

Water Commissioner's Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Ken Morin, Chairman
Steve Call, Commissioner
Bruce Merriam, Commissioner
Michael Brown, Water Superintendent
Suzanne Leh, Clerk/Collector
Eileen Tela, District Accountant
Dave Thompson, Finance Committee
Steve Constantine, Finance Committee

Ken Morin opened the meeting at 5:30pm and made the motion to accept the minutes of December 8, 2015 as printed. All in Favor.

Baystate Contractors - Motorola was able to fix communications at the new well and Baystate Contractors are now paid in full.

Tennessee Pipeline - Ken is waiting on an email from Phil Chipman as to when they are going to drill so that Mike or Ken can be there to look at it. This information will go to Dave Harwood, Hydrogeologist. Mike and Ken met with him and he was hired to look at the maps and inform us where the gas line is in relation to our well and our property. Ken handed out a draft he wrote up to FERC. We haven't filed an intervenor status yet. FERC sent out a pamphlet how to file this statement. We previously filed non-objective as opposed to objective. Ken wants to add a line that if they abandon the line in 20-50 years do they clean/fill the lines, etc. We need to ask Dave how he thinks this will play out. We are also waiting on SDS sheet from the gas company re: the drilling fluid. Need to know which drilling fluid. We have unanswered questions that need to be answered by FERC. Deadline is 1/15/16 to submit. Eileen stated that Jay DiPucchio from Prudential Committee had concerns if we filed for intervenor status and regarding the "chemicals" to be used in drilling. Ken stated they are not going to use chemicals but a clay material. He will contact Jay.

Mohawk Ramblers - Mike met with the Ramblers and told them we are not interested in selling but will lease the property. Ramblers are very interested. Mike went to Town Hall and spoke with Walter Ramsey to see if he could foresee any problems with zoning. Only issue/hurdle he could see would be natural heritage/turtle zone but Walter likes what the Ramblers do and he would write a positive letter to the national heritage board if it need be. Dave Jensen thought they would not have to go in front of zoning board as they are non-profit. Dave is happy with them as a neighbor and they have done a lot of positive things for the town. Ramblers are ready set up a lease and Mike told them this is the time to do it as it will have to go in front of the voters at April District Meeting. Mohawk Ramblers will pay for the realtor, surveyor and lawyer fees. Bruce will meet with a member to flag the property next week. Mike spoke with Mark Reich, Attorney and there should not be any problems if we have the deed.

GPS - After researching for the past 2 years, Mike recently purchased a GPS for hydrants and valves, it's a Tremble PC Rugged Tablet for the trucks. Bruce Young is setting it up and it should be ready soon. Many advantages of having this tablet such as walking up to valves, and having satellite photos for overlays.

Abatements – Commissioners signed off on abatements due to billing errors.

Clerk/Collector Duties - Commissioners requested that minutes and agendas be emailed to them 3 days prior to meetings. Also asked that whoever answers the office phone identify themselves. As Suzanne becomes more familiar with job she will present monthly reports regarding billing and payments. Also at the end of the fiscal year present a report comparing present year to previous year. Commissioners signed off on agreement, changes were made to vacation and comp time for Suzanne.

Budget – Mike shared handout/worksheet that everyone got. He will fill out preliminary numbers and will discuss at February meeting. Question whether we need a separate meeting to discuss or ok to discuss at February meeting. To be determined at 2/3/16 meeting. There were brief discussions of a new truck to replace 2006 Chevrolet and roof replacements. Bruce asked if the roof replacements had to be done this year; Mike says no. The metal roof that was done in LP reduced the heating bill significantly. He would like to do the one that has rolled roofing paper on it for the last 30years. Discussion if Mass Save comes out to commercial buildings. Eileen knows someone and will check.

District Accountant – Eileen is following up on handicap doors and would like to firm up details so it can be voted on at District Meeting in April. Fire Dept is having serious issues getting call firemen. Talk of increasing man power by 2 new hires. They will be working on a budget for next prudential committee meeting as there is a serious lack of manpower for fighting fires in our town. Ambulance service is also being looked at. Possibility of Bob Escott retiring this summer.

Next meeting scheduled for February 3, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.