

DENNIS WATER DISTRICT

Board of Water Commissioners

Minutes of Meeting held

August 25, 2016

A meeting, having been duly posted, was held this date at the Dennis Police Department, 90 Bob Crowell Road, South Dennis and called to order by Paul F. Prue, Chairman at 6:00 PM. Water Commissioner Peter L. McDowell were present. Also in attendance was David Larkowski, Superintendent and Sheryl A McMahon, Treasurer.

Public Comment - None

West Dennis Tank Project

Update by Superintendent – Mr. Larkowski advised that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has approved the tank project. The permit from the Federal Aviation Administration has been approved for the required lighting of the tank. The advertisement for the tank bids will be published September 14, a required pre-bid meeting at the site will be September 21 and the bids are due October 5, 2016 at the District office. The bids and supporting documents will then be reviewed and a recommendation made to the Board at the October 27 regularly scheduled meeting.

Review Public Information presentation for September 20, 2016 at West Dennis Graded School – Mr. Larkowski advised that there are no zoning permits or public notifications that have to be done prior to the construction. A building permit is required. In the interest of informing the public by conducting an open public meeting, the Superintendent is recommending that public be invited on Tuesday, September 20, at the West Dennis Graded School House to hear a presentation on the project and ask questions. Mr. Larkowski advised that postcards announcing the meeting to area residents. He said that the mailing list can be obtained from the Town of Dennis GIS for whatever radius from the tank site deemed appropriate (1,000 feet to perhaps a ¼ mile). Public announcements will also be done for local media outlets. Mr. Larkowski reviewed a draft power point presentation that he intends to make at the public meeting and invited the Commissioners to provide any comment or additional input.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Larkowski reviewed the current drought water condition status. He advised that the DEP has announced that the Cape should be in a drought “advisory” condition. He said that all of the Cape suppliers have taken the position that DEP has not followed what they have been asking for, in terms of drought management, as it relates to the water permit renewal process. He said the Cape is unique and the draft drought management plan, and how the Cape’s acquirer is monitored, was already approved by DEP, and now it seems that they want to apply a blanket status across the state, including Cape Cod.

He advised that the Route 134 standpipe was recently power washed. It took approximately 33 hours and was accomplished by using a man-lift. With available time, he stated that our work crew has moved to the Old Bass River Tank to also power wash. He said that using man-lift equipment is not possible so people will see men on window-washing type equipment to access the surface of the tank.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. McMahon advised the Board that once the water bills are generated, water usage reports are generated to do analysis. Bills were issued timely on August 5. There was a lot of water usage for this cycle due to it being warmer in late spring and early summer despite total rainfall near normal levels. She stated that the water usage billed was 80 million gallons more than it was for the same cycle a year ago. The average usage was 255 million gallons for this cycle but, this year it was 30% more. She noted that the outstanding receivables at the time the August water bills were issued was less than what was outstanding at the same time a year ago indicating that the collection rate for the District is very good. She reviewed the current usage with prior years and last year. The average user was at 24,000 gallons for January – June.

Ms. McMahon advised that the auditor will be here next week. A request for proposal for a three-year contract was issued and subsequently awarded to Sanders, Walsh and Eaton who has done the audit for a number of years. The second lowest bidder was at a quoted price of \$20,000 price for each year (\$60,000 total). She further stated that Fiscal Years 2015 and 2016 will be concluded at the same time with a presentation tentatively scheduled for November.

Minutes – The minutes of July 14 and July 28, 2016 were deferred until a future meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Peter L. McDowell, and duly seconded, ***the Board UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:26 PM.***

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl A McMahon, Clerk