



# DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.  
Dorset Water Co.

**Mailing: PO Box 341 Dorset, VT 05251**  
**Fire Station: 2877 Route 30 Dorset, VT 05251**  
**Town Office: 112 Mad Tom Rd E. Dorset, VT 05253**  
**Phone: 802-362-4571 x 4**  
**Email: [dorsetfire341@gmail.com](mailto:dorsetfire341@gmail.com)**

## DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1

**March 11, 2019**

**Present:** Ben Weiss, Chairman, Milt McWayne, Steve Jones, Abbott de Rham, Roger Squire (by phone), Jim McGinnis (Water Operator), Shawn Hazelton (Fire Chief), Greg Kepler (Kepler Engineering), Rob Gaiotti (Town Manager)

**Absent:**

**Others Present:** John O'Keefe (Town Manager, Town of Manchester)

Ben Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Manchester Village Water Project Overview (John O'Keefe)**

J. O'Keefe outlined Manchester's adoption of a special regulation by the Water Commissioners that created a special assessment district for fire protection. This regulation allows for fee assessment on certain properties in the new district for increased water flow or increased fire protection. He noted that many homeowners benefit from fire hydrants, but are not paying any fees to maintain them. The district encompasses structures 1,000 feet from a fire hydrant measured along any private or public right-of-way (not a simple radius) whether they are connected to the water system or not. Tax exempt organizations were not excused from being taxed if they were in the special district. The premise was to base the district on the grand list using a ratio to pay debt service (not based on water usage). Fees collected are limited to being spent on the ability to increase water flow for better fire protection, but is not, for example, to be used for a new fire truck. J. O'Keefe noted that GIS mapping was used along with hand calculations to figure out which properties would be included in this district. The only basis for appeal is if the property owner believes there is an incorrect measurement or there is not a building on the property.

### **Approval of February 2019 Minutes**

R. Squire moved and S. Jones seconded to approve the February 11, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Engineer's Report (Kepler)**

G. Kepler reported on four items:

- Leak Investigation ~ Matchpoint conducted flow isolation of eight areas with three areas identified for 60 gpm estimated background night time flow. As one of the more severe leaks, leak in Dorset Hollow will be looked into further.
- Well Project Status ~ Final water quality results and analysis of soils data pending the week of March 18<sup>th</sup>. Planning loan amendment application still pending and the DWSRF construction priority list has been submitted.
- Meter Station & Blue Siren Data ~ Water usage chart was explained. J. McGinnis replaced the display board on March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Hydraulic Modeling & Capital Planning ~ G. Kepler suggested the Board discuss the eight modeling scenarios before cost estimation work is done.

G. Kepler had talked to the AOT regarding the Route 30 paving project estimated for commencement in 2020-2021 and suggested the Board think about the possible future DFD projects that would be effected by this. A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to accept the Engineer's report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Water Operator's Report (McGinnis)**

J. McGinnis reported that the leak at 179 Dorset Hollow Road is getting worse and A. de Rham asked if the three homeowners have been notified. Discussion ensued regarding the homeowners, private service lines and repair options. It was suggested that Dydo & Company be contacted for repair estimates which could be presented to the homeowners who could choose whether or not to use them for repair. Board members expressed concerns about the homeowners' responsibility to pay for repairs if the DFD gets in the middle between them and the repair company.

A. de Rham recommended that the terms *private main* (multiple users on a main line) and *service line* (private user on line) be used. He suggested that repair cost estimates be separated into private main repairs, service line repairs and curb stop installation costs. The next steps were outlined as:

- Notification of homeowners
- Get estimates for repairs
- Establish a date to be completed
- Remind Dydo & Company to bill homeowner separately

J. McGinnis reported that there was a white residue left by chlorine in the chlorine tank. From the description, R. Solomon of the DEC felt that this might be calcium carbonate. Five containers of unused chlorine will be returned and the chlorine tank and tubing will be cleaned and flushed when the weather is better. J. Lee from Arlington will be consulted regarding options for solar panels and battery life. B. Weiss asked about J. McGinnis' retirement and J. McGinnis responded that he is willing to

continue doing reservoir work, but does not want to be involved with leak detection/repair. R. Gaiotti noted that with a contracted operator, partial work may not be possible. A. de Rham moved and S. Jones seconded to accept the Water Operator's report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Fire Chief's Report (Hazelton)**

S. Hazelton reviewed the monthly report from the Fire Department which covered calls from February 16<sup>th</sup> through March 7<sup>th</sup> and included calls for water emergencies, CO alarms and a structure fire. M. McWayne moved and S. Jones seconded to accept the Fire Chief's report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Water Manger's Report (Gaiotti)**

Bulleted items in the Manager's report listed: well update, planning loan amendment application, budgeting, draft annual report, and leak survey.

Simon Operations Inc. offered a contract agreement for the Water Operators position with two options (19 hours per week & 15 hours per week) plus any emergency service work to be charged at \$75 per hour. They can start working with J. McGinnis on April 1<sup>st</sup>. A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to accept the Simon Operations Inc. contract for 19 hours per week at the cost of \$2,850 per month with the condition that travel time be included in contract price quoted and is not separately billed. Motion carried 5-0.

R. Gaiotti noted that a goal for the future could be to have one of the Town Crew members obtain a license and learn leak detection technologies along with having a consultant agreement with J. McGinnis.

S. Jones moved and A. de Rham seconded to Water Manager's report as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Fire Dept. & Water Co. Financials (Gaiotti)**

R. Gaiotti presented the monthly financial reports for DFD giving cash on hand for both departments along with delinquent tax status. M. McWayne moved and A. de Rham seconded to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Old Business**

- S. Hazelton said that the new truck is in production when asked for a status update and M. McWayne is to meet with S. Hazelton to revise the fire truck sales advertisement.

### **New Business**

- It was the consensus of the Board members to sign monthly accounts payable warrant and checks.
- A. de Rham will not be present at the May DFD meeting

S. Jones moved and M. McWayne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Aversano

Town of Dorset ~ Dorset Fire District #1

Date 3/11/19

Regular Meeting X  
Special Meeting     

(Please Print) Name	Mailing Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes/No)
Shawn Hazelton	433 Paris way Dorset	fire chief	Yes
John O'Keefe	King of Mandarins		Yes
Jim McGinnis	PO Box 731 Dorset	Fire Dept	Yes
GREG KEPLER		Fire Dist #1	Yes