



DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.
Dorset Water Co.

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DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1 MINUTES:

June 10, 2019

Present: Ben Weiss, Chairman, Milt McWayne, Roger Squire, Lee Fox, Shawn Hazelton (Fire Chief), Rob Gaiotti (Town Manager)

Absent: A. de Rham

Others Present: Greg Kepler (Kepler Engineering), Justine Cook, Virginia Longacre, Andy Longacre, Don Carse, Barbara Carse.

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

Don & Barbara Carse:

D. Carse explained that he and his wife Barbara were attending the meeting to inquire with the Prudential Board about the current DFD fencing around the propane tank. He also explained the plan to install a new stockade fence along the border of the property between Carse & DFD. The fence would be located beyond the current split rail fence and would be about 6' and likely made of cedar or another type of durable wood. D. Carse explained that they would cover the cost and that they were hoping to shield the view from their back yard and keep lights from cars from shining in. Discussion ensued about fence location, duration of DFD ownership of the firehouse etc. D. Carse inquired with S. Hazelton about the fencing at the fuel tank and how it could be repaired to screen it from their yard. S. Hazelton explained that access to the tanks was difficult if fenced all around. **R. Squire moved and L. Fox seconded to approve the fence proposal, motion passed 4-0.** D. Carse noted that they would likely return to give an update and let DFD know more about the fence in due time.

Approval of April Minutes

R. Squire moved and M. McWayne seconded to approve the May 6, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Engineer's Report (Kepler)

G. Kepler's report included:

Gravel Well Status: Source permit application for production well has been submitted to the State. DFD is in the 30 day public notice period. Generally the timeline is: August: Source testing application; September: pump testing, October: monitoring wells, November: source evaluation, December-winter: construction design etc.

B. Weiss asked about water quality of gravel well. G. Kepler responded that the levels of iron and manganese were much lower than the bedrock well but still within the parameters of needing simple filtration. G. Kepler explained that the design will take 6-8 weeks from November, so likely a 2020 construction timeframe.

R. Gaiotti noted the State IUP and inquired about an update. G. Kepler responded that the State had made changes to the drinking water loan program to include both 30 year loans at 2% and forgiveness of up to 25% of project cost. It was noted that the forgiveness will be first come first serve. R. Gaiotti noted that the interest rate on a 30 year VMBB loan is closer to 4% currently. Discussion ensued about meeting the State's requirements and timeline to enter into the State loan program. It was noted that this would likely push the construction of the well connection out into summer 2020. However the amount of money possibly saved in the interest rate could be significant. G. Kepler noted that DFD should shoot to apply for the permit to construct and have that serve as "ready to dig" vs. a preliminary engineering report. G. Kepler also noted it probably makes sense to have a water projects committee meeting soon. G. Kepler also inquired about sending a letter to the State to request activation for Fire Protection use up to 4 hydrants that had been listed as meeting psi guidelines under the hydraulic model. **It was the consensus of the Board to have G. Kepler send this letter. L. Fox moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the Engineer's Report. Motion passed 4-0.**

Water Operations Report:

R. Gaiotti noted that he would be giving the monthly operations reports as to save operator time for system work. Chris Hayes and Simon Ops have been working diligently to map and chart as much information about curb stops and private service lines as possible on Route 30 north & south. These were two areas that were indicated to have possible leaks in the recent Matchpoint review. With all the new information Matchpoint will be much better equipped to hone in on specific spots to rule them out or research more for leaks. R. Gaiotti noted that a customer was preparing to tear down a cottage and needed pipe location service. DFD was able to get operators to assist on the same day as the request, which is difficult with part time operations. G. Kepler

inquired about DFD changing the policy or bylaw to charge in situations like that. R. Gaiotti noted that it would be helpful because it happens quite a lot with all the part time homes. **M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the Water Operations Report.**

Fire Chief's Report (Hazelton)

S. Hazelton reviewed the list of fire calls for the last month. B. Weiss asked about an update on truck sales. Discussion ensued with regard to arrival of the new truck and selling the 2 oldest trucks. **R. Squire moved and L. Fox seconded to approve the Fire Chief's report as presented. Motion carried 4-0.**

Water Manger's & Finance Report (Gaiotti)

R. Gaiotti went through the work items for the last month. Much of the report was the same information as the Engineer's report. DFD did apply for the free leak detection grant offered by the State. The goal will be to use the grant to add onto the July leak detection worked planned by Matchpoint. R. Gaiotti noted that he is working with the DFD attorney to craft a memo about leak repair efforts on service lines moving forward. It's likely that advanced notice and shutting off service lines will be the best approach.

R. Gaiotti noted that the Fire Dept. finances are strong, and that DFD might have to take out a small loan or lease payment on the final \$70k for the new truck. This would get paid off with the sales of the old trucks. R. Gaiotti noted that the Water Dept. is owed \$50k from the planning loan reimbursement process, and that June 15th quarterly payments were coming in well.

R. Squire moved and M. McWayne seconded to approve the Water Manager's & Finance Report as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

Old Business

Old fire house property sale. Discussion ensued about 2 possible buyers for the property. **R. Squire moved and L. Fox seconded to have B. Weiss contact Jack Towsley to conduct an appraisal on the property so DFD could understand it's value, motion passed 4-0.**

New Business

1. A. Longacre, Maple Hill Cemetery Sextant, explained that the Cemetery Board is hoping that DFD will waive the water fees again for another year. It was noted that the Cemetery does not have an active line as the line was shut off due to a leak. Even when the line was active there is virtually no water used. **R. Squire moved and M. McWayne seconded to waive the Cemetery water fees for the 2019-20 year, motion passed 4-0.**

It was the consensus of the Board to approve monthly invoice payments, and to sign the amendment to the Planning Loan, motion passed 4-0.

M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Gaiotti