to us.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

The next Commissioners meeting – Monday, February 22, 2016 at 9:00 A.M.

Recorded by Jim McLaughlin, Clerk