



DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.
Dorset Water Co.

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DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1 MEETING

March 21, 2018

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

B. Weiss, Chairman, opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of February 12, 2018 Minutes

R. Squire moved and A. de Rham seconded to approve the February 12, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Engineer's Report (Kepler)

G. Kepler reviewed his report dated March 21, 2018 noting that:

- The well development was pumped for 3-4 days at 75 GPM. It was flushed out with a small amount of sediment left.
- A four day pump test of 75 GPM will require a 2,500 foot radius for the monitoring of private wells and letters should be sent out to residents in this radius offering this monitoring. They will have to respond in order to be tested and are responsible to locate their well. A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to move forward with testing the well at 75 GPM. Motion carried 4-0.
- Project funding was discussed ~ DWSRF vs VMBB. A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to pursue the VMBB option as the source of funding for the additional water supply. Motion carried 4-0. It was suggested to have a May 7, 2018 Public Hearing meeting and the annual meeting on May 14, 2018.
- Preliminary cost estimate for new source water well ~ discussion included three phase pump, engineering study, metering station, cost versus benefit calculations, base mapping, and inventories for service lines, curb stops, & corporation stops.

Water Operator (McGinnis)

J. McGinnis reported that he has been in contact with Paul and approximately April 1st they anticipate starting 249 Meadow Lane. A. de Rham suggested that Mrs. Frawley be informed that they can use any qualified contractor for the work, but the Water Company usually contracts with Dydo who is familiar with the system. Discussion ensued regarding repair of service lines and adding an engineering study to cover main line extensions to find out if this is a good idea. R. Gaiotti noted that new mains could potentially gain new customers over time.

J. McGinnis informed the Board that he has all the chlorinator manuals now and requested approval to purchase the modules from HE Anderson. B. Weiss stated that approval was given previously and asked J. McGinnis to get the modules and get solar bids for the power.

System operator replacement options were discussed as J. McGinnis is planning to retire. A transition plan for the next 12-18 months is to be prepared by R. Gaiotti who noted that the end goal was to find efficiencies and cost sharing.

R. Squire moved and M. McWayne seconded to accept the Water Operator's report as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Fire Chief's Report (Hazelton)

S. Hazelton presented a policy to be adopted as standard operating procedures for commercial and residential fire alarms. Suggested changes were made and M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to adopt the Standard Operating Procedures for Commercial/Residential Fire Alarms as changed. After further discussion, A. de Rham moved to amend the motion and M. McWayne seconded to have R. Squire clarify and format the document. Motion carried 4-0.

A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to accept the Fire Chief's report as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Fire & Water Financials (Gaiotti)

Report included:

- Water District & Fire District cash on hand
- Water & Fire delinquent taxes

M. McWayne moved and A. de Rham seconded to accept the Fire & Water Financials as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Water Manager's Report (Gaiotti)

- Review of bulleted items included supplemental water, design estimates, financing to be presented at May meeting, use of VMBB bonding, including a hydraulics study, and phase one metering station is complete.
- Discuss creation of sinking fund for bond payment.

A. de Rham moved and R. Squire seconded to create a Bond Repayment Fund financed from the water sinking fund line item of \$10,000 in this year's budget. Motion carried 4-0.

Firefighter Apparel

C. Stabile requested new firefighter apparel to be purchased from Reynolds at a cost of \$3,105.32. R. Squire moved and M. McWayne seconded to approve the purchase of firefighter apparel from Reynolds in the amount of \$3,105.32. Motion carried 4-0.

Supplementary Project Funding Options (Squire)

- Rooms & Meals Option Tax ~ B. Weiss explained that in order to use this tax option, it requires State Legislative approval. The spreadsheet presented for the Dorset local option tax amounts was discussed with B. Weiss estimating the amount that could be gained by instituting the tax.
- R. Squire stated that in previous meetings they had talked about three different options to help fund the water company's efforts: levying a \$50 fee on everyone in the Dorset Fire District (not just water users); fundraising/donation appeals and using the local option tax approach. Discussion ensued about the three options with A. de Rham saying that non-water users might object to the \$50 fee. He asked that a draft donation letter be presented at the next meeting. R. Gaiotti stated that the Fire District is not allowed to fund the fire budget through any other means than with the agreement with the Town. R. Gaiotti suggested that an opinion from J. Barlow (attorney) be requested about the local option tax and that the Select Board be informed.

Old Business

- Equipment & Training Coordination with EDFD (McWayne) ~ no report
- Business Plan for New Fire Truck ~ B. Weiss requested that a business plan for the new truck be created and equipment/training coordination with EDFD take place.

New Business

- Water Census (de Rham) ~ discussion of census forms and Water District users' responses to the new form along with rates.
- New/Extended Water Usage Permitting (Weiss) ~ the topic of the water moratorium and being pro-active to approach the State and the residents who are requesting to be added to the water system was reviewed.
- R. Squire is to review G. Kepler's letter regarding water user responsibilities.

R. Squire moved and A. de Rham seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Aversano