



DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.
Dorset Water Co.

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DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1

MONDAY ~ OCTOBER 8, 2018

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

Absent:

Others Present: Colin Stabile (1st Assistant Fire Chief)

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

Approval of August Minutes

On page 2, R. Squire moved and S. Jones seconded to approve the September 10, 2018 minutes as amended. Motion carried 4-0.

Engineer's Report (Kepler)

G. Kepler talked with the Board about the update for the supplemental water well. Meddie Perry of VHB had provided a memo for the meeting. The general update was that the pilot filtration test had to be cancelled due to the increased sediment in the well. G. Kepler noted that the largest problem is that the well has been unpredictable with changes in the levels of sediment. This will make it very difficult to design and operate a filtration system. G. Kepler noted that at this time it was VHB's recommendation that the District should look toward a gravel packed well on the Cheney Road site. A. de Rham inquired about the status of the bottom of the current bedrock well. It was noted that the current well was drilled to a depth of 260', but that when camera work was done the camera only made it to a depth of 204' where there was a plug. A. de Rham noted that if the bottom +/- 60' of the well is impacted with sediment that DFD should look to clean out the remainder of the well and attempt to get a video log. If the video log shows that there are good/clean water bearing fractures in the bedrock than DFD could look to sleeve off the poor fractures above it. G. Kepler noted that VHB was uncertain of where the sediment was coming from and that they

didn't have a good feeling about the well in general. Discussion ensued about additional options on other sites, and whether or not it made sense for DFD to transition from the current site at this time. G. Kepler then explained the gravel packed well process and outlined some of the costs associated with that type of an approach. A. de Rham questioned the shift over to a whole new process without exhausting the options at the current site. R. Squire asked for clarification of the conditions with the current well. Discussion ensued about pushing to finalize the well cleaning and camera work to make a determination about the current well. Additional discussion was had about contacting VHB to inquire about rationale for the recommendations. After additional discussion about development of the current well it was decided to contact Meddie Perry. G. Kepler called M. Perry for the Board. M. Perry explained that his biggest concern was that the current bedrock well was very unpredictable with changes in sediment load and that VHB felt there was a low chance of success with the current site. A. de Rham inquired whether or not additional cleaning and video logging could tell us if there were "clean fractures" in the current well. M. Perry replied yes, it's possible that could be the case, but the effort could also be inconclusive. A. de Rham inquired about the cost of pumping and video logging and whether it could be done for less than \$20,000. M. Perry replied that it should be possible to accomplish it for that amount or less. Discussion ensued about the gravel pack well approach. M. Perry explained that the area near the well site has a lot of overburden above bedrock making it a good candidate for a gravel pack well. B. Weiss asked how M. Perry arrived at his recommendation, and whether it was steered by water quality or project timeframe. M. Perry replied, that it was steered by an opinion of a stronger rate of success for the gravel well vs. the current bedrock well. Discussion ensued with the Board about running down all options on the current well prior to shifting gears. R. Gaiotti noted that a change in approach would restart the State source permitting process.

It was the consensus of the Board that DFD was willing to pursue final bedrock well development up to \$20,000 in cost. **A. de Rham moved to proceed with clearing out the well and getting video, as outlined in option 1A of the VHB memo, with a not to exceed of \$20,000. M. McWayne seconded, motion passed 4-0.**

G. Kepler gave an update on the Hydraulic modeling work with Otter Creek. He noted it would be good to have a water project committee or board meeting soon to review and discuss capital improvement options when the model is ready. The model will help to determine feasibility and costs of the capital projects. G. Kepler also noted that the metering station meter had a faulty circuit board and that the new meter and the reservoir meter were within 5-8% of each other in their readings which is good.

R. Squire moved to accept the Engineer's Report, S. Jones seconded, motion passed 4-0.

Water Operator's Report (McGinnis)

J. McGinnis noted that he will continue with listening for leaks on the main line down from the reservoir. He also noted that VT Rural water will be in Town to do some more work listening for leaks near Route 30 and Church Street. He noted that the 1,200' north/south of Church Street are active with noise and they will look into it soon. He noted that spring production was down for the last month, but thankfully there is no current threat of water shortage.

M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the Water Operator's Report. Motion passed 4-0.

Fire Chief's Report (Hazelton)

Chief Hazelton went through the list of calls for the previous month. He noted that Barrows House has now surpassed their 3rd false alarm and should be issued a fine under the DFD policy. After discussion it was the consensus of the Board to follow the policy and issue the necessary fine of \$300 to Barrows House.

M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the Fire Chief's Report. Motion passed 4-0.

Water Manger's Report (Gaiotti)

R. Gaiotti discussed the updates from the water operations. He noted that contact was made with a landowner on Barrows Heights about being a host site for a second reservoir as laid out in the Engineering capital plans to help improve system pressure and get hydrants back online for Fire Protection. He also noted that the last quarterly bill was due October 1st and generally there were very few questions about the rate shift change.

R. Gaiotti then presented financial information for DFD for the month. He noted that the Water Division had received the Asset Management grant funding back from the State in the amount of \$20,000 and that generally things are looking good for both Water and Fire Divisions. The Town payment for Fire Services will be sent soon as well.

M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the Water Manager and DFD Financial reports. Motion passed 4-0.

Old Business:

Chief Hazleton gave updates about the Long Trail School. Discussion ensued about the false alarm call on Twin Willows.

New Business:

Chief Hazelton reported on changes to the specification of the new truck that require Board signature. It was noted the changes would add around \$1,700 to the total cost.

Chief Hazelton asked for permission to look into an effort by other VT fire departments to send outdated gear to countries in Africa as a donation. **It was the consensus of the Board to allow the outdated turnout gear to be donated.**

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the DFD plan to sell some misc. excess equipment.

It was the consensus of the Board to allow Chief Hazelton to change the asking price for truck 511 to \$57,000 down from \$62,000.

Chief Hazleton presented the elected slate of officers for 2018-19 recently voted by the DFD Fire Dept. membership. He noted there was no change in the officer roles.

Abbott de Rham move and S. Jones seconded to enter into executive session to discuss the appointment of officers at 9:40pm Motion carried 4-0.

At 9:45pm the Board returned from executive session: A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to approve the slate of DFD officers as presented by the Fire Department. Motion passed 4-0.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 9:50pm

Respectfully Submitted, Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager