



TOWN OF WINCHESTER – CITY OF WINSTED

Town Hall – 338 Main Street

WINSTED, CONNECTICUT 06098

FILED
CLERK'S OFFICE

FEB 19 2014

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Water & Sewer Board

Probate Room, Town Hall, 338 Main Street, Winsted

February 11, 2014

Call to order was made by Chairman Richard Nalette at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Richard Nalette, John Massicotte, Tim Moran, Tim O'Meara and David Villa. Also present was Public Works Director Neil Amwake.

Public Input - none

Minutes of Last Meeting: Motion by D. Villa to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2014 meeting. Second by T. O'Meara. Vote: All in favor - motion carried unanimous.

Watershed Forestry Program – Ferrucci & Walicki: Mr. Amwake reminded attendees there are 4 years remaining on the management plan so he invited Ferrucci & Walicki to this meeting. Mr. Dan Peracchio, representing Ferrucci & Walicki, explained timber harvesting and forestry activities to keep the watershed healthy; noted Ferrucci & Walicki was restructured but they have been working with the Town for almost 20 years; have been keeping the shoreline healthy and provided the Town some revenue. T. O'Meara asked if they will be focusing on particular areas. Mr. Peracchio explained they will schedule a section based on the trees; the next 4 years will be around Crystal Lake; met previously with Jim Rotondo to do tree work around the filtration plant but that would be negative revenue; suggested a tree project to balance that. Mr. Amwake explained he and Jim McCarthy focused on the area around the water treatment plant; noted the timber hardwood would compensate; there are 20 acres behind the wastewater treatment plant; reviewed years 1 – 4 remaining in the contract; noted would dovetail the other land holdings; reiterated first and foremost is water quality. Chairman Nalette suggested looking at several large trees on Rugg Brook Dam. Mr. Amwake said the contract is performance-based – there are labor costs and pass-through monies. Mr. Peracchio said most times can do the scheduling so revenues and costs are in the same fiscal year. Chairman Nalette questioned the contract language pertaining to the planned firewood sale. Discussion followed regarding aesthetics, language in the contract, running the contract by Attorney Nelligan, funds would go to Public Works instead of the general fund, etc. T. Moran asked about a yearly contract. Additional discussion followed regarding referring the contract with the proposed language to Attorney Nelligan. J. Massicotte asked about the fees. Mr. Peracchio elaborated; noted each project would have prior approval by the Department of Public Works. J. Massicotte asked about the billing timeline. Mr. Peracchio said can tailor the terms; explained what is normally done. Discussion followed regarding providing maps. Mr. Amwake said each time Ferrucci & Walicki goes into an individual stand, they will provide specific information. T. O'Meara said he is okay with the contract going to Attorney Nelligan. D. Villa concurred; said Attorney Nelligan and Mr. Amwake can opine for the legality. J. Massicotte verified the west side of Crystal Lake is the 1st year of the contract. Brief discussion followed regarding years 2 – 4. Mr. Amwake said he will forward additional comments received and send the contract to Attorney Nelligan and will coordinate then with Mr. Peracchio. Chairman Nalette said will table this until we hear from Attorney Nelligan.

The Town of Winchester is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Discussion/possible action regarding Pipe Replacement on Upland Avenue - nothing new.

Discussion of Aeration Tank Blower at the Wastewater Treatment Plant: Mr. Amwake reminded attendees there are 3 blowers; 1 has been cut down leaving 2 oversized blowers – was going to swap out 1 for a turbo blower; talked with Rich Kemp about keeping it for parts; Core Energy provided additional numbers; explained the proposed return on investment. J. Massicotte asked about sending one out to have it cut down. Discussion followed regarding further evaluation of the offers versus retrofitting the aerator. Mr. Amwake explained other incentives; noted this is a massive purchase; encouraged using due diligence; noted 2 smaller ones are viable.

Wastewater Pump Replacement – East Wakefield Boulevard (Sammy’s PS): Mr. Amwake reminded attendees both pump stations are operating but have nothing on the shelf; Jim McCarthy got 5 quotes with prices between \$4,100 & \$5,800 for the pump only – not sure of freight. Discussion followed. Mr. Amwake will call Whitman and Mechanical; verified the Board is okay with himself doing the purchasing. Discussion followed regarding replacing this pump station.

Crystal Lake Dam USDA Grant: Mr. Amwake said he will get in touch with David Battista of Lenard Engineering; do have the old scope of services.

Water Meter Analytics: Mr. Amwake displayed the PowerPoint presentation he made at the Selectmen’s meeting on water users. Extensive discussion followed regarding billing the top 10 customers monthly, MIU’s, meter sizes, scheduling replacements, cash flow, etc. Mr. Amwake explained his rationale for a part-time billing clerk. Discussion followed regarding safeguards.

Old Business: Mr. Amwake distributed a Public Notice he sent out on the billing error (envelopes). Brief discussion followed regarding putting the bill printing out to bid.

New Business: D. Villa questioned “exercising hydrants”. Mr. Amwake said it is the responsibility of Water & Sewer. D. Villa asked if there is any tracking of which ones have been opened. Discussion followed regarding staffing and creating a spreadsheet to track it.

J. Massicotte questioned Holabird Avenue bridge replacement. Discussion followed regarding municipal utility replacement is reimbursable but private is not (Yankee Gas, etc.), overhead wiring and the process to replace the bridge.

Motion to adjourn by D. Villa. Second by T. Moran. **Vote:** All in favor - *motion carried unanimous.* Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,


Laurie Bessette
Minutes Secretary

Next Regular Meeting:

Probate Room
March 11, 2014
7:00 p.m.