

## Meeting of the Village Water/Sewer Commissioners

Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014  
43 S Main Street, Main Street Fire Station

Present: P.H. Flanders, R. Finucane, C. Parks, Commissioners; B. Shepeluk, Manager; A. Tuscany, Public Works Director; C. Nelson, staff.  
Public: Lefty Sayah

Flanders called the meeting of the Water and Sewer Commissioners to order at 4:37pm.

The board reviewed the agenda and no changes were made. No public comment was made.

Flanders informed the board that he was contacted by a reported from the Waterbury Record regarding the status of the Waterbury Laundrymat. The owners of the laundrymat lease from the property owner, and are not customers of the Village. Regular payment has not been made on the account for several years, resulting in past due charges of over \$10,000.00. The Village has tried to work with the business owners by setting up a monthly payment plan and the agreement was not met. At this time, no shut off notices have been issued from the Village to the building and further action will not be taken until spring.

There was a discussion about the Sweet Rd. solar array and the contract for power and credits from Green Lantern. At this time, the inverters have been installed and tested, and the Village is hopeful that the panels will begin generating energy by January 1 of 2015. Any power generated will first be assigned to Village accounts, then to the school, and lastly to Town accounts. Flanders discussed concerns that due to the upgrades made at the wastewater treatment plant, the initial energy estimate used for the contract will be incorrect as the plant is using less energy. Shepeluk discussed the details of the contract, and even if the initial estimates are higher than what is actually being used, the contract is designed to settle any cost differences at the end of the year, so any overpayments will be returned to the Village. No action was taken.

Parks asked for an update on the status of the new buildings on Rte 100 being developed by Steve Noyes. Nelson confirmed that she had spoken to the engineers working on the project and they are still in the process of purchasing the necessary allocation from the Duxbury-Moretown Fire District, but that they are planning on connecting to the municipal water line once the project is finalized. No further action was taken.

Nelson discussed concerns with the water usage at Kneeland Flats Trailer Park. Over the past two years, water usage has increased significantly but does not appear to indicate a leak. The water department has monitored daily readings and they seem consistent with the higher quarterly readings. The water department staff believes that the increase may be due to an increased number of tenants in the park. Nelson also discussed the base rates for the park. The commissioners will revisit the issue at the next meeting.

Shepeluk presented his calculations for a potential 20-year contract for water and sewer rates with the State of Vermont buildings. The contract was initially discussed when the Town was preparing to purchase property from the state for a new municipal contract. A discussion was held regarding the potential benefits and consequences of pursuing a contract using set rates, and ultimately it was decided that it was not a good precedent to set and that 20 years was far too long to set rates, and also due to the fact that the usage at the new state complex is completely unknown. By consent, the board decided not to pursue the contract at this time.

Flanders proposed that beginning in January of 2015, the public works staff begin to track any cross-departmental time to properly account for inter-municipal work. The select board has already asked that the Town employees do so, and by consent the commissioners agreed as well. The public works director will put together a system to allow the employees to track their time with minimal impact on their day to day activities.

The board reviewed the monthly progress reports of the water, wastewater, and public works department (attached).

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**Finucane moved to approve the minutes of the November 24 meeting with no corrections. Parks recused herself from the vote as she was not present at the meeting. Flanders seconded the motion, a vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously.**

There being no further business, the meeting of the Water and Sewer Commissioners was adjourned at 6:18pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 26 at 43 South Main Street (Fire Station/ Municipal Office).

Respectfully submitted,  
Courtney Nelson, Utilities Billing Clerk

Approved by:



Date:

