

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Warner Village Water District Commissioners
At 9:00 A.M. on
June 12, 2019 at the Treatment Plant

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Commissioners' regular meeting held on May 22, 2019 were approved as submitted.

Administrator's Report

Ray discussed the newly mandated cross-connection control program that NHDES has required the District to implement as soon as possible. This program is intended to eliminate threats to the District's water supply from non-potable sources by establishing a regular inspection of backflow preventer devices in certain situations, such as an establishment with a fire-suppression system, outside irrigation system, or other connection that could prove a danger to the water supply.

Ray distributed a draft Cross-Connection Control Program document that is based on NHDES's model ordinance. The District is under pressure to adopt this ordinance and confirm its adoption to NHDES by June 19, 2019. Ray advised that under the program, identified property owners would be required to have their backflow preventers inspected once or twice a year, depending on level of hazard and correct any deficiency in the devices found to exist. The cost burden is entirely on the property owner. Ray said that the District is currently soliciting licensed inspectors to carry out the provisions of the ordinance. The District will assume the responsibility of paying the inspector for their services and billing the appropriate customers. It was understood that this cost assumption is limited to the inspection service only and not for any costs associated with replacement or other device-related expenses. Payment of such costs are to be between the owner and a contractor/supplier. This program will affect 13 buildings/locations in the precinct, covering 31 different connections, 9 of which are Town-owned. Town-owned properties are the police station, new fire station, CAP building, library and old fire station. Commercial properties include Market Basket, Aubuchon Hardware, Liquor Store, McDonalds, Circle K, Telephone Museum and Warner Power.

The Commissioners voted to a provisional adoption of the Cross-Connection Control Program for the District, subject to final approval by the District's Annual Meeting in March 2020. Ray said that he would prepare and distribute a letter to affected customers about the impending inspection program. He said that the cost is expected to be \$35 - \$40 per inspection. Discussed adding an additional administrative fee of \$15 per inspection to cover the billing and related costs to the District.

Ray distributed the March and April financial reports and gave a brief update on expenses and revenues as of the end of May. Income is about \$23,000 over budget, but a number of major expenditures are coming up. Bills went out in early June, with all but \$13,000 so far uncollected.

Ray also reported that a new action by the NH Legislature limits the interest rate the District can charge on over-due rents to 8 percent. We had been charging 15 percent.

On the issue of obtaining NHDOT acknowledgement/approval of the proposed groundwater injection project, Ray reported on his continuing discussions with various staff at NHDOT and NHDES, so far without any apparent success. Discussed possible approaches. Jim suggested approaching Andru Volinsky as someone with clout. It was also suggested asking NHDES staff

to see if their Commissioner might be willing to approach the NHDOT Commissioner in an attempt to resolve this.

Discussed the brewery proposed on Depot Street and the possible impacts on the treatment plant. Chuck has attended a workshop on this issue and understands the implications.

Superintendent's Report

Chuck advised that the old fire station needs to have a new meter installed that can register normal domestic usage. The Town has been advised of the needed meter, since the building is still a Town-owned property.

Chuck was adamant in insisting that the District take a hard line on insisting the Town keep its commitment to replacing two hydrants each year. This is an item that the Town has conveniently let slip through their fingers and not lived up to the agreement with the District. Ray was asked to send a communication to the Board of Selectmen bringing this to their attention, with a copy to Ed Mical, Emergency Coordinator. Chuck said that the cost of a shutoff valve is \$500, and a hydrant is \$2-3,000.

Ray advised that a paving contractor working on the north-bound lane of I-89 has requested permission to withdraw 800 gallons of water from one of the hydrants daily for the next two months. After some discussion, the Commissioners agreed to a supervised withdrawal at a charge of \$35 per event.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM.

The next regular meeting will be June 26, 2019.

Recorded by Jim McLaughlin, Clerk.