



# DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.  
Dorset Water Co.

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## DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1 MEETING

**July 9, 2018**

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

Absent:

Others Present:

B. Weiss, Chairman, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

### **Approval of June 11, 2018 Minutes**

M. McWayne moved and S. Jones seconded to approve the June 11, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0 (A. de Rham & R. Squire not present for vote).

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

S. Hazelton read his report for the Department's calls for June 15<sup>th</sup> through July 9<sup>th</sup>. Ten calls ~ six accidents and four fire alarms. The Department has made 62 calls so far this year and usually average 100 per year. S. Jones moved and M. McWayne seconded to accept the Fire Chief's report as presented. Motion carried 4-0 (R. Squire not present for vote)

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

J. McGinnis reported that spring production is at the lowest point that he has seen in four years. He asked if an emergency connection to the new water source could be made if necessary due to lack of water. A. de Rham wanted to know if the reservoir was still in an "overflow" situation and would J. McGinnis wait until it was not to put the notices (signs) out around Town. J. McGinnis answered yes and also noted that the leak has been fixed changing the pressure near Peace Street & Route 30 from 20 pounds to 118 pounds. This also alleviated some drain on the water supply. J. McGinnis felt that the reservoir overflow may stop within two weeks without any rain and that water restrictions/boil notifications

would be necessary. Discussion continued about emergency measures and the new water source usage. G. Kepler noted that in an emergency situation, the State may allow a hook up to the new water source rather than have the system shut down and depressurized. He is waiting to hear back (informally) about an emergency connection and noted that a chlorination system would need to be ready to connect. B. Weiss asked about powering the chlorination system and G. Kepler suggested a standby generator as a temporary source.

J. McGinnis is to meet with B. Tyler regarding a generator and a trickle charge from a solar panel for power tomorrow. A. de Rham suggested calling a company in Rutland who has experience with this type of situation and will send the information to R. Gaiotti. A. de Rham felt that a generator was a huge undertaking to maintain. Discussion also ensued regarding GMP running electric lines.

J. McGinnis warned that more leaks could occur on the Route 30 north galvanized line as it is in poor condition and very old. The Barrows Heights valve will be repaired this week and it was suggested that a "Blow Off Valve Only" sign be placed on the valve. A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to accept the Water Operator's report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

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

G. Kepler reviewed his written report mentioning:

- Water quality of new well project
- Quality issues and potential solutions. A. de Rham asked if data logs were being kept for the well and if a visual inspection has been done. G. Kepler responded that they have the well company's logs and he was not aware of a visual inspection. It was noted that filtering is different for solid versus dissolved forms of sediments and they are still in the process of testing.
- Discussion ensued regarding options for having parameters ready for an emergency situation of drought. R. Gaiotti suggested having an emergency plan outlined so the plan could be implemented with the State's permission rather than depressurizing the system.
- Question was asked about another well source found in the area being added to the reservoir in an emergency situation, but G. Kepler explained that the State has more stringent requirements for a public water source than a private one. This more than likely would not be allowed.
- The Board discussed the purchase of a temporary chlorinator pump for the well in case of a low water emergency.
- The pipe and vault for the meter station are installed and the meter should be delivered in three weeks. B. Weiss asked about power and G. Kepler noted that they would use a battery for now.
- B. Weiss asked about the documentation of leaks on the system and G. Kepler said that they have an inventory of services - service connections of curb stop to house.

R. Squire moved and A. de Rham seconded to accept the Engineer's Report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

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

The water report included:

- Continuance of quality testing for supplemental water
- R. Squire signed the bond document to record to the land records
- Town permit approvals are in place for the pump house and access road
- Discussion of water rates ~ number of bedrooms, base rates, gallons per day & year, seasonal housing, transitioning to meters, necessary bylaw changes, and incentives to install meters and service lines. R. Gaiotti is to email the Board the estimated rate spreadsheet for review.
- Water operator succession plan ~ items mentioned were certification & courses, administrative duties, chlorine testing, salary and employee options

A. de Rham moved and R. Squire seconded to accept the Water Manager's report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Fire & Water Financials (Gaiotti)**

R. Gaiotti reviewed his report:

- Water District & Fire District cash on hand
- Water & Fire delinquent taxes
- Pink letters have been sent to two water users (Stimson & Saltbox)
- Planning Loan reimbursement to be received soon
- Trial Balance report included in packet
- Mudgett will be starting the FY18 audit at the end of July
- Discussion on budget line items (truck maintenance, utilities, bad debt). A. de Rham requested more information on the expenditures for the truck maintenance line.

M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the financial reports as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Old Business**

- S. Hazelton explained to the Board about the fire truck sale price and what the Toyne salesman gave as a recommended sale price which was low. A. de Rham recommended that the truck is marketed as very well maintained and lightly used. S. Hazelton is to send pictures of the truck to R. Gaiotti so he can place them on the VLCT web site.
- M. McWayne mentioned that the Firemen trained with East Dorset Firemen and S. Hazelton felt the training went very well. M. McWayne suggested that the firefighters train together once a month, if possible.

### **New Business**

- Solar quote from LaBerge was received at \$1,100 to \$1,400 for reservoir power.

R. Squire moved and M. McWayne seconded to enter Executive Session at 9:19 p.m. to discuss personnel. Motion carried 5-0. Executive Session ended at 9:28 by motion of A. de Rham and second of S. Jones. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Weiss moved and M. McWayne seconded to increase J. McGinnis' hourly wage to \$20/hour effective July 1, 2018. Motion carried 5-0.

R. Squire moved and M. McWayne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Aversano